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News Review of Current Events the World Over

President's Proposal to Eliminate Utility Holding Companies Brings Storm of Criticism—Treasury Seeks to Simplify Nation's Currency Structure.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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THE President's special message calling for abolition of utility holding companies stirred up a storm that probably surprised even such an astute politician as Mr. Roosevelt. The President urged legislation to abolish those holding companies which were unable to show they were operated in the public interest. Representative Bertrand H. Snell, Republican leader, immediately attacked the message, claiming the President had denounced propaganda against the proposed legislation, and was himself propagandizing for it. Utility companies also swung into the battle, and thousands of investors in utility stocks are reported to have sent in protests to congress. In the senate, Norris, Nebraska Republican, offered a resolution calling upon the federal trade commission to investigate propaganda regarding the legislation. The senate approved without debate. Charges were made by utility companies that because of the administration's campaign against public utilities "the value of utility securities has declined by three and one-half billion dollars since 1933." Enactment of legislation to halt holding companies will cause enormous loss to the American family, one power official testified before the house interstate commerce committee.

Senator Norris

lution in another ruling which held the radical Frazier-Lemke farm mortgage bill was valid. Federal Judge Merrill E. Otis, at Kansas City, declared the Frazier-Lemke law was constitutional, "although unwise in many of its provisions and almost incomprehensible matter." Judge Otis said his ruling was not the first in which the act was upheld, and that an appeal was already before the United States Supreme court and a decision might be expected shortly. The AAA was declared invalid as regards intrastate business by Federal Judge Ira Lloyd Letts at Providence, R. I., who issued an injunction restraining Secretary of Agriculture Wallace from enforcing the act against three Rhode Island retail milk dealers, on the grounds that their business was conducted entirely within the state, and the national government had no right to interfere. At Newark, N. J., Federal Judge Guy L. Fake ruled the national recovery act unconstitutional as applied to intrastate commerce "because it attempts an unlawful delegation of legislative authority." The latter decision agrees with that handed down by Federal Judge Niels in the controversial Weirton steel dispute.

CHANCELLOR ADOLPH HITLER'S "diplomatic" cold is over, and he will welcome Sir John Simon, British foreign secretary, to a conference beginning March 24. Accompanying Sir John will be Capt. Anthony Eden, lord privy seal, and disarmament authority. After the Berlin visit Eden will go to Moscow to talk with Soviet leaders. The Berlin conferences will discuss legalization of Germany's rearmament in exchange for an air Locarno pact with Great Britain, France, Italy, and Belgium, and an eastern security pact with Poland and Russia. Limitation of armament by all nations will also be taken up. The visit is complicated by a recent announcement that Germany possesses military aviation in violation of the Versailles treaty. Because of this, France may invoke the Rome accord with Italy and Franco-British declaration at London in support of its move to keep the reich from giving the air force official sanction.

GREECE is mopping up the loose ends of the revolt. Some fighting is reported near the Bulgarian border where one regiment, part of the rebellious Fourth army corps, has declined to surrender, but the revolution is definitely over. Eleutherios Venizelos, ex-premier, and leader of the futile revolt, was reported a refugee at Rhodes, the tiny island where Julius Caesar was interned by pirates some 2,500 years ago. Venizelos was transferred there by the Italian government after he had been landed in Italy by one of the rebel warships. Gen. George Karmanos, rebel commander, is safe in Bulgaria, where officials have refused extradition. Rebel prisoners are being concentrated in camps, and courts martial are functioning in Saloniki, Kavala and Larissa, and military trials have begun in Athens. It is believed that only a few of the most flagrant rebels will suffer the death penalty. Venizelos is almost certain to be court-martialed in absentia, and banished forever. His elaborate home in Athens, and his valuable library have already been confiscated and will likely be converted to public use. Italy has refused to extradite him, although it is possible that new demands will be made by the Greek government, who will claim that he took funds from a bank in Crete. Unless he is surrendered, he will probably move to Paris where his two sons now reside.

