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News Review of Current Events the World Over

Europe's Concerted Move for War Debt Cancellation—Hoover and Roosevelt to Confer—Diversion of Colorado River Completed.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

SIR RONALD LINDSAY, British ambassador to Washington, handed to Secretary of State Stimson his government's request that the United States agree to a re-consideration and modification of the war debts agreements under which European powers are obligated to pay this country eleven billion dollars in principal and ten billions in interest during the next 58 years.



The French ambassador followed with an almost identical request on behalf of France, and two days later Belgium asked the same thing. The three powers asked suspension of all war debt installments, including those due December 15, pending the outcome of the discussions suggested.

Receiving notice of this action while on his way from California to Washington, President Hoover immediately informed President-Elect Roosevelt of the development and invited him to a conference at the White House, suggesting that he bring with him the Democratic leaders of congress and any other advisers he might select. He told Governor Roosevelt he was loath to proceed in the matter with recommendations to congress until he had conferred with him, since any settlement of the debt problem must be the result of protracted negotiations that would reach beyond the remaining days of his administration. The President's plan seemed fair enough, but Mr. Roosevelt accepted it only "in principle," saying he would be glad to meet with Mr. Hoover and go over the situation but asking that the meeting be "wholly informal and personal." He added that the European notes create a responsibility "which rests upon those now vested with executive and legislative authority." Thus it was made evident Governor Roosevelt has no intention of shouldering any responsibility ahead of time.

ONE thing that is fairly certain is that Europe's concerted move for revision of the war debts, and cancellation if possible, will not be successful with the short session of congress that opens in December. Not one of the senators and representatives in Washington was in favor of granting the concessions asked, so the prospect was that the debtor nations would either have to pay the December installments or default. The British installment is 95, the French 20 millions, and the Belgian two millions. It was felt certain that Great Britain would pay if necessary.

Governor Roosevelt, according to Democratic leaders, is opposed to any reduction of the debts; but he thinks payment could be made easier through an economic conference to free trade channels of tariff barriers and exchange restrictions. President Hoover is opposed to downward revision of the tariff, but has suggested that foreign nations be given credit against their obligations for any concessions that would offer a wider market for American farm products and manufactures.

FRANCE, through Premier Herriot, laid before the disarmament conference in Geneva its complete plan designed to bring about general disarmament and world peace. It was well received by the British, and Norman Davis, American representative, praised it as "a great concession," so hopes for the success of the conference were high. But they were dashed when Germany refused to find in it reason for rejoining the party, declaring the Herriot program was just another plan to assure French hegemony on the continent.

The French scheme, combining the ideas of security and disarmament, seemed to offer Germany the equality she demands, under terms yet to be agreed upon. But it provides for "Progressive disarmament" of the powers and excludes rearmament for Germany. The section of most vital interest to the United States reads: "Any war undertaken in breach of

the Paris (Briand-Kellogg) pact is a matter of interest to all the powers and shall be regarded as a breach of the obligations assumed towards each one of them.

"In the event of a breach or threat of a breach of the Paris pact, the said powers shall concert together as promptly as possible with a view to appealing to public opinion and agreeing upon the steps to be taken.

"In application of the pact of Paris outlawing war, any breach of that pact shall involve the prohibition of direct or indirect economic or financial relations with the aggressor country. The powers shall undertake to adopt the necessary measures to make that prohibition immediately effective.

"The said powers shall declare their determination not to recognize any de facto situation brought about in consequence of the violation of an international undertaking."

This in essence means that the United States would abandon its historic claim to neutrality rights. Great Britain's plan, presented by Sir John Simon, concentrates on a reduction of national armaments, particularly air forces, the latter to be abolished by degrees on condition that Germany in the meantime does not rearm in the air.

FRANCE, Germany and Great Britain have got together in one project—the formation of a tripartite economic consortium designed to rehabilitate Europe and the Near East. It was announced in Paris by Raymond Patenotre, French undersecretary for national economy, who said the first project would be the offering of a loan of 17,000,000,000 francs for the electrification of railroads in Poland, Portugal, Rumania and Iraq. France and England are expected to provide 40 per cent of the loan each, and Germany 20 per cent. Premier Herriot will be the titular head of the consortium in France and Chancellor Franz von Papen in Germany. Patenotre, as the vice president for France, will be in actual charge of operations, with headquarters in Paris.

