

# News Review of Current Events the World Over

## Dirigible Hindenburg Destroyed by Explosion, Two Score Persons Perishing—Economists and Spenders Continue Their Battle in Washington.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD  
© Western Newspaper Union.

ONE of the major tragedies of aeronautical history occurred when the big German dirigible Hindenburg exploded and fell in a blazing mass at the landing field in Lakehurst, N. J. At this writing the exact number of dead is unknown, but it probably is more than forty.

American passengers who in the early reports were unaccounted for and presumably killed were: Burtis Dolan, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. John Pannes, New York City; Moritz Feibusch, Lincoln, Neb.; Edward Douglas, New York; James Young and Birger Brinck, addresses not given.

The airship, just arrived from Europe on its first transatlantic trip of the year, was about to land when there was an explosion toward the stern. Instantly flames broke out and ran the length of the ship. The tail sagged first, then the nose crashed down and the split cabin telescoped as it fell. A few of the 44 passengers and some members of the crew were able to jump to safety, but many of the others aboard hadn't a chance for their lives. The navy men of the ground crew heroically plunged into the flaming wreckage and dragged out those victims who could be reached.

The screams and cries of injured in agony were "terrible," the hardened sailors and marines who did the rescue work reported. The clothing was completely burned off one man. Another, blown through the envelope, was found moaning near the smashed airship.

The survivors and rescue workers told of the terrific heat which followed the explosion and the surge of fire.

An explosion of the No. 2 gas cell toward the stern of the ship was named as the cause of the disaster by State Aviation Commissioner Gill Robb Wilson, who called the blast "strange."

Some authorities scouted the theory that the explosion could have been caused by the ignition of hydrogen inside the gas cells. They said a mixture of 20 per cent free air with hydrogen would be necessary to cause an explosion, indicating the first blast must have occurred outside one of the gas cells.

Aeronautical experts said the only way they could explain an explosion inside the ship would be that free hydrogen had in some way escaped and was lying in the stern of the ship where it was accidentally ignited.

Capt. Ernest Lehmann, who piloted the Hindenburg last year, was aboard it on this fatal trip, but its commander was Capt. William Pruss, just promoted to the post. He is a veteran in working dirigibles.

HOW to economize by cutting down government expenditures, as the President has demanded, and at the same time to continue with such huge expenditures as the billion and a half dollars Mr. Roosevelt asked for relief is a puzzle that congress doesn't know how to solve.



H. L. Hopkins

Progress administrators and most accomplished spender of the administration, took a hand in the discussion, telling a house appropriation subcommittee that unemployment is a permanent problem, that the government should be prepared to support seven million jobless persons at all times, and consequently that congress must appropriate the billion and a half for relief instead of cutting the sum down to a billion.

Both Democrats and Republicans on the committee protested, and Chairman Woodrum of Virginia told Hopkins he would use every endeavor to have the appropriation reduced by at least a third. He challenged the figures and arguments submitted by Hopkins, contending that if the extravagance of the work relief principle and the padding of relief rolls with undeserving cases were eliminated and the states required to assume a greater share of the burden the cost to the federal government would not exceed one billion.

Senator William H. King of Utah, Democrat, not only disagrees with Hopkins as to the amount needed for relief, but isn't satisfied with the way the administrator has been conducting the work. He introduced resolutions in the senate calling for an investigation of the works progress administration and taking the future spending of relief money out of Hopkins' hands. King said his purpose was to abolish the WPA.

In the house economy received a wallop on the head when the reforestation bill was passed, 171 to 153. This measure would appropriate \$2,500,000 annually for government aid to farmers who wish to turn part of their farms into woodlands. It was fought by a bloc led by

Representative J. J. Cochran of Missouri, Democrat. "It has a worth while objective, but it is those expensive measures which we can defer passing for a while until the budget is in balance," declared Cochran.

**B**EWILDERED members of congress were still further dazed when they learned that the administration was moving to obtain approval of the Florida ship canal project which will call for \$197,000,000. This was revealed when Secretary of the Navy Swanson sent to the house rivers and harbors committee a letter urging that the canal scheme be approved. It was assumed he would not have done this without the approval of the President. Mr. Swanson argued that the canal would be of value during war for the shipment of materials.