THE senate smacked down Senator Huey Long for his filibustering tactics and his efforts to amend the administration's \$4,880,000,000 work relief measure. The Kingfish had demanded alterations in the work relief bill which would take \$100,000,000 away from the \$600,000,000 earmarked for CCC work and allot it to students in colleges and universities. Long's amendment was defeated by a vote of 58 to 27. To prove that old adage of "politics makes strange bedfellows," Long was aided by Senator Hiram Johnson of California, who declared that the senate should have something to say about methods for spending the huge sum sought by the President. Johnson has heretofore been considered a supporter of the President. Long's amendment brought forth other proposed changes which should keep the senators busy arguing for several days.

ALL outstanding first Liberty loan bonds have been called for redemption by Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau. The \$2,000,000,000 outstanding has been called for June 15, before which time the treasury will likely offer lower interest-bearing securities in exchange for the first Liberties, saving the government some \$14,000,000 in annual interest charges.

NEW Deal policies took two more batterings as Federal courts held both the AAA and NRA unconstitutional as regards intrastate business. The administration might find some consolation

in another ruling which held the radical Frazier-Lemke farm mortgage bill was valid. Federal Judge Merrill E. Otis, at Kansas City, declared the Frazier-Lemke law was constitutional, "although unwise in many of its provisions and almost incomprehensible matter." Judge Otis said his ruling was not the first in which the act was upheld, and that an appeal was already before the United States Supreme court and a decision might be expected shortly. The AAA was declared invalid as regards intrastate business by Federal Judge Ira Lloyd Letts at Providence, R. I., who issued an injunction restraining Secretary of Agriculture Wallace from enforcing the act against three Rhode Island retail milk dealers, on the grounds that their business was conducted entirely within the state, and the national government had no right to interfere. At Newark, N. J., Federal Judge Guy L. Fake ruled the national recovery act unconstitutional as applied to intrastate commerce "because it attempts an unlawful delegation of legislative authority." The latter decision agrees with that handed down by Federal Judge Niels in the controversial Weirton steel dispute.

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SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY MORGENTHAU revealed plans to dip into profits from gold seizure to retire \$674,625,630 of the national debt through the use of gold certificates. Potentially inflationary, it will deprive national banks of the power to issue currency, and save the government an annual interest charge of \$13,500,000. Questions on inflationary implications were avoided by treasury officials, but they admitted the plan would "put gold back to work which can be expanded."

The maneuver will place in the hands of the federal reserve banks \$674,625,630 of gold certificates, which must be used as backing for issue of the same sum in federal reserve notes to retire the bonds. Note issue against the bonds could be expanded if currency demands warranted, to about \$1,687,500,000, since a federal reserve note need not be backed by more than 40 per cent gold or gold certificates in like percentage. What will happen will be the immediate simplification of our currency system. The treasury and federal reserve banks will have all the authority to issue money. The plan involves retirement on August 1 of \$674,625,630 of 2 per cent federal securities and substitution of federal reserve notes for \$657,937,080 of outstanding national bank currency. These bonds will be retired with surplus funds created by devaluing the Roosevelt dollar from 100 cents to 50.06 cents, gold. The total profit was \$2,812,000,000.

National bank notes issued by national banks against federal securities represent more than one-tenth of the nation's circulating currency. The administration's program likely means the permanent abandonment of the national bank note which has been used since the Civil war. The circulation privileges expire on all bonds deposited by banks and held in trust by the treasury on July 22, 1935, except on two issues. By calling for redemption, the treasury will retire all securities bearing "circulation privilege" and national banks will no longer have suitable security for issuance of their own notes.

THE house appropriations committee favorably reported out the Department of Agriculture appropriations bill for the 1936 fiscal year. A cut of \$513,878,758 was due largely to a \$411,022,428 slash in the AAA item. The total bill calls for \$633,278,758, of which \$570,000,000 would go to the Agriculture Adjustment Administration activities. At committee hearings it was explained that it is impossible to estimate how much would have to be obligated because of the crop control program, but the AAA item was a rough estimate of processing tax collections and is not controlling. Henry Wallace, secretary of agriculture, told the committee that the farmers' share of the national income is now about 10.2 per cent, and that it should be 13 to 16 per cent.



Sec'y Wallace

Wallace said "true prosperity" cannot come "until there has been a very material increase in the output of physical goods, industrial goods."

