

1—Members of Gen. Feng Yu-Hsiang's Christian army of China singing their morning hymns. 2—Admiral Robert Coontz taking command of the Pacific fleet. 3—Dr. Gustave Stresemann, new German chancellor.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Crisis in Anglo-French Relations May Result in Clearing Up the Muddle.

GERMANY'S NEW GOVERNMENT

Stresemann Likely to Negotiate With France—President Coolidge's Policies Made Clearer—Anthracite Coal Strike Is Not Yet Averted—Recognition of Mexico Is Near.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

OUT of the "foul welter of controversies" in Europe it appears now that some practical method of settling the problems may arise soon. England has spoken to France with directness and harshness that France is heavily offended, and the correspondents once more announce that the entente is ruptured.

All that looks black enough, but this may be the darkest hour just preceding the dawn. As the angry statesmen cool down, they begin to intimate that a basis of understanding may be found between England and France.

Chancellor Stresemann's ministry, the first coalition majority government in the history of Germany, is the most promising yet formed and it has been given a strong vote of confidence by the reichstag.

IN HIS first address to the reichstag Chancellor Stresemann said Germany must still insist on complete restoration of her rights in the occupied territory and the release of Germans imprisoned there by the French and Belgians, as a condition for cessation of passive resistance.

Arbold Rechberg, an industrialist leader, offers a plan for French participation in German industry which is being favorably discussed. He says its acceptance depends largely on the question of percentage of French participation.

LACKING at this writing an official statement of France's intentions, one can make a close guess by reading the inspired articles in the semi-official newspapers of Paris.

"First, the French openly flirt with Germany toward direct negotiations for a solution of the reparations question, with the exclusion of Great Britain or any other troublesome power.

Second, the French tell the British—and the Americans, too—in so many words, that the only time they will pay their war debts due is after Germany pays for the reconstruction of the war devastations and pays in addition the amounts due from France to London and Washington.

Third, repulsing the Curzon suggestion to refer the Ruhr occupation to the world court, the French intimate that they might ask The Hague to decide whether the Versailles treaty provides that all reparations must be paid before the interallied debts are recovered and whether President Wilson's 14 points provide that the allies' pensions are among the obligations which Germany must assume.

If all conciliatory plans fail, Premier Polneare will continue the occupation of the Ruhr with increased vigor and if necessary will seize the valley of the Rhine with Frankfurt and other cities in that rich region. This would practically cut Germany in two.

FOREIGN MINISTER CURZON'S note to France and Belgium, which possibly brought the Franco-British entente to an end, said Great Britain was tired of diplomatic exchanges and wanted immediate action; that she believed the occupation of the Ruhr to be illegal and would submit that question to the world court; and that France must repay to Great Britain enough of the money lent her to enable Britain, with what she may receive from Germany, to pay her debt to the United States.

France is insulted by Curzon's clauses on the interallied debts, asserting that she never had the slightest intention of repudiating her debts to England and America.

Regarding the allies' debts, the Journal des Debats points out that Great Britain wants only 14,000,000,000 gold marks (\$3,500,000,000) to pay the United States, and as she is entitled to 22 per cent of the 50,000,000,000 gold marks (\$12,500,000,000) A and B series bonds, this leaves a balance of only 3,000,000,000 gold marks (\$750,000,000), "and there is certainly some means to arrange that, about which we can talk later."

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE and his cabinet met Tuesday and discussed many of the important questions confronting them. It was then announced from the White House again that the President's policies would be the same as those of President Harding, and his views on various questions were given in more detail.

ONE hundred and thirty-eight men were entombed in a coal mine at Kemmerer, Wyo., by an explosion about 1,700 feet below the surface, and despite the frantic efforts of rescue workers 98 of them perished.

CONFIDENCE and decision have taken the place of the former apparent shyness of President Coolidge, and Washington officialdom is pleased

with the vigorous way in which he is tackling his tasks. Politicians give him first place in the list of aspirants for the Republican presidential nomination next year.

EFFORTS of the administration to prevent the suspension of anthracite coal mining after September 1 have not yet met with success. With the approval of President Coolidge, the federal coal commission headed by John Hays Hammond invited the representatives of the operators and miners to meet it in conference in New York city.

JOHN BARTON PAYNE and Charles B. Warren, representatives of the United States in the pre-negotiation conference in Mexico City, have concluded their task satisfactorily and by this time are back in Washington with the signed records of the sessions.

THE gasoline price war which Governor McMaster started in South Dakota where the state placed the fuel on sale at 16 cents began to spread to other states in the Middle West and resulted in the Standard Oil company of Indiana meeting the cut, though it protested that the price was below the cost of production.

AMON DE VALERA, the Irish Freg State's chief thorn-in-the-flesh, was becoming altogether too active in the campaign for the election soon to be held, so government troops grabbed him while he was addressing a big meeting of republicans at Ennis, County Clare, and locked him up.

STATE'S LOSS BY FIRE \$33,319,127

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS HELP BUILD 5,000 HOMES DURING YEAR.