Testimony labeled "confidential" was heard by the committee from Gen. Charles P. Summerall, retired chief of staff of the army, and Rear Admiral Frederic B. Bassett, retired. Both declared that the canal would serve as "a most important element of the national defense in time of war."

Representative Beiter of New York, Democrat, called upon the budget bureau to make known its stand on the Florida canal question.

**F**REQUENT reports have been heard in Washington that government employees, including some high officials, took advantage of their "inside" knowledge that the attorney general was going to file suit to recover the Aluminum Company of America by selling the common stock short, thereby making immense profits. Just the day before the suit was filed President Roosevelt issued his order against stock speculation by employees of the government, but it came too late.

Attention of congress was called to the matter by representative Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts, Republican, demanded an investigation.

"I hold no brief for the Aluminum Company of America," Mrs. Rogers told the house. "I know nothing about the institution, but I am very sure to know why the common stock of this huge enterprising corporation should decline over 300 per cent more than similar industrial stocks in the period just prior to announcement of the government's suit."

"To the 825,000 employees of the government the President's announcement was a most czaristic order," Mrs. Rogers declared. "I believe the money paid to federal employees is just as much their money to do with as they please as the money paid to any employee working at any job in any place in the United States."

But government employees, she added, certainly ought not to have the advantage of knowledge withheld from the public.

**T**WELVE American women reached what some people consider a social climax when they were received by King George and Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain at the first court of the new reign. These invited matrons and debutantes had been carefully coached at the American embassy and were presented by Mrs. Robert W. Bingham, wife of the American ambassador. They were:

Eleanor Bowdoin of Aiken, S. C.; Mrs. George Temple Bowdoin of New York City; Catherine M. Maher of Lincoln, Neb.; Mrs. George W. Norton Jr., of Louisville; Mrs. John Perrin of Boston; Anne Schenck of New York City; Vesta Putnam Culberson of Chicago; Mrs. F. Vernon Foster of West Orange, N. J.; Lydia Fuller of Boston; Mrs. Dozier L. Gardner of Philadelphia; Mrs. Byron Hilliard of Louisville, and Mrs. Julia Henry of Philadelphia.

**P**RIME MINISTER STANLEY BALDWIN, soon to retire, made an eloquent plea to the people of Great Britain not to mar the coronation festivities and endanger the safety of democracy by engaging in industrial strife. He was moved to this by a threatened strike in the coal fields and by the danger that the trolley employees of London would go out in sympathy with the striking bus men. Said Mr. Baldwin:

"I appeal to the handful of men on whom rests the responsibility of peace or war to give the best present to the country that could be given at this moment, to do the one thing that would rejoice the hearts of all who love this country, and that is to end and dissipate this dark cloud gathered over us and show the people of the world that this democracy at least can still practice the art of peace in world strife."

**F**OR three days Premier Mussolini of Italy conferred in Rome with Baron Konstantin von Neurath, foreign minister of Germany. Then an official communique was issued indicating that the two countries were determined to prevent the creation of a communist state in western Europe, holding "a complete parallelism of views" on this and other subjects. It was added that the Italian and German governments will "continue to follow a concordat policy on all major questions."

It was understood in Rome that, though Mussolini and Hitler were eager to work for peace with Britain and France, they were prepared to take open part in the Spanish war if other means fail to prevent the establishment of a regime sympathetic to soviet Russia.

The Italian parliament passed Mussolini's national defense budget carrying \$289,300,000 for 1937-38. The navy, told the deputies the Italian navy "from now on must be an ocean going navy" rather than one confined to the Mediterranean. General Pariani, for the war department, said Italy was taking no chances concerning protection of her frontiers. The government, he said, intended to build up in the Italian peninsula an army which would be able to paralyze an enemy's advances and "win the war in the shortest possible time."

**M**R. WALLIS SIMPSON was granted an absolute decree of divorce in London, and within a few hours Edward, duke of Windsor, was on his way from St. Wolfgang, Austria, to visit his fiancée, the Chateau de Candé near Tours, France. The former king of Great Britain had been waiting impatiently, baggage packed for departure, for that Wallis was entirely free, and he lost no time when his solicitors telephoned him from London.



