

### Lively Chatter Of Washington Personages

Washington—Notes from our nation's capital . . . Hot news: Senator William Edgar Borah appeared on the senate floor the other day wearing a bright red necktie. No one remembered any other time when he wasn't wearing his little black or blue bow.

Wiscersacks. Washington is teeming with mean, untrue anecdotes about a very high personage who lives here. Latest A hitch-hiker was boasting that he had hitch-hiked from coast to coast in 11 days. Asked how, he said "I just wore a big sign on my back, inscribed "If you don't give me a lift I'll vote for . . ."

Business men continue alternately to berate the president and congress and beg favors from both. A story about Mayor Anton J. Cermak, who will welcome both political conventions to Chicago, may be more or less apropos of something or other.

"On the Hip." Dr. William Gerry Morgan, former president of the American Medical Association, told the senate subcommittee holding hearing on wet legislation that one evil result of prohibition was that young women were carrying liquor "on the hip."

### Decline In Fire Losses In State In Ten Years

Loss Last Year In N. C. Only \$1.77 Per Person. Lowest In 1928. (Star News Bureau.) Raleigh, Feb. 28.—North Carolina had a fire loss last year of only \$1.77 per inhabitant, as compared with a loss of nearly twice as much, \$3.21 in 1922, or 10 years ago.

While the state was headed for an excellent 10-year record and maintained a practically regular decrease in fire loss for eight years, the last two years have served to hinder that record, showing an increase in loss of more than a million dollars in 1930, and nearly a million dollars increase in 1931 over 1929, the report shows.

Loss from fires in 1930 jumped to \$6,306,852, and \$5,525,437 in 1931, from \$4,992,412 in 1929. The low mark was reached in 1928 \$4,912,925 and for the six years before that the losses had shown an almost regular drop.

### What Would George Washington Think About World Now?

Gastonia Gazette.

A hundred and twenty million people, citizens of the most powerful nation on earth, paused this week to do honor to the memory of a man who is more of a legend than a personality . . . more of a principle than a man.

We spend too much time building up glorified legends about the shades of our great. We pay too little attention to the man inside Washington was intensely human. He liked to make the welkin ring at old Mount Vernon with weekend beer orgies. He liked the ladies and didn't care who knew it.

Washington was a devout believer in personal as well as political liberty. He thought the constitution of the United States would assure its subjects, so long as it should stand, of true liberty in every sense of the word.

How mistaken he was! How bitterly disappointed he would be could he be called from his mausoleum to witness the tragic twists that have all but destroyed that liberty in which he believed so firmly!

What, we wonder, would the great Washington think of a court system providing punishment only for those unable to buy innocence? What would he think of a judiciary that functions only against the helpless negro and the insignificant white man?

What, we wonder, would Washington think of an America in which people literally starved to death in the very shadow of warehouses bulging with the plenty of the fields?

What would he think of an America in which more than half the people lived in virtual slavery . . . an America where greedy hands snatched bread from the mouths of babes and sucklings?

### Farmers Really Have Something To Complain Of

Prices Of Farm Products Below 1914 Level And Below Everything Else.

Washington.—Why doesn't the farmer stop complaining? The following quotations, taken from the exhaustive monthly surveys of the agricultural situation made by the bureau of agricultural economics of the department of agriculture, may throw some light on the question.

January, 1931—"Even among bad years, 1930 stands unique. The five per cent smaller crops of 1930 had a December value of 28 per cent less than the previous year."

February, 1931—"The annual inventory of livestock . . . reveals that the total number of animal units in the county is about the same as a year ago, but the total value of the livestock dropped from \$5,887,864,000 to \$4,366,447,000."

March, 1931—"Prices of farm products, in general, are below the 1910-1914 level, and some products which represent the very backbone of our agriculture almost go begging for buyers."

Wheat Surplus Jumps. April, 1931—"Farm stocks of wheat (for March) were estimated at 160,000,000 bushels, compared with 130,000,000 a year ago and an average of 125,000,000."

May, 1931—"Not the least significant part of the picture is the evidence of further decline in land values last year. This seems to have been quite general . . . Most of the sales are by corporations and others who acquired ownership as a result of distressed conditions."

June, 1931—"Farmers sell at less than pre-war prices, but still pay about one-third more than the pre-war level for what they buy. Farm prices are at 86 compared with pre-war while the prices of things farmers buy are 131 compared with pre-war."

July, 1931—"The abundant crop of winter wheat, selling now at the lowest prices in a generation, presents a striking example of the situation faced by agricultural producers in these times . . . Wholesale beef prices were from 30 to 50 cents lower and poultry down about a fourth."

August, 1931—"Milk production per cow has declined as a result of the poor dairy pastures which have been reported poorer than in any year for 20 years."

September, 1931—"The general prospect for farm markets and prices is anything but reassuring . . . Gross income (for the 1930-31 season) shrank 22 per cent under the previous year, being \$9,300,000,000 as compared with \$11,900,000,000."

Drought—And Low Prices. October, 1931—"The general fact in the season now drawing to a close is that prices of farm products have suffered a further serious slump . . . The far west and northwest have suffered severely from lack of rainfall and during the past month much of the south has had too much hot, dry weather."