REPORT OF STAGY W. WADE

New Bern, in Which Great Disaster Occurred, Leads State in Yearly Report.

Raleigh.

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Compared with the total fire loss of \$33,319,127, the statement is made in Mr. Wade's report that this loss was covered by \$19,257,000 insurance.

New Bern heads the list in the Insurance Commissioner's report of the towns and cities suffering the greatest fire losses, with Charlotte second.

The "appointment of an official whose sole duty shall be to supervise" of the Building and Loan association of the state is recommended to the Governor in the Insurance Commissioner's report on account of the increased activities of these organizations.

The Department of Insurance collected \$861,063.31 in licenses and fees during the year, the report stated.

Let More Road Work August 29.

Sixty-nine miles of hard surface construction included in thirteen projects will be offered contractors in a letting announced by the State Highway Commission for Wednesday, August 29.

Greenville and Washington draw the largest mileage of any project with 14 miles of paving to connect the two towns.

Continuation of the paving between Raleigh and the Virginia State lines provided for in the proposal to grade out the right of way and build needed bridges between the Wake county line and Franklin.

Material and labor conditions, while by no means back to normal, are somewhat improved over conditions that necessitated the suspension of much work in the early summer.

Bumper Crop of Hay.

"Last year was a bumper crop for hay, especially in the coastal belt counties," it was declared in a statement issued by the state-federal department of agriculture crop reporting service.

"The average condition of hay for August 1 was 80 per cent, with the best condition being found in the mountain and central coastal counties.

"It is reported that the hay crop for the United States, averages 81 per cent, forecasting a production of \$1,336,000 tons which averaged slightly over four-fifths of a ton to the acre.

Dry Agents Have Good July Record.

One hundred and six distilleries; 1,115 gallons of spirits; 84,446 gallons of malt liquors and 21 automobiles were captured during July by federal prohibition agents operating in North Carolina.

North Carolina Fruit Crop Short.

"We have one of the shortest fruit crops in North Carolina that has been experienced in many years," according to announcement by the state-Federal department of agriculture.

"The state average, as reported from hundreds of crop reporters all counties, in the state, show 23 per cent. The national crop is reported at 47,300,000 bushels, which is almost 20 per cent less than last year's crop, and approximately 10 per cent below the five year average.

"The state apple crop is estimated to average 33 per cent for the agricultural crop and less than that for the commercial growers.

"Grapes and pears show quite different conditions. Eighty per cent good prospect, while 22 per cent for pears indicates a low production.

"Watermelons and cantaloupes average 72 per cent of a full crop prospect for August 1, in North Carolina.

"The recent rainfall has been favorable for most parts of the state, but is getting excessively wet in many of the eastern counties while relieving things considerably in the piedmont.

"The tobacco outlook is very good in production and prices. This in a general way, is true of cotton.

Big Crop of Wheat in N. C.

Indications are that North Carolina will produce 6,633,000 bushels of wheat this year, according to a statement issued by Frank Parker, statistician of the State-Federal Department of Agriculture.

"It has been seven years since North Carolina had a good wheat crop," stated Mr. Parker, "but she has come to the front this year.

"This condition is evident from the report of more than eleven bushels per acre and a crop of 94 per cent. It would appear from a yield map of the State that the best yield of more than eleven bushels per acre was made in the main wheat belt and central mountain counties, and high yields were also made in the coast belt.

"The poorest conditions were found from Stanley northeastward to Franklin and westward to Rockingham, this being the eastern part of the Piedmont area, where the yields were less than eleven bushels.

"The American wheat crop shows an average yield of 15.6 bushels per acre forecasting a production of 793,000,000 bushels.

Cotton Damaged By Red Spider.

Numerous complaints of damage to cotton by the red spider have been received from Wilson, Bertie, Halifax and Warren counties, according to Franklin Sherman, chief in entomology for the state.

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"When my baby was born"



not believe that any woman ever worse than I did. I spent time but nothing helped me until I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Compound.

If you are suffering from mental, irregularities, backache, nervousness, sideache or any other female weakness you should write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co.

Something Wrong Somewhere Maybe this will show you why this high cost of living happened.

A high government official's collection of brooms in his office. Manufacturers were competing for award on brooms.

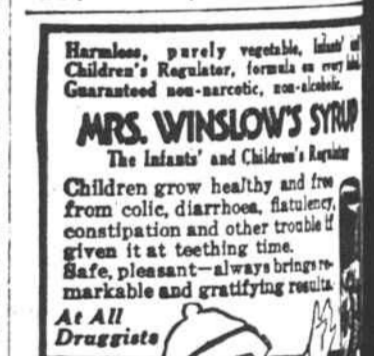
His auditor did not. "Well, it costs you \$2.50 for the stores," continued the auditor.

Again his auditor was wrong. "Well, they have quoted you \$12 a dozen, or thereabouts."

Just the Opposite.

In China the first name comes and the last first. That is wrong to the American way of looking.

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