

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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## News Review of Current Events the World Over

### France, Alone in Blocking Hoover Moratorium Plan, Is Warned by President—Feat of Globe-Circling Flyers.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

DAY after day Secretary Mellon and Ambassador Edge negotiated with the French officials in Paris in the effort to reconcile the moratorium plans of President Hoover and Premier Laval, and in Washington the President and Acting Secretary of State Castle were almost constantly at the American end of the transatlantic telephone line, coaching them and learning what progress they were making. At this writing the progress, if any, is small.

Mr. Hoover then came to bat with a memorandum sent to Ambassador Edge for communication to the French government. This was in effect an ultimatum to France that unless she accepted the Hoover plan she was likely to be left out in the cold. The warning was conveyed that if the President's project failed, Germany certainly would apply for a moratorium on reparations as provided by the Young plan, and this, Mr. Hoover figured, would cost France \$100,000,000 more than would the Hoover moratorium. Behind the polite phrases in the memorandum seemed to lie the intimation that if France rejected the Hoover plan, the administration would establish a moratorium on war debt payments and leave France out.

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MEANWHILE Premier Mussolini put over what was considered by some a "fast one." His government announced that the Hoover proposal, which had been accepted unconditionally, was in operation, so far as Italy was concerned, on July 1, Italy's debtor nations, Germany, Austria, Hungary and Bulgaria, were notified that she was not collecting sums due from them on that date; and her creditors, England and the United States, were told she was putting aside the sums she owes them, pending final decision.

The State department in Washington said the Hoover plan had been accepted by Belgium and Poland, both allies of France and by Rumania, and in part by Greece and Yugo-Slavia. So France was standing alone in opposition. It was believed in Paris that Premier Laval, after closing down parliament, would call a conference of all nations signatory to the Young plan to obtain from them a release from the guarantee clause requiring her, in case of a moratorium, to place in the bank for international settlements the sum of approximately \$120,000,000 to be applied in part to increasing payments to be received by other creditors during the period of suspension.

WILEY POST and Harold Gatty, American aviators, set their monoplane, the Winnie Mae, down at Roosevelt field, New York, Wednesday evening. They had accomplished the remarkable feat of flying around the globe, approximately 15,475 miles, in 8 days 15 hours and 51½ minutes, a new mark for other flyers to shoot at.

They set out to break the record of 22 days made by the dirigible Graf Zeppelin, and they smashed it to bits. Great skill in piloting and navigating, unconquerable courage and nerve and a plane that functioned perfectly all contributed to the success of this epochal flight. The route followed by the flyers took them from New York to Harbor Grace, N. F.; thence successively to Chester, England; Berlin, Moscow, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk, Blagoveshchensk, Khabarovsk, Solomon and Fairbanks, Alaska; Edmonton, Canada; Cleveland, Ohio, and back to New York. They met with no serious accident but at times flew through high winds and rainstorms.

New York city on Thursday gave the aviators the usual showy and noisy welcome, with parade, speeches and reception by Mayor Jimmie Walker. But they were too tired to mind this much. President Hoover invited them to luncheon at the White House, and they received the congratulations of eminent persons all over the world. It is estimated that Post and Gatty will realize about \$50,000 each from their wonderful flight—and they certainly earned it.

PRESIDENT HOOPER's request to the federal farm board for a definite statement of its policy brought a response from the board, through Chairman James C. Stone, in which its policy as announced on March 22 is virtually restated. Pleas from the Middle West and Southwest that the board commit itself to keep its immense wheat holdings off the market, either for a stated period or under a fixed price level, are rejected.

One important concession is made. The board agrees to limit sales of its wheat to 5,000,000 bushels a month, this limit to run on a cumulative basis, the unused portions of the quota to be good for succeeding months. But it excepted from this limitation important contracts with foreign purchasers now under consideration.

To the problem of the wheat surplus there is only one answer, and that is acreage reduction, the board declares. Hope was seen for an improved export market in smaller productions in other countries and in the prospect for better world conditions "that will be created by the President's debt plan."

FOR the first time since the World War the federal government began its fiscal year on July 1 with an unbalanced budget. The deficit is almost \$903,000,000.

Handicapped by reduced revenues, the Treasury found itself confronted with rising expenditures, due to the government's efforts to help the farmer, the unemployed and the drought sufferers. About the only favorable factor in the financial situation was a cash balance of over \$400,000,000 with which the treasury entered the new year. This will be used to meet current expenses during the first quarter instead of being applied to the deficit.

