

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

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## News Review of Current Events the World Over

### Secretary Roper Offers Plan for Big Cut in Commerce Department Expenses; Congress Gets President's Tennessee River Valley Development.

SECRETARY of Commerce Roper has laid before President Roosevelt a plan to make drastic reductions in the expense of his department which has long been pointed to as an outstanding example of the extravagant bureaucracy of Washington.

Mr. Roper proposes to slash the expenditures of the Commerce department from \$45,000,000 in the current year to \$26,000,000 in the next fiscal year, a reduction of 42 per cent.

If the report is approved, and Secretary Roper is successful in operating his department at such a saving, it is believed he will proportionately far outdistance in economy promotion any of the other departments.

The secretary plans to consolidate many activities of the department and to abandon others. The figure of \$26,000,000, which he proposes spending in the 1934 fiscal year, beginning next July 1, is not only 42 per cent under the 1933 figure, but it is nearly \$11,000,000 under the actual appropriations made for 1934 by the last congress. The appropriation bills carry an expenditure of \$36,005,405 for the Commerce department in 1934.

This is the first time in the history of the government, according to Secretary Roper, that an administration has suggested it is not wise or safe to use money which congress itself has appropriated, but he declared that the administration intended to carry out faithfully its campaign pledges of economy.

Mr. Roper plans to establish six bureaus to take over the work heretofore done by ten. The six bureaus will be the transportation, patents, census, standards, fisheries and foreign and domestic commerce.

The bureau of transportation will embody a supervision of the government over all forms of transportation, land, air and water. The Roper plan contemplates merging under one subordinate to become the new assistant secretary of commerce for transportation, supervision over the Interstate Commerce commission, and the activities of the United States shipping board; the Agriculture department's bureau of weather and public roads; the federal radio commission, the Commerce department's bureau of aeronautics, geodetic survey, lighthouses and navigation, steamboat inspection; the War department's inland waterways corporation; the naval observatory, and the national advisory committee for aeronautics.

THE ambitious scheme, conceived by President Roosevelt, to make the Tennessee river valley the scene of an industrial, economical and social experiment, has been laid before congress in a brief message.

Mr. Roosevelt's hope is to demonstrate in the Tennessee valley that great economic changes for the better can be made by conserving and developing natural resources.

"Such use, if envisioned in its entirety," said the President in his message, "transcends mere power development; it enters the wide field of flood control, soil erosion, afforestation, elimination from agricultural use of marginal lands, and distribution and diversification of industry.

"In short, this power development of war days leads logically to national planning for a complete river watershed involving many states and the future lives and welfare of millions. It touches and gives life to all forms of human concerns.

"I, therefore, suggest to the congress legislation to create a Tennessee valley authority—a corporation clothed with the power of government but possessed of the flexibility and initiative of a private enterprise.

"It should be charged with the broadest duty of planning for the proper use, conservation and development of the natural resources of the Tennessee river drainage basin and its adjoining territory for the general social and economic welfare of the nation. This authority should also be clothed with the necessary power to carry these plans into effect."

running of electric power into every farm, to control crop production, to build dams and promote forestation projects in the interest of relieving unemployment. It is a far-reaching plan which will take years to work out, but if a plan is agreed upon and it appears successful even before it is fully tried out, the President expects to apply similar projects to other river valleys of the nation.

To carry out the President's scheme Senator Norris of Nebraska introduced in the senate a bill for government operation of the huge war-time power and nitrate plant at Muscle Shoals, which to date has cost the American taxpayers some \$150,000,000. In the house a bill similar to the Norris bill was introduced by Representative McSwain, Democrat, of South Carolina.

SECRETARY of the Treasury Woodin has laid down the law to the New York clearing house, composed of twenty of the biggest banks in the city. He has told the clearing house banks, in diplomatic language, that they must keep their word and make good the deposits of the Harman National Bank and Trust company, now in the hands of a federal conservator.

The pressure brought by Woodin, it is expected, will cost the clearing house banks in the vicinity of \$6,000,000.

The firm stand of the secretary was made known simultaneously with the arraignment in court of Joseph W. Harriman, former chairman and president of the bank bearing his name.

Mr. Harriman, ill since his arrest, was brought into court in a wheel chair. The indictment charges that he caused false entries to be made in the bank's books, covering the use of \$1,713,225 of the depositors' money for speculation in the bank's stock.

Secretary Woodin's action is based on a pledge given to the controller of the treasury at a time when the bank was in financial difficulties, that the clearing house would support the bank.

FEDERAL legislation for a 30-hour working week in industry was assured when the administration placed itself squarely behind the measure. The bill has already passed the senate, and it is expected to be quickly approved by the house and signed by the President.

