

Congress Occupies Constant Attention Of Secretary Hyde



Arthur M. Hyde (left) receiving the congratulations of former Secretary Jardine of the department of agriculture.

By FRANK L. WELLS

(Associated Press Farm Editor)
WASHINGTON (AP)—Already stamped an "inside" man because of his multifarious relations he must perfect between his department, other branches of the federal government and the public, Arthur M. Hyde, the new secretary of agriculture, has given the undivided attention of his first days in office to agricultural problems before congress.

Senators and representatives wrestling with farm relief and readjustment of agricultural tariff schedules have been constant callers, inasmuch as the secretary will be directly responsible for the relation of the agricultural department to whatever farm aid measure is enacted by the special session of congress. Mr. Hyde has announced himself in complete understanding and accord with the administrator's views on farm legislation.

Because of the urgent outside contacts, Secretary Hyde has had time to confer with few of his division directors and bureau chiefs. It has been made known unofficially that he anticipates no immediate reorganization of his staff. Various agricultural interests actively favor the retention of present department heads and their policies. While the secretary has not indicated his attitude on the conduct of the department, the report has gained circulation that he considers the machinery adequate and its function efficient.

While several important readjustments are expected to be made to meet the demands on the department under the farm relief program, it is indicated that with the possible exception of an assistant secretary, the directing personnel will not be materially affected.

Concerned chiefly over the depart-

ment's relations with the public, due to the strategic position in which it is placed by the attempt to alleviate agricultural ills by legislation, the secretary finds himself swamped with duties of an administrative and executive nature. The assistant secretary will be charged directly with internal activities of the department, students of the situation declare.

Significant of the tremendous interest in agriculture, Mr. Hyde's induction into office was attended by the largest gathering that ever greeted a new chief of the department. Members of the senate and house agricultural committees, Washington representatives of farm organizations and private agricultural interests were present among the more than 200 persons who filed into the secretary's office.

Until he "got his feet on the ground," Mr. Hyde declined to discuss either the public or inside affairs of the department. He made only the statement that the administration was prepared to solve the agricultural problem and that personally he intended to do his "level best" to direct the full cooperation of the department into channels that best would serve the public need.

INCOME TAX COLLECTIONS SHOW BIG INCREASE

WASHINGTON, March 19.—(AP)—Collection from income tax reported to the treasury on March 15 amounted to \$38,512,247, bringing the total for the month of March to \$112,346,854, an increase of \$9,000,000 over the same period last year.

Behind the Scenes in Hollywood

By DOROTHY BERZOG
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HOLLYWOOD.—In passing: Note from the U. A. lot headlined: Prof. Rheinhardt sails for Europe after conference with Schenck.

Critical Situation

About a year or so ago, Actors' Equity endeavored to establish a Hollywood branch for motion picture players. The producers frowned upon the project inasmuch as in unionization there is power. At the crucial moment the project crumbled and the actors continued their lone wolf course.

Today, judging from the trend of conversations, the players realize unionization would be their salvation.

The foreign invasion has been defeated, excepting the English contingent, and they are to be reckoned with.

It was some three years ago that English actors flocked to Broadway, following in the successful wake of such sterling countrymen as Beatrice Lillie, Gertrude Lawrence, Jack Buchanan et al. The influx was characterized by mediocrity and a willingness to accept less salary than American players. Actors' Equity stepped in to protect the American actor. England protects her own just as efficiently.

There is observed in Hollywood a marked increase of English players, a number of whom are willing to accept less salary than ordinarily paid. I say this in no spirit other than reportorial. But the situation—what with talking pictures and the influx of stage emotes—is very serious for the Hollywoodians. Most of the recruited stageites are members of Actors' Equity accustomed to its protection in circumstances portending to salary and working hours. As contract screen players, however, they take orders and learn to give more than forty-eight hours weekly to the studio.

The more farseeing screen troupers is worried. There are approximately three steady producing studios here. Warners (which has taken charge of First National); Fox (recently merged with M. G. M.); and Famous Players. United Artists, Universal and R. K. O. have longer production lulls than the above mentioned three.

With so many screen mergers on tap, work sources for players are diminishing, which induced a keen-minded picture-it to prognosticate: First, that the time will come—and not in the distant future—when casting for pictures will be done through



BEATRICE LILLIE

the central casting offices insofar as freelancers are concerned. Central casting is the Will Hays' or Producers' Association. That this will result in the personal player's representative fading into the discard. That the first producer to ask for a player will get him, regardless whether a second producer phones later and offers him more money. This would mean salaries being lowered by pressure or by circumstances. It would make the actor even more dependent upon the producer. Not, mind you, that the producer isn't charming. I merely indicate the actor's defenseless position.

Certainly a revolutionary change is being formulated in Hollywood. Even before a year has elapsed the change may affect the motion picture actor who's career has been harnessed to the silver sheet industry. It is a possibility that ever looms more darkly to him who hitherto has gone free-heartedly on his grease paint way.