Patenotre said guarantees as to insurance, security and noncompetition in industrial bidding would constitute the underlying principles of the organization.

DIVERSION of the Colorado river, one of the big preliminary pieces of work in the building of the Hoover dam, has been completed and the full flow of the river is now going underground through the two Arizona tunnels. The still water between two temporary dams at the inlet and outlet of the diversion tunnels has been pumped out and the river bed laid bare for nearly a mile ready for excavation. Bedrock probably will be reached by next July. Some 4,000,000 cubic yards must be removed before pouring of concrete starts, the river bed being excavated to a depth of 130 feet.

Frank T. Crowe, general field superintendent of Six Companies, contractors, said the most difficult part of the project is behind the engineers. Building of the dam itself, he explained, will be comparatively simple work. He said the big job was the pioneering state of shaping the great canyon walls, building the diversion tunnels and spillway bores and getting the river out of its channel. Work on the project is more than a year ahead of schedule and it is expected to be completed by the end of 1937.

WHEN Senator Borah's committee on foreign relations opened the hearings on the St. Lawrence waterway treaty the expected opposition developed immediately and in full force. Witnesses for the railroads, port authorities, cities, and world shipping interests united in asserting that the development of the St. Lawrence river for navigation and power would disrupt the national transportation system, peril vital American industries, injure lake shipping, jeopardize the coal and ore business of the Great Lakes, and magnify the unemployment problem.

Among other attacks on the waterway development as proposed in the Hoover-Bennett treaty, were charges that completion of that seaway be-

twen the Great Lakes and the Atlantic, via Montreal, would jeopardize billions of dollars' worth of railway bonds held by the public and insurance companies.

REPRESENTATIVE SHANNON of Missouri resumed his investigation of government competition with private business with hearings in Chicago, and his committee was told that this competition is a "trust" that must be destroyed if private enterprise is to be encouraged and economic recovery furthered.

Representatives of business organizations in Illinois and the Panama Canal Zone as well as executives of steamship companies, told the committee of specific cases where the government competes to the detriment of private companies. On the basis of their testimony, the United States government today is interested in every type of business from mortician to the manufacture of gun powder.

The Illinois Manufacturers association, representing practically every manufacturing industry in the state, ascribed to the government responsibility for a large part of the unemployment in the state and through its counsel, David C. Clarke, charged before the committee that the government has been found to be competing, directly, in 27 different manufacturing operations "and numerous others."

Clarke declared that his association had been advised that the federal government, was not strictly concerned with the actual cost involved in its ventures. "Much less," he said, "is there strict regard for any reasonable profit to the government from industrial operations."

OKLAHOMA is twenty-five years old, and the silver anniversary of her admission to the Union was fittingly and excitingly celebrated on November 16 in Oklahoma City. All the people of the state and the governors of other states were invited to the birthday party, and many were present. At the head of the pioneers participating was Gov. William H. Murray, who was president of the constitutional convention and speaker of Oklahoma's first house of representatives. He was one of the speakers, the others being Charles N. Haskell, the first governor, and Federal Judge Robert L. Williams, former governor and first Supreme court justice. Among twenty-six Oklahomans honored at a banquet and whose names were added to those in the state's Hall of Fame were Secretary of War Patrick Hurley, Will Rogers, cowboy humorist; Judge Haskell, once known as an oil company capitalist; Senator T. P. Gore, Senator Elmer Thomas and Former Senator Robert L. Owen.



Gov. Murray

LIBERALS of Honduras, having lost out in the recent election, have turned to revolution and have been fighting some bloody battles with the government forces. The rebels were reported to have seized the towns of Trujillo, La Ceiba and La Esperanza, and then they moved on the city of San Pedro, which they captured. The fiercest of the fighting to date was in a counter attack there by the government troops.

SEVERAL weeks ago in this column mention was made of the quarrel between Peru and Colombia over possession of Leticia, and by a slip of the pen it was said the sector in dispute had once been ceded by Colombia to Peru, instead of by Peru to Colombia. An authoritative source now gives the information that the Leticia sector was in fact ceded by neither country to the other, but that it is territory that has always been claimed by Colombia. In 1922 by the terms of the Salomon-Lozano treaty (between Peru and Colombia) it was definitely decided that Colombia's southern boundary line included Leticia within the limits of Colombia, and the sector was thereafter recognized by Peru as belonging to Colombia.