November, 1931—"A turn in the markets has provided a small but helpful development . . . but has not yet changed essentially what is an extremely hard situation for farmers. Prices of many leading farm products are still below cost of production. Farmers everywhere are hard pressed this fall."

December, 1931—"At the close of last year, with its drought and low prices, farmers had the feeling that depression had about done its worst to them. But this year has been worse. The general picture, as reflected in these indexes: Wholesale price level of all commodities, pre-war—or about 100, industrial wage level 200, farm taxes over 250 farm wages 120, prices of things bought by farmers 125, prices received by farmers for products 70."

More Price Drops. January, 1932—"The average prices of farm products dropped one-half from their already low point reached two years ago. On top of the drought and low incomes of 1930, the past year came like a caphead crowning a decade of agricultural depression."

February, 1932—"The total value of livestock (despite increase in numbers) dropped from \$4,450,000,000 a year ago to \$3,196,000,000."

### Proxy Wedding Is Held In Washington

Washington, D. C.—If you can't be present at your wedding, just get a proxy to serve for you. That's what Lieutenant Oscar J. Rumbo, a 26-year-old Argentine naval officer, did.

### G. Washington Day At Boiling Springs Marked by Reception

Junior-Senior Reception Features Colonial Period In Dress And Program.

(Special to The Star.) Boiling Springs, Feb. 25.—The George Washington bicentennial celebration was very appropriately initiated at Boiling Springs junior college on last Saturday evening, February 20, when the high school junior-senior reception was held in the college reception hall.

The guests were greeted at the door by Miss Eunice Kneese, sponsor of the class, and the officers of the junior class. Immediately each one felt that he had been suddenly transported back to the historic days of George and Martha Washington. The colors, red and white had been so combined in the decorations for the occasion.

The guests were presented with tallies representing miniature hatchets with an attractive painting of the traditional cherries, the guests were conducted to tables where progressive seniors was played. Interspersing the progressions of the game a program consisting of several George Washington numbers was given.

Sarah Hamrick, Scott Melton, Katharine Hamrick, D. W. Moore, Kathleen Hamrick and Leander Hopper danced a colonial minuet. Dressed in quaint costumes of 1750 they lent a touch of grace and charm to the entire evening.

Miss Mary Tedder, accompanied at the piano by Miss Myrtle Greene, sang two solos which were quite fitting. Concluding the program a play, "George Washington's First Defeat," was given by Dorothy Lattimore, Mary Hamrick, and Charles Callahan.

Macie Lee Hamrick and Packard Elliott, also in period costume, assisted those in the minuet in serving. The dainty refreshments which consisted of cherry ice cream and cakes decorated with crystallized cherries and an appropriate "22" further carried out the Washington motif of the evening.

### Democrats Cut 22 Million Out Of Supply Bill

Force Economy In Government. Want 20 Political Jobs Abolished.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The house democratic economy campaign today threatened political patronage as it brought a \$22,000,000 slash in one supply bill.

In reporting the reduced \$1,059,898,563 treasury-postoffice appropriation bill, the house committee recommended 90 political jobs in the customs bureau now filled by republicans and four western treasury assay offices be abolished.

F. X. A. Eble, customs commissioner, disclosed to the committee during his hearings on the bill that abolition of "surveyors" at seaports had been recommended as far back as President Taft's administration.

Abolition of the customs positions which consist of 15 appraisers, seven comptrollers and seven surveyors will result in a net saving of \$153,800 in salaries. Their duties will be taken over by men already on the government payroll. Most of the positions paid \$5,000 or over, the comptroller and surveyor in New York city each receiving \$9,000. New York alone of all the ports is allowed to retain an appraiser.

From one to three of these positions are abolished in each of the following ports: New York, Philadelphia, Boston, San Francisco, New Orleans, Baltimore, Chicago, Buffalo, Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Portland, Me., Portland, Ore., and Pittsburgh.

The four assay offices to be abolished are at Boise, Idaho, Salt Lake City, Helena, Mont., and Carson, Nev. Salaries and expenses saved will be \$24,300.

These items constituted a mere fraction of the \$22,677,342 which the committee cut off the budget bureau's estimates. They are however regarded as especially significant because their removal may have an important effect on local political organizations, built up to some extent through the friendships brought by job appointments.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE.

Under and by virtue of the authority contained in that certain deed of trust executed by Charlie Davis and wife, Pearl Davis, to the undersigned trustee said deed of trust being dated July 3, 1931, and recorded in the office of the register of deeds for Cleveland County, N. C. in book No. 111 at page 82, securing an indebtedness to the Shelby and Cleveland County B. & L. Assn., and default having been made in the payment of said indebtedness.

### True Bills For Judge And His Daughter Found

Judge And Daughter Will Be Tried Jointly Following Their Indictment In Wake.

Raleigh, Feb. 28.—Wake county's grand jury Wednesday found true bills against Miss Lola G. Harwood, late employee of the state, who is charged with the embezzlement of \$4,823 of the state's money, and against her father, Judge John H. Harwood, who is charged with changing, substituting and erasing records that would have been used as evidence against his daughter.

