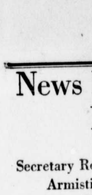
News Review of Current Events the World Over

Secretary Roper Plans National Census of Unemployed—Armistice Day Duly Observed—Opening of the Huge San Francisco-Oakland Bridge.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

© Western Newspaper Union.

NOW that the election is over, Secretary of Commerce Roper is laying plans for the complete census of the unemployed in the United States which has so long been called for. He said he would ask congress to appropriate between 13 and 15 million dollars for this count and that it would require the services of about 25,000 persons who would be given special training for several months.



Sec. Roper

"The census would not only take up an enumeration of those classified as unemployed," said Roper, "but we want to find out which trades or industries the unemployed would fall into. We would also like to help the states in classifying the unemployed from the unemployable.

"There are many economic questions involved. Some families have enough income to support them, but one or more members may be out of work. We want to obtain information on this phase."

The secretary intimated that the census machinery might be made permanent so that a close check be kept on persons out of work, as is done in England.

According to the American Federation of Labor 2,900,600 workers have been re - employed since last January.

"Employment has been gaining steadily since January, without setback," the federation said. "This unusual development points to the strong upward trend of business, which was of such force as to offset the usual summer layoffs.

"Comparing September this year with September, 1935, we find 2,250,000 more persons employed in American industry, indicating that while a portion of this year's gains merely restored winter losses, by far the major part represents lasting gain in employment recovery.

"This year's gains (comparing September, 1935 and 1936) have been largest in manufacturing industries where about 675,000 wage and salaried workers were re-employed; about 300,000 more farm laborers are at work, 285,000 more in trade, 200,000 more in building and 100,000 have been added in railroads. Most of the other gains were in service industries."

IN A joint report by the federal bureaus of agricultural and home economics the prediction is made that farm cash income available for spending in 1937 will continue the upward trend shown in 1936. As a basis for this expectancy the bureaus cite increases in net income from agricultural and nonagricultural sources, lower interest rates and long term financing of debts.

Record production of truck crops also was forecast. All sections of the country will share and all important truck crops will be included except celery, onions and spinach, it was stated, with the likelihood that in spite of indicated larger supplies, improvement in consumer buying power would help maintain the higher prices of 1936, which were about 10 per cent over 1935.

SECRETARY of Agriculture Wallace in an interview intimates that for a year there may be no new legislation for crop control along the lines of the outlawed AAA, for farmers would like to have one really good crop without forced curtailment. But he added: "We will need some legislation eventually unless the weather changes or the world demand for our products greatly improves."

Sec. Wallace

Wallace was asked whether the lack of a control plan might not result in another surplus, leaving the administration up in the air without any machinery to cope with it. He said he could not estimate a surplus ahead of time and that he would rather wait to see what would happen.

"It may be possible to find a solution that will prove better than the AAA or the soil conservation act," he said.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT led the nation in observance of Armistice day by going to Arlington National cemetery and laying a wreath of chrysanthemums beside the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The ceremony was quiet and simple. General Pershing, commander of the American expeditionary forces, and Secretary of the Navy Swanson stood by the President's side and a small detachment of soldiers, sailors and marines was present. General Pershing also placed a wreath at the tomb, and all stood bare headed as "taps" was sounded precisely at 11 o'clock eighteen years after the guns ceased firing on the western front in France.

Everywhere in the United States and in all the allied countries the anniversary was suitably observed, and in Poland the day was one of especial rejoicing for it is regarded as the birthday of that re-born nation.

An ironical note came from Geneva where the League of Nations announced that 8,200,000 men are now permanently under arms throughout the world. Of this total 545,000 are attached to world navies.

The league calculations show that men under arms throughout the world just before the outbreak of the World war numbered 5,900,000, not counting naval units. The figures released show that since 1931-'32 world armies have increased 1,700,000 men. In Europe total armed forces are now 4,850,000, compared with 3,600,000 in 1931-'32.

COL. JOSEF BECK, foreign minister of Poland, concluded his visit to London and departed with assurances of Great Britain's friendliness and desire to co-operate with Poland in its contest against Nazi intrigues, especially in relation to the Free City of Danzig. Foreign Minister Eden talked with Colonel Beck for three days and was told by him that Poland would reject the overtures of both Moscow and Berlin and work for the same neutrality in eastern Europe that Belgium intends to maintain in the west.

Col. Beck.

