



1—Gen. Pietro Badoglio, leading soldier of Italy, who is making a tour of the United States. 2—Funeral in Evansville, Ind., of Corporal James B. Gresham, the first American soldier killed in France. 3—Snapshot made just as a bomb, dropped by army aviators, exploded on the deck of the former German cruiser Frankfurt, sending her to the bottom.

### NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

#### Acceptance by Japan Makes Way Clear for the Conference in Washington

#### SILESIA CRISIS PASSING

#### France and Britain Reach Agreement and Germany is Warned—Harding's Plan for Financial Relief of Railroads, Farmers and Cattle Raisers.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

With a mind not yet quite at ease in the matter, Japan has sent word that she will accept President Harding's invitation to the Washington conference to discuss limitation of armaments and questions of the Pacific and the Far East. But this is to be with certain reservations. These are expressed in the closing part of Tokyo's latest note to Washington, which reads:

"The Japanese government have been made aware through the communications and the published statement of the American government and the conversations between the secretary of state and Baron Shidehara that the proposition of the American government to discuss the Pacific and Far Eastern problems is based on the close bearing they may have on the question of limitation of armaments, which is the original and principal aim of the conference, and that, therefore, the main object of discussing these problems is to reach a common understanding in regard to general principles and policies in the Pacific and Far East.

"In order to insure the success of the conference, the Japanese government deem it advisable that the agenda thereof should be arranged in accordance with the main object of the discussions as above defined, and that introduction therein of problems such as are of sole concern to certain particular powers, or such matters as may be regarded accomplished facts, should be scrupulously avoided."

Of course, among what Japan considers "accomplished facts" are the cession of Shantung to Japan and the Yip mandate. But our State department is confident the Japanese can be satisfied in the drawing up of the agenda for the conference, and therefore is now preparing the formal invitations to the powers.

There is a chance that some of the British dominions, which consider themselves full-fledged nations in most respects, will kick up a little trouble because the British empire is to be represented as a unit, with only one vote. Australia already is wailing that she is entitled to a vote as a nation on the Pacific problems. Probably New Zealand, and possibly Canada, feel the same way. Rene Viviani and Albert Sarraut, minister of colonies, are to represent France at the conference; and Premier Briand also may come.

No decided opposition to holding the conference in Washington has developed, but the date of its opening remains to be settled. The United States tentatively mentioned November 11, Armistice day, because it would be sentimentally suitable, but again the British dominions protest. Many of their legislative bodies are in session during the fall months, and as their premiers wish to be present at the conference, they are urging that a later date be selected for its assembling. It may be they can be satisfied by preliminary informal consultations between Pacific powers which will enable them to put their views on record.

Through mutual concessions—France yielding the most—Great Britain and France have reached an understanding on the Upper Silesian question, and the threatened break in the entente will not occur just yet, anyhow. France abandoned her intention of sending immediate reinforcements to the Silesian garrison and agreed to a meeting of the inter-allied supreme council in Paris August 4. But she insisted the question of strengthening the allied forces in the region must first be settled, and also warned the British that any hostile act against the French troops or the Poles in the disputed area would result in the immediate occupation of the Ruhr basin, regardless of allied action.

Premier Lloyd George, on his part, consented to a meeting of experts to examine into the Silesian problem, and also conciliated the French by giving the German government a sharp rebuff. When France was preparing to send more troops to Silesia, she asked the Germans to supply the transportation. Berlin sent a note to London, asking if the British indorsed this demand. To this Downing street replied curtly that it was an inter-allied affair and not discussible with outsiders. British Ambassador Lord D'Abernon in Berlin also told the Germans that if the French or Poles were attacked the British would help in the occupation of the Ruhr basin.

For some time there have been rumors that former Emperor Charles was planning another coup to regain the throne of Hungary. Last week Roumania, Jugo-Slavia and Czechoslovakia signed a treaty providing for a declaration of war against Hungary if Charles should return. It is officially announced in Madrid that negotiations are under way for giving the ex-emperor and his family asylum in Spain. The consent of the other powers is necessary.

Having destroyed a considerable part of the Turkish nationalist army and advanced so far that even Angora, the nationalist capital, is threatened, the Greeks are restoring their lines of communication and preparing for the second phase of the offensive. General Papoulas, their commander-in-chief on the Smyrna front, says: "We are not going to let up on Mustapha Kemal Pasha until we have so completely dissolved his forces that he will never again be able to put an army in the field." Apparently Kemal realizes that he is being thoroughly whipped, for he has appealed to the government at Constantinople to intervene and stop the warfare. How this can be done is not clear. Kemal's own government is said to be abandoning Angora and transferring its archives to Sivas.