SOON after the December session of congress opens Senator Benigno Aquino of the Philippine legislature will be in Washington to take part in the efforts to win independence for the archipelago. He sailed from Manila some days ago bearing secret instructions to the Filipino delegation, presumably in the form of a mandate of the legislature opposing both the Hawes and Hare bills, and demanding a new independence grant without reservation by the United States of naval bases and coaling stations. The mandate also would provide for tariff reciprocity between the United States and the Philippines and that there be no plebiscite on independence by the islanders in the interim of transition of government for a period not exceeding ten years. The limitation on importation of sugar to the United States free of duty would be fixed at not less than 1,500,000 long tons.

Although he is one of the army's most important gridiron mainstays, Cadet Charles Broshous is in the anomalous position of never having played an official minute in an army game, according to the experts. Broshous, whose skillful toe is reserved to boost the pigskin over the goal posts after army has scored a touchdown, returns to his place on the bench after he has performed this duty; and since time is out while the attempt is being made to kick goal, Broshous cannot be said to have played a single official minute, at least in a major game.

Chicago Gets Brick From Ur Temple



WILLIAM SCHLAKE, president of the Common Brick Manufacturers' Association of America (right), presenting to President Rufus C. Dawes of the Century of Progress exposition in Chicago a brick that was brought from Ur, the ancient city of the Chaldeans. It was obtained from the temple of the Moon God which was built during the reign of King Kurigalzu of Babylon in the Fourteenth century before Christ.

OUR BEDTIME STORY

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

PETER MAKES A GREAT DISCOVERY

There's nothing like a little work To make the moments fly. The busier you keep yourself The faster they slip by.

PETER RABBIT sat in his favorite spot in the dear Old Briar Patch wholly out of sorts. It was a clear, cool, beautiful autumn day, just such a day as makes you tingle all over with good feeling and high spirits. But Peter didn't tingle. No, sir, he didn't tingle a single wee bit as he sat there in the dear Old Briar Patch. He had tingled early that morning, but he didn't tingle now. All the joy and brightness had gone out of the beautiful day for Peter. The fact is Peter's feelings were hurt. That is what was the matter, his feelings were hurt.

"Loafer," mumbled Peter to him self. "They called me a loafer! Well, perhaps I am, but why shouldn't I loaf if I haven't anything to do? What harm is there in loafing when you have no work to do, I'd like to know! Striped Chipmunk called me a loafer, Chatterer the Red Squirrel called me a loafer, Happy Jack called me a loafer, Jerry Muskrat called me a loafer, and even little Danny Meadow Mouse called me a loafer. It wasn't so much the name as the way in which they said it. It seemed to me that they sort of despised me just because I wasn't working. If they have to work, and I suppose they do, it is all right; but I don't have to, and as long as I don't have to, why should they look down on me because I don't work? I should think they would envy me. It's a great deal nicer just to sit around or play."

He Just Kicks



They call us clay—and think what clay may be! A mudhole in a highway, or a field Rich with the harvest that the clay will yield. Even as we shall yield one presently. Clover or thistles, mudhole, or a road, Which shall we bear, and which to bear a load?