The bill, regarded as one of the most radical labor measures to win the administration support, provides in its present form that for an emergency period of two years no articles may be received in interstate shipment which have been manufactured or produced by labor working more than six hours in any day, or more than five days in any week.

The bill covers output of any "mine, quarry, mill, cannery, workshop, factory, or manufacturing establishment," but it exempts the producers of milk and other perishable foods, and newspapers.

Violators of the law would be punishable by a fine of not less than \$200, or imprisonment for not more than three months, or both. The bill would take effect thirty days after its enactment.

A COMPLETE program for a huge transportation regulation agency under the Department of Commerce has been laid before President Roosevelt by Secretary of Commerce Roper.

Under the new setup the Interstate Commerce commission would remain in a separate unit retaining its quasi-judicial functions, while its administrative activities would be transferred to a new agency.

functions of the Interstate Commerce commission applying to telephones and telegraph.

A second division of the Commerce department, headed by another assistant secretary, would include the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, the census bureau and the bureau of fisheries.

The bureau of mines would be moved to the Interior department.

ACTION on the farm relief bill was delayed by a controversy aroused over the Simpson price-fixing plan which has been written into the administration bill. This developed at a time when the Roosevelt program for increasing the farmers' income and lifting the burden of mortgages was bumping along on a rough road sprinkled with demands for currency expansion as a means of restoring agricultural culture.

The mortgage section of the administration bill is almost certain to have the approval of the house.

In anticipation of the passage of the bill, Henry Morgenthau, chairman of the federal farm board, is getting his department fully prepared to speed the actual application of the relief.

Some delays in putting into effect all the credit relief facilities planned by President Roosevelt and Mr. Morgenthau will be occasioned by reason of the fact that the consolidation order under which the President joined all farm credit activities doesn't become effective for a period of about six weeks.

But Mr. Morgenthau has reached out into the other agencies which soon will come under his head, and as soon as the credit bill becomes law he expects to bring about a prompt organization of the work of issuing 4½ per cent bonds to be exchanged for the present farm mortgages averaging higher than 6½ per cent.

President Roosevelt is reported to be firmly of the opinion that the biggest help that can be given to the farmers at this time is a loosening of their credit. Once the farmers' debts are erased, debts contracted when land values were high and crop prices up, it may not be necessary, in the opinion of many of the administration advisers outside the group controlled by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, to resort to price fixing and allotment schemes, to help the farmer.

A 2-CENT postal rate within cities, retaining the 3-cent rate for inter-district postage, is recommended in a plan for balancing the post office budget submitted to President Roosevelt by Postmaster General Farley.

It is Mr. Farley's hope that by increased postal revenues and a program of economy, to balance the budget, which at the present rate is running into an annual deficit of \$132,000,000.

The postmaster general said he had received opinions that if the postal rate is cut the volume of business will be so restored as to yield greatly increased revenues, and he added that some advisers felt that a flat 2-cent letter postal rate over the country would bring in enough revenue to balance the postal budget.

The postmaster general also disclosed a study is being made on whether the department shall continue the heretofore somewhat farcical practice of giving examinations to first and second-class postmasters.

THE immense importance attached to the Washington conference by the British is indicated in the personnel of the party accompanying Premier MacDonald.

No more important group of British officials has ever gone abroad, and it is evident that much is expected from the meeting between the British prime minister and President Roosevelt.

The chief delegate after MacDonald himself is Sir Robert Vansittart, permanent undersecretary of the foreign office.

Sir Robert is the permanent chief of the foreign office, no matter what foreign secretaries come and go, and all the threads of British diplomacy are in his hands. He knows America well, his first wife having been an American.

The next member of the party is Sir Frederick Leith-Ross, treasury expert, who has represented Great Britain at all financial meetings for some years. The third member is A. E. Overton, assistant secretary of the board of trade, whose specialty is tariffs and international trade relations.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S invitation to Japan to join the trade and political conferences in Washington has caused a complete change in the attitude of Japan toward America practically overnight. Friends of America express jubilation, seeing the first ray of hope for the return of relations between the two nations to the friendly state existing before the Mukden incident on September 18, 1931.

## CHILDREN'S STORY

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

### THE HOME GOING OF JOHNNY CHUCK

JOHNNY CHUCK had made up his mind to go back to his old home in the far corner of the Old Orchard. Yes, sir, Johnny was no longer obstinate. He didn't care what Polly Chuck might say. Hunger had quite cured him of all obstinacy. He wanted to get back where the grass was cool and clean and sweet, and where he need hardly more than leave his doorstep to get plenty to eat.

So Johnny Chuck had made up his mind to go back home. The one trouble was that he couldn't decide when to start. You see, it was a long, long way back home. At any rate it was a long way for Johnny Chuck, though you and I would have thought nothing of it. In case of sudden danger along the way there was no place in which to hide. There would be nothing for it but to run or fight. Johnny didn't feel that he could do either. He was stiff and lame and sore from his fight with Reddy Fox.