Evidently Kemal has not been receiving the aid he expected from the Russian bolsheviks. Lenin and Trotsky and their soviet crew are themselves in hard straits due to the rapid spread of famine and cholera in Russia. They have appealed loudly for help, but the governments they have so long flouted are deaf to their calls. Even the United States, always generous in response to the walls of the suffering, has told the soviet government, through a note from Secretary Hoover, that any relief measures would depend largely on the treatment of the Americans held prisoners by the bolsheviks. This was reinforced by a note from the State department formally and curtly demanding the release of those prisoners, and the soviet rulers already had been told there would be no consideration of closer relations with Russia until the Americans were set free.

The distress in Russia is such that Trotsky has been given dictatorial powers to handle the situation, and all government projects except those for relief have been suspended.

The Irish affair is still in status quo, De Valera and the Sinn Fein cabinet have been studying Lloyd George's offer, but have let it be known that it cannot be accepted until the British have released the imprisoned members of Dail Eireann so that parliament can have a full meeting to discuss the plan. The British government is willing to free these men if De Valera will make the request, but the Sinn Feiners feel that for him to do this would be in effect a recognition of the government's right to imprison representatives of Ireland. Lord High Chancellor Birkenhead in a speech in the house of lords, asked that parliament and the country have patience

with the trouble De Valera and his colleagues may be having in Dublin to reach a decision, and intimated the negotiations may continue several weeks.

A recent rumor concerning Lloyd George's plan is that it provides for two senates in Ireland, one for Ulster and one for the rest of the island, each managing its own affairs but subject to an Irish parliament in Dublin in which the members of the lower house shall be elected on a popular representation basis and the upper house shall have equal numbers from the two provinces.

President Harding and Director General Davis of the railroad administration having worked out a plan for the relief of the railroads, the President last week presented it to congress in a message and asked for legislative action. Briefly, he urged that the War Finance corporation be permitted by congress to purchase about \$500,000,000 of securities deposited with the railroad administration as evidence of the railroad debts to the government, the railroad administration then to apply the purchase price against claims which the roads have against the government, thus giving the roads funds that they greatly need. "There is no thought to ask congress for additional funds," said Mr. Harding. "No added expense, no investment is required on the part of the government; there is no added liability, no added tax burden."

Less definite was the part of the message asking congress to approve assistance to farmers and cattle men. But his plan here, too, rests on added authority for the War Finance corporation, and later Senator Kellogg introduced the administration bill providing that whenever the corporation is of the opinion that conditions arising out of the war have resulted in an abnormal surplus accumulation of any staple agricultural product, which is normally exported in substantial quantity, and that the ordinary banking facilities are inadequate to carry such products until they can be exported, advances may be made for periods not exceeding one year and up to \$1,000,000,000.

Either the public health service has been receiving a lot of false information, or the public officials of southern states refuse to admit the truth. Recently Surgeon General Cummings received reports that the South is threatened with an epidemic of pellagra and a resulting semi-famine, and thereupon President Harding called on the public health service and the American Red Cross to investigate at once, and devise measures of relief. It was said the low price of cotton, with resulting shortage of money, was to blame. The two agencies got busy at once, and at the same time in came the protests of the southern states. In all cases the state health officials took issue with the reports of the public health service, most of them denying vigorously that there was any increase of pellagra and all denying that the situation was serious or that a semi-famine threatened.

The Illinois scandal, or comedy—whichever way you look at it—had an amazing development when Governor Small, indicted for embezzlement of state funds, decided that he was immune to arrest during his term in office and considered the calling out of state troops to protect himself. His lawyers, appearing before Judge Salth of Springfield as "amicus curiae," advised the court that the governor was immune, ridiculously basing their assertion on the old maxim that "the king can do no wrong." The judge humored their solemn dignity with a long and erudite opinion, in which he completely riddled their position, turned their authorities against themselves and made it quite clear that in his view these friends of the court were offering decidedly unfriendly advice. He ruled that the governor, like any other man, was not immune to arrest and prosecution for crime, and ordered the sheriff to take him into custody after giving him reasonable time to surrender. At this writing Mr. Small is still at large, conferring with his political friends, presumably trying to find some way out of the dilemma.

### Horticultural Hints

#### PREPARE FRUIT FOR MARKET

Tentative Standard Grades Will Do Much Toward Abolishing Existing Confusion.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Good prices ordinarily are not obtained for inferior products, and the best of marketing facilities cannot overcome the handicap of indifferent handling and packing methods on the part of the grower or shipper. Confusion, dissatisfaction and lack of stability in the markets are caused, in a large degree, by carelessness in the preparation of fruit for the market, say specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture, bureau of markets.