"If in some way it were possible to turn out 50 per cent more industrial goods at a price definitely lower than the present price," the secretary testified, "the result would be to make it possible for agriculture to buy more with the agricultural dollar and there would be more factory workers to be fed in the cities."

EVEN though the senate will not act immediately on the "pink slip" bill to repeal income tax publicity, income tax figures will not be available to the public for six months, according to internal revenue officials. While it is likely the publicity act will be repealed, the house having so voted, it is not anticipated that the senate will act on the measure for some time. Even though the latter might not act favorably, there remains considerable work to be done before the figures can be made public, and income tax payers may be confident that prying neighbors cannot have immediate access to such information. In the senate a drive has been started for higher federal income and corporation taxes.

FRENCH courts have formally indicted 19 persons, including Mrs. Stavisky, for the Stavisky scandal that rooked the government after the financial debacle, which caused losses of millions of francs to investors, had broken. Stavisky, known as "Hand-some Alex," died from a gunshot wound as police tried to arrest him in January, 1934.

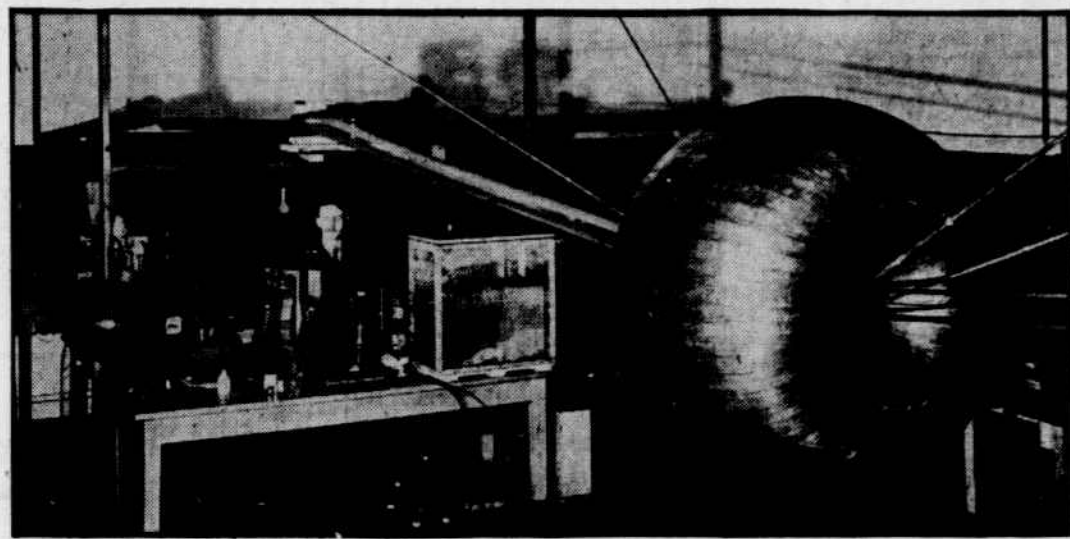
AFTER twenty months of bargaining, the documents conveying full title to the Chinese Eastern railway to Manchukuo were initiated in Tokyo, thus eliminating Russia as a factor in Manchukuo. The written approval of the agreements was signed by Koki Hirota, Japanese foreign minister; Dr. Constantine Youreneff, Soviet ambassador to Japan; and by Gen. Ting Shih-Yuan, Manchukuoan minister of finance. The consideration was 140,000,000 yen, or about \$39,300,000. The documents require that all three governments approve them before their formal signing about March 23.

A NEW gold suit is menacing administration financing and money policies. The suit reopening the question of investors' claims for payment of 1,800 million dollars of government bonds in gold or an equivalent, is brought by Robert A. Taft, son of the late chief justice, over the sum of \$1.07. Taft demands either payment of bonds in gold or suspension of all refunding of the gold clause certificates. Before going to court, Taft presented to the treasury a \$50 gold clause Liberty bond and four \$1.07 interest coupons attached, and demanded gold for both, but was refused. The suit may force the administration to close the loopholes left by the Supreme court decisions, if that is possible.