One feature of Poland's celebration of its independence day was the bestowal of a baton on Gen. Edward Rydz-Smigley, making him the fourth marshal in the revived nation's history. He thus succeeds the late Marshal Josef Pilsudsky and is regarded by many as the new military dictator of Poland. President Moscicki presented the baton during an imposing ceremony in the courtyard of Warsaw castle.

MAJOR producers of steel, led by the Carnegie-Illinois Steel corporation, largest subsidiary of United States Steel, and the Columbia Steel company, west coast member of the same group, announced wage increases averaging 10 per cent and in some cases running as high as 25 per cent, which will add about $80,000,000 a year to the industry's payroll. In most instances the increases were to take effect November 16. According to compilations of the American Iron and Steel institute they will affect 520,700 employees throughout the country.

Committees acting for employees at more than a dozen plants rejected the offer, demanding higher pay. Negotiations in these cases are therefore continued.

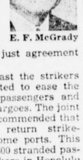
Directors of numerous big corporations authorized special dividends to stockholders and wage bonuses to workers that will release many millons of dollars. This is in pursuance of the policy of avoiding so far as possible the stiff levies imposed on undistributed profits under the revenue act of 1936; and also, in most cases, in recognition of improved business.

WHILE the Fascist insurgents were smashing their way into Madrid and hurling shells among its chief buildings, the Socialist government of Spain, headed by Premier Fancisco Largo Caballero, fled from the capital and set itself up in Valencia on the Mediterranean coast. The capture of Madrid by the rebels seemed certain and this, it was believed, would be followed by recognition of the Fascist government by several powers, including Portugal and Italy and perhaps Germany. The first nation to accord this recognition was the Central American republic of Salvador.

It is not to be assumed that this would end the civil war, immediately or soon. Caballero, it was reported, believed the loyalists could best continue the struggle from the south, and it was claimed they had strong concentrations at Valencia, Cartegena, Alicante and Albacete. Moreover, there were indications that they would soon receive open aid from Russia and perhaps France. Leon Blum, the French premier, told a Socialist meeting that he was ready to scrap the non-intervention pact and help Caballero if Great Britain would join in such action. This caused consternation among the British statesmen.

Fighting in the suburbs of Madrid was continuous and bloody. The casualties on both sides were heavy, and the Fascist bombardment by artillery and planes killed and wounded hundreds in the center of the city. The Socialist defenders had been ordered to hold their posts regardless of losses, and they fought bravely and stubbornly.

THROUGH the efforts of Edward F. McGrady, assistant secretary of labor and the department's chief conciliator, the strike of maritime workers that tied up a large part of the shipping on the Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf coasts may be settled amicably. Negotiations between the shipowners and the union leaders were resumed in San Francisco, and in Washington Secretary Perkins said she was hopeful that a just agreement would be reached.



E. F. McGrady

On the Pacific coast the strikers had already consented to ease the plight of stranded passengers and release perishable cargoes. The joint strike committee recommended that their membership return strike-bound vessels to home ports. This promised relief for 600 stranded passengers and 900 strikers in Honolulu as well as for hundreds of maritime men idle in Atlantic and gulf ports.

SECRETARY of the Navy Claude Swanson, who it is believed may retire from the cabinet, made his annual report to the President showing that the navy had made considerable progress in its program to build up to full treaty strength.

At the end of the 1936 fiscal year last June 30, the secretary said, the navy had under construction 79 vessels. Further, the 1937 appropriations act provided for the building of 18 vessels as replacements for over-age ships and for the beginning of construction in 1937 of two battleships.

The secretary emphasized the need for auxiliary vessels, which service and supply combat vessels, as necessary to the maximum efficiency of the fleet. Present auxiliary vessels are old and unfit and should be repaced with modern craft, he said.

Chief of Staff Malin Craig reported to Secretary of War Woodring that the army in the second year of its five-year rebuilding program had gained ground toward its objective—a defense establishment up to the minimum needs of the nation.

"Our military establishment is of a type that—conforming strictly to our national policy—is designed for defense and is unsuitable for aggression," Craig said. "This fact may not be clearly understood by our people. Our establishment is of a character exclusively its own, essentially distinct from the military establishments maintained abroad and now in the course of vast expansion."

SAN FRANCISCO'S dream of 30 years was realized when the great bridge across the bay of Oakland was formally opened with elaborate ceremony. This longest vehicular bridge in the world has been under construction since July 19, 1933, at a cost of $77,000,000, the funds being largely supplied by the Reconstruction Finance corporation. It is eight and a quarter miles long and, except for a tunnel passage through Yerba Buena island, is entirely over water.