Success in marketing strawberries depends to a large extent upon proper picking, grading, and packing. Strawberries of a dependable grade and pack inspire in the trade a confidence that is reflected in a greater demand and higher prices for the product, it is said. To furnish growers, inspectors, and buyers with fairness to each other and to themselves, the bureau of markets has recommended grades, which include what seem to be the best features of the grading rules found in use in the various shipping sections throughout the United States.

The first grade, which is known as U. S. Grade No. 1, consists of firm strawberries of one variety, with the cap and a short stem attached. They must not be overripe, underripe, underdeveloped, decayed, or moldy, and shall be practically free from foreign matter and from damage caused by sand, moisture, disease, insects, or mechanical means. The minimum diameter is set at three-fourths of an inch. In order to allow for variations incident to careful commercial grading and handling, 10 per cent, by volume, of the berries in any lot may be under the prescribed size, and, in addition, 5 per cent, by volume, of the berries in such lot may be below the remaining requirements of the grade.

U. S. Grade No. 2 consists of strawberries that do not meet the requirements of the first grade and do not contain more than 8 per cent, by vol-



Pickers Bring Berries to Packing Sheds for Grading and Packing.

ume, of berries that have been seriously damaged from any cause.

When packed and shipped in crates, the boxes should be well filled and the following information plainly and neatly marked on the end of each crate: The grade name—U. S. Grade No. 1, or U. S. Grade No. 2—the name of the variety, and the grower's name and address.

Strawberries that do not conform to the specifications of one of these two grades ordinarily are not high enough in quality to be shipped. When stock that does not meet the requirements of the U. S. Grade No. 2 is shipped, it can be sold only on the basis of the general quality of each individual shipment. The wide variation in value of the different lots of such undergrade stock would preclude the possibility of placing them in definite grades. In the determination of grades for strawberries the factors to be considered are size and quality.

The size of strawberries varies widely with the section and with the variety. However, as size normally would be considered as much as, or more than, any other factor in connection with grades, the minimum size for the No. 1 grade must be definitely stated. In districts where two grades are recognized, size is usually the main difference between them. While it is not practicable to separate all the different sizes in the same manner in which boxed apples or oranges are sized, more careful attention is needed in order to prevent boxes filled with small berries from being mixed with those of desirable size in the shipping crates.

Berries that are water-soaked or have the least indication of decay should not be shipped, and those which in any way have become bruised, crushed, cut, or otherwise damaged for shipping should be kept out of the boxes.

#### SOIL FOR RASPBERRY PLANT

Will Thrive Best on Sandy or Clay-Loam if Well Drained and Given Plenty of Plant Food.

The raspberry plant will grow on almost any soil; yet it has its likes and dislikes and will do best on a rich, sandy or clay-loam soil if well drained and supplied with plenty of plant food and humus. It will fall if planted on soil that lacks proper drainage and on which water stands for any considerable time at or near the surface.

## BOY SCOUTS



(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

### WHY I AM A SCOUT

The following statement, written by a boy scout, appeared in a Chicago newspaper in connection with a campaign for scout funds:

"I am a boy scout because I believe in the doctrine of the Boy Scouts of America—America first. I believe in the service to others which the boy scouts have made the premier issue, and I believe that the future of this government, if not of the world, rests in the hands of the boy scouts of today.

"But what have the boy scouts done and why should they be helped? During the war they were ready to answer the summons of their country at any time. Being too young to shoulder a gun, they set to work at home to raise money for the Red Cross, to sell Liberty bonds and war savings stamps, only in the last few days of the campaign, to the few who were not touched before. They were ready to respond to their country in giving first aid, carrying messages, or doing anything they were called upon to do. For this they received only a word of gratification from their government, but they were not after praise.

"The boy scout is trained to rescue a person in danger, and to apply first aid to his wounds until the doctor comes. The doctrine of service is ever prominent, for the 'good turn daily' is put into practice all over. A scout can be trusted and will never break his word or commit a theft. A scout is loyal and obedient to the right, kind to dumb animals, of service to man, friendly toward others and cheerful in his actions. He has to pass certain tests which give him a greater knowledge and a broader view.

"You are now being asked to contribute some money to the boy scouts in order that they may continue their good work. What is your return? A safe government for your children, based on the principles of love, unselfishness and common sense. There need be no fear for the future of America if placed in the hands of the boy scouts."

### SCOUTS LOCATE STOLEN CAR.

The new plan whereby police reports are sent broadcast by wireless every evening had an immediate, interesting and worthwhile result. On a certain evening a large amount of police data and reports were relayed to the high power radio station of the American Radio and Research corporation in Medford, Mass., and hurled through the air in a 100-mile radius for the information of some 5,000 amateur operators. Among the items reported were the number, make, engine, etc., of a car which had been stolen from Harvard square, Cambridge, the day before. Among the "listeners in" was a boy scout named Barney, who wrote down the details of the theft, for practice in receiving. The next day, walking along the street in his home town, the lad noticed a car standing deserted by the roadside which was of the make of the stolen roadster. He made a quick, mental note of the number and ran home to compare it with his radio notes. The two tallied and he at once telephoned the police and the car was restored to its owner.