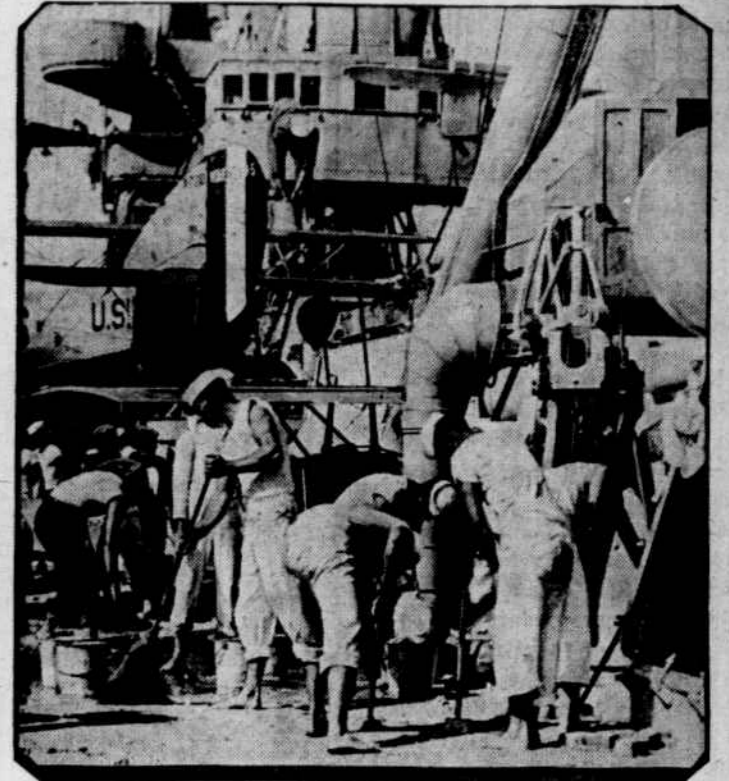
CLAY

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

They call us clay—and think what clay may do! Spatter humanity, or leave it clean, Be treacherous to travelers, or true. They call us clay—think all that clay may mean. Make easier or rough the road that man Must journey in life's moving caravan.

They call us clay—and think what clay has been! Some daubed it on their faces; Phidias Took common clay and put such beauty in The name of Phidias shall never pass. So his own sculptor each shall surely be. What will you make of you, shall I of me?

Manning the Mops and Brooms



WHEN it comes time to clean up one of our warships everyone has to get busy. This photograph was made on the battleship Texas in a lull during recent maneuvers.

brambles out and get this path clear." So Peter went to work cutting out those sly brambles which had crept across his private little path. There were more of them than he had thought for. When he had cleared that little path he went to another in which he remembered that the same thing had happened. Now Peter has many little paths through the dear Old Briar Patch, and most of them had been sadly neglected during the summer. Only those little Mrs. Peter used had been kept clear and open. As soon as he had one path clear Peter went to work on another. Presently he had forgotten all about his hurt feelings. It was surprising how fast time flew. Once more the day was bright and beautiful. Peter had made a great discovery. He had discovered that one never is so happy as when busy. He was no longer a loafer.

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KITTY MCKAY

By Nina Wilcox Putnam



The girl-friend says the shoulder straps on her evening gown draw interest but they're not a reliable security.

(© 1932, Bell Syndicate.—WNU Service.)

Gray Wool Coat



Here is one of the season's prettiest coats. It is of gray wool with over-jacket effect bordered with krimmer.

muffin tins twenty minutes. Serve with:

Orange Tea Biscuits. Take two cupfuls of flour, one-half teaspoonful of salt, four tablespoonfuls of shortening, four teaspoonfuls of baking powder, three-fourths of a cupful of milk. Mix as usual, roll out and cut with a small cutter. Meanwhile allow as many cubes of sugar to soak in orange juice. Press half a loaf to each biscuit before putting into the oven. Some may like the addition of a little of the grated rind to the biscuit mixture; it adds flavor.

Salmon Fritters. Take three-fourths of a cupful of salmon, drained and flaked; to this add one beaten egg, the juice of half a lemon, one and one-half cupfuls of flour sifted with one teaspoonful of baking powder and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Add a dash of cayenne. Fry by spoonfuls in deep fat and serve with tartar sauce.

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BONERS



In Greece they have highly sculptured people.

BONERS are actual humorous tidbits found in examination papers, essays, etc., by teachers.

A prime minister is a leader of a group sent out to preach the gospel.

A swain is a country boy who takes care of the swine.

The ship's bottom is scraped as it comes into drydock to remove shoals and other articles from the sides.

In the Olympic games they ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits and threw the javs. The reward to the victor was a coral wreath.

The liver is an infernal organ of the body.

Katrina Van Tassel was a country croquette—something like a ghost.

The stenographer atomized the bill.

SEVERAL GOOD THINGS

A GOOD sandwich to give the children for their luncheon is the following:

Fudge Shortcake. Take one-third of a cupful of shortening, two-thirds of a cupful of sugar, one egg, two-thirds of a cupful of milk, one and two-thirds cupfuls of flour, three and one-half teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one-half teaspoonful of salt and one teaspoonful of vanilla. Mix in the order given and bake in