While this exclusion will not apply to products of the soil, says Mr. Smoot, it will apply to Soviet products which are manufactured, mined or produced by means of forced labor of any kind, and which are competitive with products here. He mentions lumber and pulpwood especially as products which will be shut out.

the chairman and a small staff. There the fifteenth report will be written. Here is the commission's record. Ten reports have been delivered to the government printer or deposited at the White House; four others, one of them the still-controverted study of prohibition, have been made public.

Since midwinter the commission has completed reports upon the deportation of aliens, "lawlessness in law enforcement," crime among the foreign born, juvenile delinquency, the work of the police, prisons, probation and parole, the costs and causes of crime and a "progress report" upon the work of the courts, to be carried on by private agencies.

RAY LYMAN WILBUR, secretary of the interior, before he became president of Leland Stanford university in 1916 had attained considerable fame as a physician and surgeon, and he demonstrated the other day that he has not lost his surgical skill.

While escorting Secretary and Mrs. Wilbur through Mesa Verde National park V. M. Deleerchman, president of a southwestern Colorado transportation concern, fell suddenly ill and was taken to the park hospital. There Doctor Wilbur diagnosed his ailment as acute appendicitis and decided an immediate operation was necessary. So he gathered up the tools and, with the assistance of Dr. E. E. Johnson of Cortez, he performed the operation which almost certainly saved Deleerchman's life.

Next day the patient's condition was so good that Secretary Wilbur resumed his trip of inspection of the park.

SENOR DON SALVADOR DE MADARIAGA, the new ambassador from Spain, presented his credentials to President Hoover with due ceremony, and the customary polite phrases were exchanged. Then the two distinguished men enjoyed an informal chat, as both of them used to be mining engineers. Senor de Madariaga is a noted writer and in the past has criticized severely some of the policies of the United States in Latin-American affairs.

SPAIN is to continue to be a republic, and Alfonso will remain an ex-king, according to the results of the national elections. Alajandro Lerroux, old time Republican leader and at present foreign minister, is the man of the hour and it is accepted that he will be the first premier under the new constitution that is to be adopted by the national assembly that convenes on July 14. The Socialists and so-called radicals will control this assembly, which in fact will be rather moderate in policies. The communists are powerless.

Catalonia still insists on being a separate state in a Spanish federation, but Senor Lerroux predicts that the Catalan movement will soon collapse.

SENATOR SIMEON D. FESS of Ohio, who is a leading member of the senate committee on interstate commerce, predicts that railroad and transportation legislation of a comprehensive character will be considered during the next session of congress. He has studied these questions closely for years, and probably knows what he is talking about. In his opinion, consolidation legislation will again be taken up, and laws for the regulation of the motor bus and the motor truck will be proposed.

Mr. Fess foresees much difficulty in getting legislation enacted to meet the various transportation problems. This difficulty is much enhanced, as he views it, by the competition between the railroads and other forms of transportation. On the one hand, he feels the country cannot get along without the railroads, but on the other, he is convinced the public will not sanction any undue restriction of other forms of transportation.

The Ohio senator is an advocate of legislation to liberalize existing law with reference to railroad consolidations. He sponsored, in the last congress, the Fess-Parker bill to provide, in effect, for voluntary combinations. It is interesting to hear, from Senator Fess himself, that he probably will remain chairman of the Republican national committee for another year, despite frequent rumors that he would retire or be displaced. He called on President Hoover the other day and afterward said: "It appears now that I will serve until convention time next year." However, he insisted he had not discussed the matter with the President.

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## England Once Banned Wills

### Customs Regarding Inheritance Vary in Different Parts of World.

Washington.—What becomes of a man's property when he dies? The answer is very much a matter of geography, says a bulletin from the National Geographic society, pointing out varying customs in different parts of the world in regard to wills and inheritance.

"Wills have been written in America since the days of the first colonists," says the bulletin, "and, therefore, we are likely to assume thoughtlessly that will-making extends back into history and over the world as a universal institution. Wills were made by some ancient peoples pretty much as they are today; but among any particular people the practice of will-making has developed only when a rather complex stage of civilization has been reached.

Once Prohibited in England. "In England wills bequeathing land were entirely prohibited by law years ago although they had existed before, and were later allowed. In France and in all the Mohammedan countries only a part of one's property can be willed. A Burmese Buddhist cannot make a will; and in India will-making has come to be recognized only as a result of British influence, and is not yet widely practiced.