### SCOUTING A WORTH-WHILE JOB.

B. K. Willow of Philadelphia, a ten-year scout man, says:

"It has been a great pleasure to be associated in scout work through these past ten years. Whatever it may have meant to the boys it has meant a great deal to me. The seven years when I was actively engaged with the different groups of boys as scoutmaster have brought a great deal of pleasure to me. If every man could come in contact with boys thus intimately he would find it helpful in many ways even though it takes time and means the sacrifice of things men hold dear.

"After the experience of these ten years in connection with work for boys I am convinced that there is no better program for character building than the scout program and I hope that I may have a hand in it for years to come."

### STUDY MOSQUITO WARFARE.

Boy scouts of Newark recently went on an inspection hike to the nearby marshes to observe the methods and practice of mosquito extermination as conducted by the local mosquito extermination commissions. The boys will camp on the meadows.

### SCOUT REMEMBERS BROTHER.

Among the many Memorial day observances in loving memory of those young men who gave their lives in the great war, perhaps none was more touching than that of the boy scout who saved his pennies faithfully for a long time until he had enough to buy a fine wreath to place on the grave of a neighbor, a lad who had played a rôle of a "big brother" to the younger boy before he went to his death overseas.

## LIVE STOCK

### FAILURE OF SWINE TO MATE

It May Be Caused by Improper Functioning of System Brought About by Improper Feed.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Failure in the ability or desire of swine to reproduce may be caused by any of several conditions, say specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. It may result from a disease or injury that seriously affects or destroys the secretory reproductive organs. It may be caused by improper functioning of the system, which in turn is often brought about by unsuitable feed or faulty elimination of waste products, or it may be due to a general lowering of body vitality.

There are also cases of sterility or impotence for which definite causes are difficult to find. Failure to breed quite frequently occurs in boars and sows which have been fitted and kept in high condition for show purposes. In some instances the sow fails to come in heat, or perhaps indicates that she is in heat and is successfully served by the boar without resulting conception. In other cases the boar shows no desire to mate, or acts ineffectively.

The first step in overcoming the trouble is to find a positive cause, when possible, by making a thorough examination. This should include a search for physical defects, the presence of disease, the results of injuries, or lowered vitality from any cause.

When, from such examination, it appears that proper treatment will prove successful, remedies should be administered promptly. But if the cause is obscure, or if there is little likelihood of correcting the defect successfully, it is best to remove the animal from the breeding herd. Boars may be castrated and fitted for slaughter as market hogs. Similarly, sows should be discarded when they become uncertain breeders.

When there is no apparent cause for failure of swine to mate, experts of the United States Department of Agriculture frequently have observed a lazy or sluggish temperament. These hogs generally are of the type known as "hot-bloods." They are fat and show an unwillingness to exercise. The tendency is more common in mature hogs and increases with age, but is frequently found in young stock. Careless and unwise inbreeding practices tend to produce hogs of this type, but inbreeding does not necessarily bring about the condition.

When the lack of sexual vigor is seen in only an occasional animal it



Pigs on Oat and Pea Forage.

may be possible to recognize the fault in blood lines or type. But when failure to mate occurs frequently and when the type is right, the indications are that the system of management is fundamentally wrong.

Upon the appearance of this condition an effort should be made to correct it by a restriction or modification of the diet and an abundance of exercise. The ration must have the fat-producing feeds largely reduced and protein feeds plentifully supplied. Pastures should be provided where possible, but when these are not available then the ration should consist of alfalfa meal, alfalfa, soybean or clover hay to supply protein and vitamins, high-grade tankage, fish meal, linseed meal, or a good grade of white middlings and whole oats—with but small amounts of corn or ground barley, together with a good mineral mixture. In addition an abundance of daily exercise must be given. This will probably have to be forced by driving the boar or sow about the paddocks or pastures daily until the animal is tired.

By maintaining the digestive functions in a proper manner, by causing abundant exercise and by supplying proper nourishment, there will be brought about a proper elimination of the body wastes and a rebuilding of the tissues. This should cause the reproductive organs to function properly and bring about a toning up of the system in such manner that breeding operations will be successfully conducted.

Swine breeders must be alert to the necessity for ruggedness in herd boars in addition to other qualifications. Breeders must refrain also from too great a degree of fineness and smoothness in the selection of their breeding animals, or loss of breeding power will ultimately develop in their herds.