So Johnny was in a bad fix. He was hungry, very hungry, yet feared to go far enough from his house to get enough to eat. He wanted to go back to his home and Polly Chuck, yet feared to make the journey. Perhaps Sammy Jay guessed what was in his mind, for Sammy suddenly offered some good advice.

"If I were in your place," said Sammy, "I would start for home about noon."

"Who said anything about going home?" growled Johnny Chuck.

"I did," chuckled Sammy as good-naturedly as if Johnny Chuck hadn't growled at all. "Noon is the best time for you to start."

"It's too hot then," grumbled Johnny.

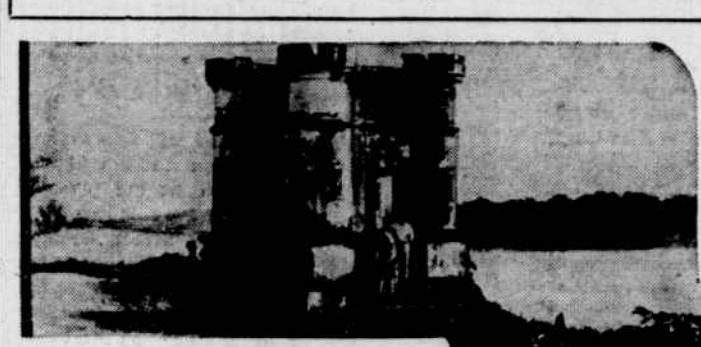
"It's safer than any other time," retorted Sammy. "You know, or ought to know, that Reddy and Mrs. Fox and Old Man Coyote usually are resting then. Bowser the Hound is sure to be napping. If I were thinking of making a journey I certainly would start right about noon."

"Hah!" grunted Johnny Chuck, and that was all Sammy could get out of him. Now Johnny knew that Sammy was quite right. He knew that there is no other time of day or night when so few are out and about as during the very middle, the hottest part, of the day. The more he thought it over the better Sammy's idea seemed. And so it came about that at noon that very day Johnny Chuck started back for the old home in the far corner of the Old Orchard.

Now, though he didn't know it, Sammy Jay was watching to see if he would go and Sammy followed along behind, taking care not to show himself. Sammy's eyes twinkled as he watched Johnny limp along, stopping every few steps to pant or to get just a bit of clover. The fact is, Sammy was keeping watch and had the least sign of danger appeared he would have warned Johnny Chuck instantly.

But no danger did appear, and slowly Johnny Chuck made his way toward the far corner of the Old Orchard. As he drew near he began to wonder what Polly Chuck would say. Would she be glad to see him back? A little distance away he sat up and watched the entrance to his home. He wished Polly would come out. Perhaps if she did and saw him she would speak first. That would make it easier. Somehow, now that he was almost there he hated to go the rest of the way. It was too much like giving in. Johnny's ob-

## Brazil Strengthens Ancient Amazon Fort



TABATINGA, ancient, neglected fort on the upper Amazon river, is being strengthened as a precautionary war measure. It is close to Leticia, Colombian border town recently seized by Peruvians. The fort of Tabatinga dates back several centuries to the explorations of the first Portuguese navigators of the Amazon, and is one of the oldest fortifications in the Western hemisphere. Shown also are Colombian staff officers.



stiny was beginning to rise again.

And just then Sammy Jay screamed. He screamed just as he does when he sees Reddy Fox creeping up on someone. Johnny forgot that he was stiff and lame and sore. He forgot everything but that there just before him was home and safety. He scrambled down his long hill and half way down he met Polly Chuck.

"It's about time you came home," was all she said.

As for Sammy Jay, he flew off to the Green Forest laughing fit to kill himself.

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## SUGAR FOODS

FOR those of us who do not enjoy the nutty, delightful flavor of olive oil, there are the vegetable oils that are perfectly wholesome and much cheaper as to cost. These oils may be used just as the olive oil is used in all dressings. For a good French dressing use one-half cupful of vegetable oil, three tablespoonfuls of vinegar, one-half teaspoonful of salt and one-eighth teaspoonful of pepper. Beat thoroughly and serve on any fresh salad.

## Green Pepper Jam.

Put two cupfuls of peppers through the food chopper twice and save all the juice. There should be two full cupfuls with juice enough to cover the top of the cup; discard the rest of the juice. Take six and one-half cupfuls of sugar, one and one-half cupfuls of apple vinegar and one bottle of pectin. Bring the sugar, vinegar and peppers to a hard boil, then set aside for 15 minutes and stir occasionally. Bring again to a boil and boil for two minutes. Remove from the fire and stir in the pectin, skim and stir for five minutes to cool, then pour into jelly glasses and cover with paraffin. Let stand a week to set. This makes a nice sandwich spread on any kind of buttered bread.