"Among our primitive ancestors there was no such thing as a will or even inheritance by a limited number of heirs, because there was nothing to inherit or to will. All property was community property. When a man died he simply ceased to use the common property 'pool,' and without any formalities the surviving members of the group continued to make use of it.

"When private ownership of things and land came to be recognized, the governing unit—village, tribe or state—found that it had to take some action when a man died, leaving property. If nothing were done, anyone who happened to be near or strong might seize the ownerless property, even though he were a total stranger to or even an enemy of its former owner. Tribal concepts of fair play came into operation, and it was recognized that the dead man's family should have first claim to his former belongings. From this developed the customs and laws of inheritance which have taken varied, and in some cases, very complex forms, in different parts of the world.

"The privilege of making wills was granted by the state a long time after inheritance customs arose. It might be considered the final step in confirming the institution of private property. Not only was an individual to have undisputed ownership and control of land and goods while he was alive, but he was to be permitted to decide who should enjoy them after his death; and to direct, if he wished, in great detail just how they should be utilized, in some cases for centuries to come.

Power Greatest in England. "If the privilege of making a will marks the power of the individual, then England is the world's stronghold of individualism; for in no country is the power to will so untrammelled and so nearly complete. By means of a properly drawn and executed will, an Englishman can disinherit wife and children, leaving all his property to a person wholly outside his family.

"This English law was adopted by the American colonies and the United States; but in many of the states the old rules have been altered by legislation which provides that on the death of a married man certain shares shall go to the widow and to the children, and that only the balance can be willed away unrestrictedly. In France and the other Latin countries, where the legal systems are built on Roman law, the rights of widow and children have been protected for many centuries against the willing power of the husband and father.

"Although varying limitations exist, the power to will all or some property is now recognized throughout Christendom and the Mohammedan countries, in China, Japan and certain other lands. This power granted to an owner to project his wishes into the future, coupled with the unfortunate fact that he can know little of how society and its institutions will develop, has brought strange results in the cases of many wills. One sympathetic maker of a will, living in the Seventeenth century, and contemplating the unpleasant fate of captives taken in the Near East, left a trust fund, which among other things is supposed to be devoted today to the redemption of Turkish prisoners."

### Politeness Causes

#### Man to Break Leg

Toronto, Can.—Politeness resulted in a broken leg for Frank Twining, thirty-five, of Owen Sound. Stepping off a plank sidewalk at the edge of an excavation to allow two women to pass, Twining slipped into the ditch, broke his leg and bruised his hip.

scribed by two or more witnesses in the presence of the will-maker. The instruments are usually written or typed on ordinary paper; but wills written on almost any material will be valid. In one case a will was written on a door, which was removed from its hinges, taken to court, and duly probated.

"In the majority of the states of the United States only ordinary wills are provided for—those signed by the will-maker and openly presented to the necessary witnesses for their signature. In nineteen states, however, 'holographic' wills are also recognized. These are entirely in the handwriting of the will-maker and are signed by him, and need not be witnessed. In twelve states, in fact, it is not even necessary to date holographic wills. In one state, Louisiana, where the basic law is of French origin, provision is made for the most unusual will valid in the United States—the mystic or secret will. Such a will is not openly presented to witnesses but is sealed up by the maker, and then presented to a notary and seven witnesses, who all sign their names on the envelope.

"The law that has grown up around the making, interpretation, and enforcing of wills is extremely complex. In general, however, the courts seek merely to determine whether a will is lawful, and what the intention of the maker was; and then strive to put all lawful intentions into effect."

### Vet Is Awarded Twice for Same Heroic Deed

Pittsburgh.—The same heroic deed did double duty for James Lavery, Erie, earning him a distinguished service cross and, more recently, an automobile.

Lavery saved many lives in skirmish while serving with the American troops on the Mexican border. He made repeated trips to the scene of the attack and carried off the wounded in an automobile. He was cited for his bravery.

### Many Dangers Lurk in Home, New Survey Shows

Hartford, Conn.—The dangers of remaining at home are described in a statistical report of the Travelers' insurance company on personal accidents.

The statistics show more than 44 per cent of the adults injured in home accidents in 1930 were victims of falls, 27 per cent were cut and 6 per cent suffered burns. The familiar "I walked into a door in the dark" is more than just an alibi for a black eye, for the survey shows 7 per cent were hurt in such collisions.

Figures for five years show one-fifth of all accident victims have been injured at home.