The indictments were brought and the bills prepared after extensive hearings in the attorney general's office in which state department clerks were examined by Attorney General Brummitt and his assistant, A. A. F. Seawell. The jury after looking over the voluminous document on which the state will proceed, returned a true bill. The two will be tried jointly.

Solicitor J. C. Little is not certain when he can reach the case. It is not probable that it can be tried earlier than April as there are numerous jail cases ahead of this one and these defendants are out on bonds.

### Japs Not As Great Fighters As Thought

Charlotte News.

H. L. Mencklen, writing not so long ago in The Baltimore Evening Sun, traced the martial history of the Japanese in an effort to disprove the popular belief that they were the "greatest little soldiers in the world."

He sought to show, and perhaps did, that the early termination of the Sino-Japanese war in 1894 and the quick work Japan made of Russia both were due to the inferior quality of the opposition with which Japan was met. In the World War, too, Japan's record does not strike one as that of a people hot for blood and possessed of reckless inspiration on the field of battle. Beyond losing a couple of capital ships the extent of Japanese participation is perhaps best indicated by her losses in manpower, which were about 300 killed and less than a thousand wounded and missing out of a total mobilized force of 800,000.

Apparently the greatest Japanese engagement in that war was fought out in cantonments. The current disagreement in Shanghai would seem to bear out Mr. Mencklen's hypothesis. The Chinese rightly or wrongly are considered notoriously poor fighters, private or public. They are poorly equipped, with scarcely the semblance of organization and training. Yet three times has Japan tried to push through the Chinese lines, admittedly superior in number, and three times has she withdrawn to cable to Tokyo for more men. And as for that poor old battered relic of a fort, Woesung, it reminds us of our own Mint here in Charlotte; it continues to stand despite every bombardment that is laid upon it.

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### Immense Amount Of Life Insurance Is Carried In World

Charlotte News.

Life insurance in force throughout the world at the close of 1929 aggregated \$147,000,000,000, according to figures of the Departments of State and Commerce and compiled by the Association of Life Insurance Presidents. Incomplete data for 1930 indicate a substantial increase in the world total during that year.

The English-speaking countries of the world now carry 85 per cent of the international life insurance total, the United States leading by far in volume of business, with \$103,146,000,000 in force at the close of 1929, or considerably more than two-thirds of the world total. The United Kingdom ranked second with \$11,875,000,000, followed by Canada, with \$6,713,000,000.

### Signs His Bond, Then Marries Him

Ridgeland, S. C., Feb. 25.—Mrs. Louisa S. Turnure, fashionable divorcee and sportswoman today was the bride of Wendell Simmons, manager of her large estate near Bluffton, and whose appeal bond she had signed in a prohibition law case.

Mrs. Turnure, daughter of the late Richard Thornton Wilson, banker, sportsman and president of the Saratoga Racing Association, and Simmons were married here yesterday. The ceremony was performed by Dan Horton, Jasper county clerk of court, at the home of John P. Wise, prominent attorney.

Simmons is under a 22-months sentence in the prohibition case. He was arrested along with several others after officers seized a large quantity of liquor in the Coosa-watchie river section in 1930 and was tried and convicted in Charleston last October 24. He carried his case to the U. S. circuit court of appeals and retained his liberty when Mrs. Turnure, now his bride, signed his \$5,000 appeal bond. Mrs. Simmons obtained a divorce from David A. Turnure, whom she married in 1925. She made her debut in 1922.

Where are the women who used to hook rugs, inquire a reader of a newspaper. Maybe their time isn't up yet.

### Stork Beneficiary



The arrival of an 8-pound baby girl to Mrs. Bud Stillman, who became the bride of the heir to Banker James A. Stillman's millions, just about fills the cup of happiness of the young couple. The babe was born in a Boston hospital. The young papa and the millionaire granddad were there to welcome the new member of the clan.

### Answers To Star's Question Box On Page One

Below are the answers to the test questions printed on page one.

- 1. Nom de plume. 2. Carrie Jacobs Bond. 3. Famous Polish pianist. 4. Madison. 5. Atlantic. 6. Four. 7. University of Chicago. 8. Countess. 9. New Haven, Connecticut. 10. No, it is a planet. 11. Yes, "Nickel Bill" who drives a taxi in Shelby has landed a contract to carry a mail route for Uncle Sam. He will trade 100 acres of land in McDowell county for a Ford sedan. 12. W. E. White of Lattimore. Mr. White is historian of the county and a teacher in the Lattimore high school.

### Roosevelt Given Money By Friend

Dedham, Mass.—Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York was bequeathed \$1,000 in the will of Livingston Davis Boston banker a probate of the will revealed. Davis, who like Governor Roosevelt, was a member of the Harvard class of 1904, made his bequest "in comradeship. The total estate was valued at \$550,000.

Twenty-one farmers of Nash county will keep accurate records of their expense and income for 1932 in a cooperative arrangement completed with the extension service of State college.

SEE CHAS. "CHIC" SALE In Edna Ferber's "EXPERT" WED. & THURS. WEBB THEATRE

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