THE Mendieta administration in Cuba has established a military dictatorship over the island, constitutional law has been suspended, the death penalty for rebels imposed, and military governors designated for Havana and provinces. Washington is watching the situation with keen interest. Bombings and rioting are increasing, according to reports, with ten dead and fifteen injured. The objectives of the opponents of the government is the removal from office of President Mendieta and Colonel Fulgencio Batista, chief of the army. The strike has become almost general, nearly paralyzing all activities in the island. Repressive measures taken by the government to quell the strikers strongly resemble the strong-arm methods prevalent in the Machado regime, according to observers.

THE senate passed the army appropriation bill, and it now goes to the house. The measure adds \$20,000,000 to the original bill, making the total appropriation of \$400,000,000 almost a record high, and will add 46,250 to our army strength, making the total of enlisted men 165,000.

Newly Designed Doughnut Million-Volt Generator



DR. WILLARD H. BENNETT of Ohio State university's physics department, with his newly designed doughnut million-volt generator, for use in the study of nuclear disintegration. Because it is much smaller and less costly than the models previously used for the same voltage, the new generator is expected to greatly increase the possibilities for study of the atom and its nucleus. The generator will be used in operating a high vacuum tube at extremely high voltages, to produce high-speed particles which disintegrate nuclei of atoms and change the chemical elements. The new generator is of the electrostatic type and has a high voltage shield in the shape of a sphere with two holes on opposite sides. The shield is charged by means of a silk belt which passes through these holes.

QUESTION BOX

by ED WYNN, The Perfect Fool

Dear Mr. Wynn:
I am not one of those persons who believes everything told them. For that reason I am writing to you to find out if what I heard last night is true. I heard that the richest people in New York neglect their children. Tell me, is this true?
Yours truly,
ANN ARKIST.

Answer: What you heard is silly. Rich people do not neglect their children. They engage nurses to do that.
Dear Mr. Wynn:
During our natural history lesson, in school yesterday, our teacher said that about 8,000 elephants go every year to make white keys for pianos? If this is true, what do you think of it?
Sincerely,
E. KLIPSE.

Answer: I think it shows how far we have advanced in training animals.
Dear Mr. Wynn:
What is meant when they say a man has "horse sense"?
Truly yours,
JOCK KOY.

Answer: "Horse sense" is the thing which keeps a man from mortgaging

his home to buy an automobile.
Dear Mr. Wynn:
My mother and father had an argument. Ma said that Pa doesn't act the same as he used to before they were married, especially if they were on a train and passed through a tunnel. Why should men act differently, in a tunnel after marriage?
Sincerely,
I. M. A. MAY DIN.

Answer: Before marriage a fellow always kisses his girl in a tunnel. After marriage, when he gets in a tunnel, he takes a drink.
Dear Mr. Wynn:
What is meant by "A Gentleman Farmer"?
Yours truly,
Q. KUMBER.

Answer: A gentleman farmer is a man who raises nothing but his hat.
Dear Mr. Wynn:
I saw a policeman stop an automobile and arrest the driver. The man wanted to know why he was arrested and the policeman said because he had only one eye. What charge can they place against a man driving a

MOTHER'S COOK BOOK

LABOR-SAVING IDEAS
WHEN making pastry prepare more than is needed and place in a cold place or ice chest, tightly covered with waxed paper. The thoroughly chilled mixture makes more flaky crust than that baked at once. From this pastry a few tarts may be made in a hurry, or cheese straws, a meat pie, using left-over meat.

Ice box rolls are another special that can be mixed and left in the ice chest for a week. Take off just the amount needed for rolls and put them to rise; when light, bake. A tin of delicious rolls are quickly served. An hour or two before baking make them into small rolls and keep very warm, tightly covered. It is better to grease them well with lard—that keeps the flour from drying out on top while rising. They should be more than double their bulk when put into the oven.

MINUTE MAKE-UPS

By V. V.



Ears have come out of hiding! You must pay attention to them and consider them in your make-up problems. After all, they are a part of your face and show most to advantage when they look pink and shell-like. A pink liquid powder over them will add color and make them blend with your complexion make-up.
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When baking potatoes prepare enough so that the next day a few will be available for cream potatoes. They are fully as good as those freshly cooked.