Mystery of Poor Corn Crop Solved

Lack of Potassium Is Given as Reason for Failures, Expert Says.

By C. M. Linsley, Soils Extension Specialist, University of Illinois.—WNU Service.

Through a new potassium test and experiments with potassium fertilizers, the mystery of corn crop failures on some older soils has been solved.

Farmers who lined their land years ago, in many cases phosphated it and have been growing clovers regularly in the rotation, have suddenly found that corn has begun to fail. In some fields the poor corn shows up in spots and in other fields the entire crop is a failure. The soils often are high in fertility, and until recently the cause of the failures has been unknown by the farmers working the land.

With the perfecting of tests for available potassium, or potash, it has been found that most such failures have been caused by a lack of sufficient potassium. Since corn seems to be especially sensitive to this element, it is the first crop to show a need for the mineral.

Soils showing a deficiency of potassium but containing plenty of the other fertility elements will again yield normal corn crops if treated with potash fertilizer. It also has been found that application of manure and straw will help delay the time when lack of potassium becomes serious.

Both manure and straw should be applied before decay and leaching have had time to carry away the potash and other elements of fertility. Return of straw to land that has not grown clover may reduce yields temporarily by tying up the small amount of available nitrogen found in such soils.

Sheep Income This Year Is Expected to Be High

"Prices for lambs in 1936 are likely to average the highest of any year since 1923," says J. R. McNulty, agricultural extension economist, University Farm, St. Paul. Wool prices also promise to be strong, making the outlook relatively favorable for sheep men.

The basis of this forecast is largely the fact that the number of ewes in 1936 is likely to be little, if any, larger than in 1935, and about 7 per cent lower than in 1934. Woolen mill activity has been at a high level and the carryover of wool in the United States is likely to be the smallest in several years.

Prices for fed lambs marketed from late winter to May, 1936, are likely to be higher than for the corresponding period a year ago. A reduced crop of late lambs in the western states resulted in a short supply of feeder lambs for winter feed lots. Some increase in demand may be expected from higher consumer incomes.

On the outlook for horses there is no longer any large demand for horses except on farms. Even on farms there has been an increasing substitution of mechanical power for horse power. The number of horses needed in the future will probably be no greater, and possibly less than at present, unless motor fuel costs rise decidedly as compared with farm feeds and hired labor. Farmers in surplus feed areas should raise enough colts to supply their own needs, but the price of good horses is not likely to increase.

Tankage for Milk Cows

While Midwest agricultural experiment stations have recently been testing out tankage as a protein feed for fattening steers, the Massachusetts station at Amherst has been experimenting with tankage as a source of protein for dairy cows. Twenty-four cows were chosen from the Massachusetts State college herd and divided into two groups of 12 each. The cows were fed a high grade dry-rendered tankage by the double reversal method, one group receiving the tankage ration for 40 days, while the other received a soy bean-cottonseed ration. These rations were subsequently reversed three times, so that each group received each ration for two different periods of 40 days each.

General Farm Notes

From 70 to 80 per cent of Canada's total barley production is devoted to live stock feeding.

* * *

A German law requires that all agricultural leaders must be of "German or parallel" blood.

* * *

The leading wheat states are North Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Illinois, South Dakota, Texas, Montana, Washington, Ohio, Indiana, Minnesota and Idaho.

Attorneys At Law

William F. Prettyman
Attorney at Law
Rockville, Maryland
Phone Rockville 7

Robert S. Bains
Attorney at Law
8413 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, Md.
Phone Shepherd 3892

Paul Sleman
Attorney at Law
Colorado Building
Washington, D. C.
Phone Nat'l 3883

Wilson L. Townsend
Attorney at Law
Kensington, Maryland
Investment Building
Washington, D. C.
Phone Nat'l 2688

Thomas L. Dawson
Attorney at Law
Rockville

DEPENDABLE DRUGS
The record of a quarter of a century is back of the stock we sell. You can depend on the drugs you
Buy at
VINSON'S
ROCKVILLE
Phone Rockville 16

Medicines
Proprietary Remedies
Toilet Requisites
Candy, Cigars, Stationery
Paints, Oils, Glass
H. O. TROWBRIDGE
DRUGGIST
Town Hall, Kensington
Phone Kensington 31