SCREENALITIES: Nocturnal kitchen suppers are beginning to be the fad hereabouts. Toher eve, after a party, Gloria Swanson bustled a group to her house for a scrambled egg repast. Eddie Gouling, James Ford and Harry D'Arrast were in the party. They decided to get another fem or two and gave Ruth Chatterton a 2:30 a. m. jangle. But Ruth had to work the next day, so she returned to pleas-

ant dreams. La Swanson happened to traipse upstairs and there found Lois Wilgen sound asleep, Lois having dropped in earlier in the eve, so she was routed to kitchen, where a light repast was munched by all. . . . May Allison Quick has penned a delightful stock market yarn that appears in this month's Cosmopolitan. The Colony read it with gusto—in the event one can read thusly. . . . Bessie Love and Eddie Foy lunching at ye Montmartre. Bessie will be honor guest at a party given for her at the Breakfast Club tomorrow eve. . . . Gene Hum rises to sigh: "God save the King; the Queen can take care of herself." He may or may not be referring to poker. . . . May McAvoy is sorta getting ready for her marriage in June. May hasn't worked for some time now. That's the Village for you. Rushes and lulls and vice versa. . . . Jimmy Hall visiting Merna Kennedy on the "Broadway" set. Jimmy wore a pair of brown spats. Now, Jimmy! . . . Betty Brownson and Blanche Sweet playing tennis on a Franklin avenue court. . . . Patay Ruth Miller and Tay Garnett, the director, speeding down the boulevard. It looks serious.

STEAL BODY OF FLOYD COLLINS

Vandals Take Remains of Man Who Died in Cave Out of Casket

HORSE CAVE, Ky., March 19.—(AP)—The body of Floyd Collins, stolen from its metal and glass casket in Crystal Cave, where it was on exhibition, was found tied in a burlap sack about 400 yards from the cave here this afternoon.

Bloodhounds led searchers who included sheriffs of three counties to the body. It was hanging over a bank of the Green river, reports said. No motive for the theft could be adduced by the sheriffs. According to advices received by the county attorney either had been disintergrated or had been mutilated.

The 17 day battle to save the life of Floyd Collins, when he was trapped while exploring Sand Cave stirred the nation in 1925. Relief workers battled furiously to reach the imprisoned man, but before they could release him Collins was dead.

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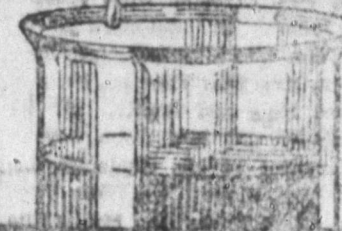
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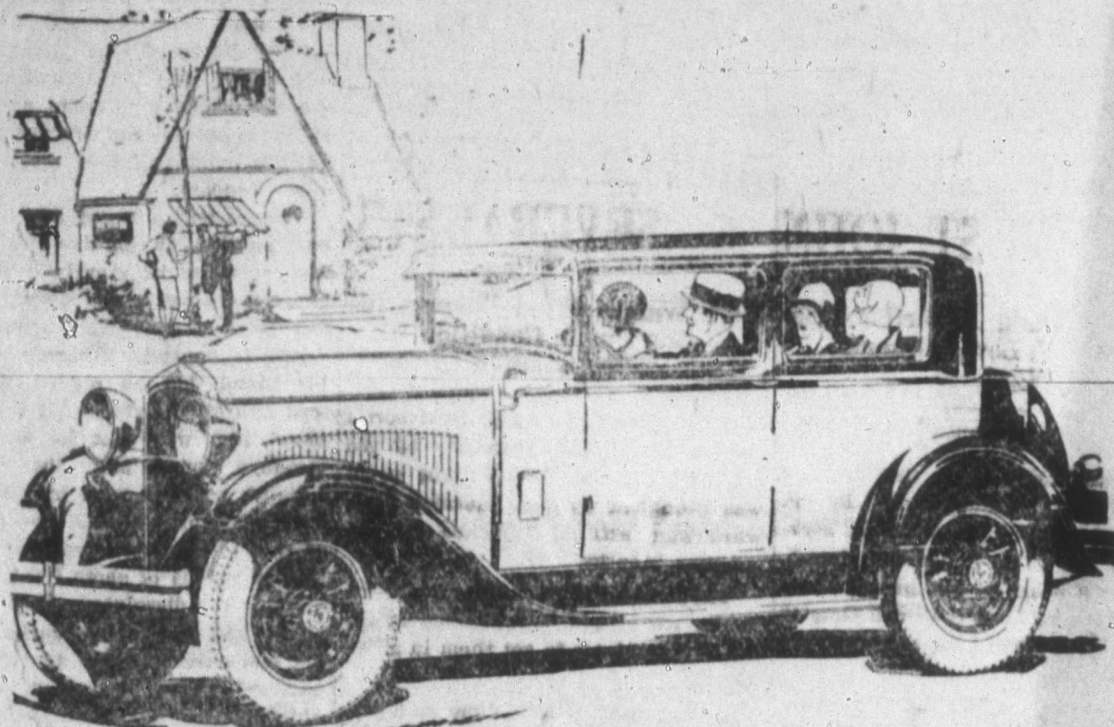
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