By keeping jars of chow chow, capers, olives, pickles as well as cheese, celery, anchovies and numerous other condiments and relishes, one has access to delightful fillings for sandwiches which need to be made in a hurry. A jar of mayonnaise and a bottle of french dressing should be made in such quantities that they are always available. It takes very little extra effort to double the amount when preparing a salad dressing, and then there is always a supply.

Wash the heads of lettuce and place in a cloth or covered dish in the ice chest, then the lettuce will always be ready for use. Parsley well washed, leaving the moisture clinging to the leaves, if put in a fruit jar tightly covered, will keep two weeks, fresh and green. Add a bit of water if it seems to dry out.

Four Classes of Car Service
Both railroads and street cars in French Indo-China have four classes of service, with Europeans permitted to ride first, second and third but not fourth class, which is reserved for natives.

THE GIFT OF FRIENDSHIP

By ANNE CAMPBELL

MY FRIEND came home from far away,
And brought a gift to me,
And in my hand no bauble lay,
And there was nothing I could see.
She gave to me a cheering word,
A happy smile, a loving glance,
And in my heart new courage stirred
To conquer changing circumstance.
There is no gift that can be bought,
Or any work of art,
As precious as the one she brought;
The beauty of a friendly heart.
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New Style Creation



The "Smart Set" of hat, gloves and bag combining beige and black is worn with a novelty weave woolen dress. The hand stitched hat is felt, trimmed with grosgrain ribbon; the gloves and bag suede with silk faille.

Bedtime Story for Children

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

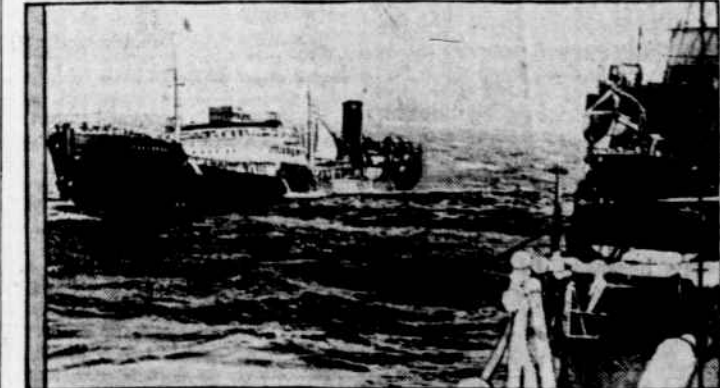
REDWING THE BLACKBIRD GIVES WARNING

CREeping toward sleeping Danny Meadow Mouse Reddy Fox managed to keep quite out of sight of anyone in the Smiling Pool. But there was one person to whom Reddy gave no heed. In fact, Reddy did not see him at all. It was Redwing the Blackbird, sitting on top of an alder tree on the bank of the Smiling Pool. Redwing had not seen Reddy until the latter had almost reached the Smiling Pool. Then, happening to look in that direction, he had caught a glimpse of something red moving in the tall grass. You see, he was looking down and therefore could see what those on the ground or in the water could not see.

Now Redwing does not fear Reddy Fox. There is no reason why he should. But Redwing has no love for Reddy Fox. He knows that Reddy would gladly catch him if he could. So the instant he was sure that it was Reddy creeping through the tall grass, Redwing flew out directly above Reddy and began to scream. "Danger! Danger!" he screamed. "Here is Reddy Fox! Danger! Danger!"

At the first warning note from Redwing, Grandfather Frog dived into the Smiling Pool with a great splash.

Burning Tanker Salvaged in Mid-Ocean



IN TOW of the British cruiser Frobisher, the Glasgow tanker Valverde is seen here lying deep in the waters of the Atlantic ocean, after a harrowing experience that tried the souls, and proved the heroism, of its crew. With a volatile cargo aboard, that included 8,000 tons of crude oil, and 4,000 tons of gasoline, the crew of the Scotch tanker fought a blaze that, if it had got out of their control, would have spelled oblivion for themselves and their floating home. They succeeded in quelling the fire, but only at cost of disabling the vessel, and a rope from the British fishing boat Guardian was a welcome sight to the sorely pressed crew. The cruiser Frobisher then came up and took the crippled vessel in tow and brought it safely to Bermuda.