## Mayonnaise.

To one-half teaspoonful of salt, one-eighth teaspoonful of white pepper add one egg, beat well, add three tablespoonfuls of vinegar, stir until well mixed, then add one teaspoonful of sirup and two cupfuls of good vege-

## About That Boy

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

ABOUT that boy: I'm worried more than I have ever been before. He's getting older, more a man, He's just about where I began To make mistakes—of small amount When nine or ten, but now they count. Yes, more and more he's coming to Do certain things I used to do.

I'm worried more about that boy— The little things that now annoy His mother, just a word or sign, The same that used to bother mine, I've often wished that I had done A little different when a son, But not imagined, even then, My son would do the same again.

I'm stumped about that boy, because He's getting like his father was, Is not a bit more serious now Than—well, than I was, anyhow. The little tricks of ten or so I knew, of course, that he'd outgrow; He's changing, that is plain to see— Confound it, getting more like me!

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table oil, a teaspoonful at a time until the mixture begins to thicken when the oil is added; add a teaspoonful of boiling water and set away to chill.

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## GRAPHIC GOLF



## GOLF PRACTICE

PRACTICE in golf should be made as interesting as possible if one is to benefit by it. Merely hitting the ball often becomes boring indeed, and in such a state little progress is made. Bobby Jones overcomes this tendency of mere mechanical practice in iron play by varying the distances, trajectories and angles to the green. He used the flag as the objective in such tune up sessions, for the irons are employed fundamentally in playing shots to the putting surface. Playing too long from one spot tends to grow tiring and the shots after while more or less automatic. On tee shots Jones mixes up the strokes by using a brassie or heavy iron at intervals. While Jones generally confines his practice shots to smoothing out some kink in the swing or to remedy some other difficulty, MacDonald Smith adopts an opposite procedure, that of practicing shots he is playing well. Smith's idea, obviously, is to create a good habit instead of cure a bad one. So fleeting is golf form, however, that often playing and experimenting with a shot that is working well may in time give rise to complications. For polishing up one's game instead of trying to correct a definite fault a short round of golf hitting three or four balls with all the clubs in the bag is advised.

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## BONERS



When you stroke a cat by drawing your hand along its back it cocks its tail up like a ruler, so as you can't get any further.

BONERS are actual humorous tid-bits found in examination papers, essays, etc., by teachers.

Everybody in Gandhi's army eats the same food and sleeps in the same bed.

The Romans reclined on one elbow and ate with the other.

The skeleton is the human body with all the meat cut off. It is used to study the shapes of bones, etc.

A referee is when folks get married and the neighbor's children make a lot of noise and get candy.

An adenoid is a growth at the end of the nose.

Joan of Arc was burned to a steak.

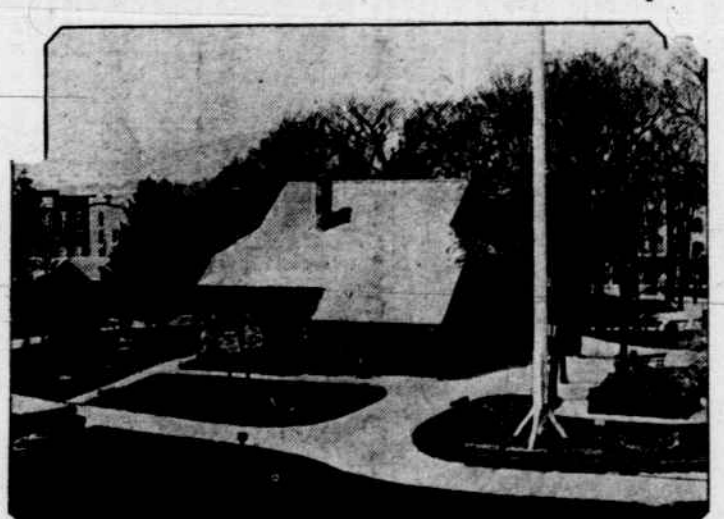
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## New Sports Costume



An individually designed sweater costume from Kargers in New York. The diagonally woven brown and gold homespun skirt has an unusual triangular design in the center and the lacy loose weave gold colored blouse features a diagonal design scarf. The tiny puffed sleeves and the brown leather bow on the belt are features which accent the individuality of this costume.

## You'll See This on New 3-Cent Stamp



WASHINGTON'S headquarters at Newburgh, N. Y., which will be depicted on the new three-cent stamp, to be issued under the administration of Postmaster General Farley. The new stamp, which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the declaration of peace, has been approved by President Roosevelt. It was suggested by Representative Fish of New York.

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