### THE STRAY CAT

Whiskers was a very superior cat. One day when he was having his breakfast in the yard a stray cat came along.

"I know where there is a nice garbage tin," said the stray cat, as Whiskers finished the last bite of the piece of bacon he was eating.

"Dear me," said Whiskers, "what do I need of a garbage tin when the cook gives me three meals a day?"

"I am well looked after. I am a rich cat. My master makes a great deal of money."

"He has silken cushions everywhere and one just for me. I have a basket with three cushions in it where I sleep."

"Oh dear," said the stray cat. "You make me very sad. I have never had any of these good things."

"Where do you live?" asked Whiskers, lifting his head and looking in a very scornful way at the poor stray cat.

"I shouldn't say from looking at you that your master made much money."

"He must be very poor."

"He is," said the stray cat. "He is only a little boy. But he rescued me when I was a tiny kitten, and some day, he says, when he makes

enough money selling papers, he is going to let me sit on a cushion in a fine cat show and then I will make money for him."

"Sometimes that day seems very, very far off."

"I could make money if I wished," said Whiskers, "for I am handsome enough."

"But I don't need to work."

"He said this in quite an ugly, snarling tone of voice."

"Well, I should think you would get pretty tired of sitting on cushions and eating and drinking whenever you wanted."

"Food can never be a great joy to you because you always know you can get it."

"Now, my master gives me milk and what he can, but I have to depend on the garbage tins for a great deal of my food."

"How horrid," said Whiskers.

"Not at all," said the stray cat. "It is quite natural for a cat to like garbage tins, and what is in them."

"Come with me, and I will show you. And will you save me some bacon some time, perhaps, if you have more than you want?"

"Oh, all right," said Whiskers. "I might as well do you a good turn."

"You think I envy you," said the stray cat, "but I don't. Some time I will tell you the history of my life, and of my dear little master."

But now they went off to the garbage tin and Whiskers had a very good time.

It was an exciting adventure for him, although he hated to admit it to the stray cat.

### Boy, Girl or Flower

Boy, Girl, or Flower is a variation of the game of Birds, Beasts, and Fishes.

Everyone is sitting and one of the players has a soft wad of paper or a rolled-up hankie to throw.

He throws it at some one, demanding "Boy," or "Girl," or "Flower," and the one hit with the hankie has to think of the name of whatever he demands, before ten is counted.

If the thrower counts the whole of the ten before the other player can think of anything, he changes places, and the other has to be thrower till he catches some one out.

Know His Music. A youngster was bothering his mother in her kitchen work by his numerous questions. Hoping to get a little respite she placed him on a seat and put the family cat by his side and told him to stroke the cat gently and hear it sing. For a few minutes only the sound of kitty's purring was to be heard, then the boy looked up and gravely inquired: "Mamma, when will she get to the chorus?"



Premier Laval



J. C. Stone



Sec'y Wilbur



M. Flandin

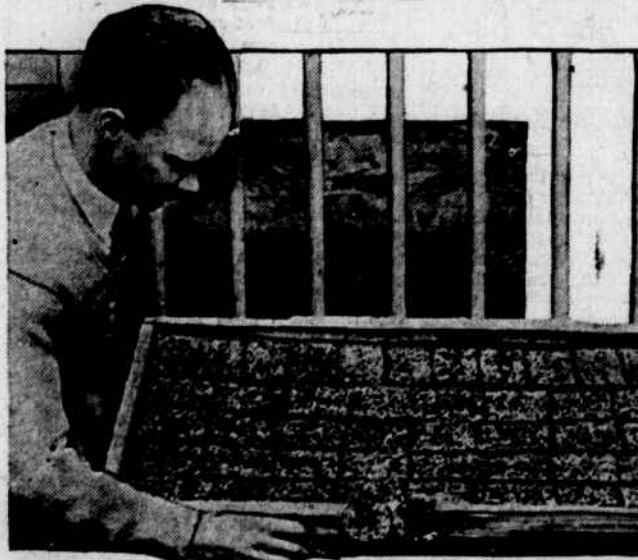


Senator Smoot



Senator Fess

### Corn Borer Helps Destroy Himself



At the United States corn borer station at Arlington, Mass., the government is developing parasites from the farm and garden pest—the corn borer. There are 80,000 borers contained in the rack shown above, and the station has a supply of millions of borers. Eggs and larvae of tiny parasites which prey on borers are bred with the unwilling assistance of the captives.