Mrs. Simpson

It took only 25 seconds to make absolute the decree nisi which Mrs. Simpson obtained last October 27. The king's proctor had been satisfied with the lady's behavior in the interval, and Sir Boyd Merriam, president of the divorce court, personally granted the decree along with a lot of others.

The date for the wedding of the duke of Windsor and Mrs. Simpson has not yet been announced, but it probably will be in the week beginning May 24. Edward was willing to wait until all the coronation hubbalo was over for he did not wish to annoy his royal brother in any way.

**R**EICHSFUEHRER ADOLF HITLER was informed by Pope Pius XI that the Roman Catholic church must be free to fulfill its mission in Germany. This reply to the German church note, which itself was a reply to the pope's East-erner encyclical accusing the German government of violating the 1933 church-state concordat, was delivered by Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli to the German ambassador to the holy see, Diego von Bergen.

The note was rather moderate in tone, but insisted that economic pressure must not be brought to bear against Catholics in Germany; that Catholic schools and the Catholic press should not be hampered.

**E**LEVEN unions of the Federated Motion Picture Crafts, with about 6,000 members, went on strike in Hollywood, Calif., and the great film industry there was in serious difficulties. The strikers counted heavily on co-operation by the Screen Actors' guild, but that body, which has 5,600 members, delayed action until it could confer with the producers. The guild already had presented a number of demands regarding working conditions and hours and overtime pay.

Fifteen of the largest hotels in San Francisco were practically tied up by a strike of 3,500 employees. The strikers were given the active support of 13 unions. They insisted that hotel owners had refused to agree to preferential hiring and a five day week for clerks, although other groups of hotel employees had been awarded such conditions.

**S**OME of the most desperate fighting of the Spanish civil war was taking place in the struggle for Bilbao between the sturdy Basques and Gen. Emilio Mola's veterans, reputedly mostly Italians and Germans. The insurgents had promised not to bomb the center of the city but bombarded its environs heavily from the land and the air. By fierce attacks they broke through the Basque lines on the Bay of Biscay coast, reaching Bilbao's seaports at the mouth of the Nervion river.

Disregarding the protests of General Franco, Fascist chieftain, the British and French governments undertook to remove from Bilbao a large number of women and children.

**R**ESISTING all efforts of the would-be economists, the majority in the house passed the War department appropriation bill carrying \$416,400,000 for the fiscal year 1938. This is the largest army bill ever passed in times of peace.

As passed the measure carries increases in the pay of the army totaling \$5,861,000; clothing and equipment, \$5,500,000; military post construction, \$5,400,000; ordnance service and supplies, \$5,800,000; and National Guard, \$1,600,000.

## FARM TOPICS

### DAIRYMEN ADVISED ON PASTURE CARE

#### Fertilization Is Regarded as the Best Plan.

By Carl B. Bender, Professor of Dairy Husbandry, New Jersey College of Agriculture.—WNU Service.

If the old myth that "cows talk at midnight on New Year's eve" were true, many a cow would have advised her owner long ago that pasture should be considered a cash crop.

Most farmers do not consider pasture as a cash crop, since they never actually see any money being returned directly from the pasture. But the cow is the middleman in this case. It is because of this lack of understanding on the part of dairymen that pasture lands are the most neglected sources of farm revenue.

A complete pasture fertilization program which includes an application of nitrogen fertilizer at the rate of 250 to 300 pounds per acre in the spring, brings returns in cash four to six weeks after the fertilizer is applied to the soil.

Experiments have been carried out on a demonstration basis. The results have been uniformly good. More dairymen should make plans this spring to treat their pastures the same as they treat their other farm crops, and thereby get more and cheaper milk from their dairy cows.

### Percheron First Among American Draft Horses

Among draft horses the clean-legged Percheron has always held first place. In 140,000 of them having been registered in the stud book without counting the 30,000 horses of almost undistinguishable type in the French Draft book, says a writer in the New York Herald-Tribune. Gray was the favorite color of the early Percherons imported to this country, some of which came from France almost one hundred years ago. They were lighter in weight and more breezy than the modern type, often showing coachy conformation and action with a strong suggestion of Arab blood about the head.

As heavier trucks came in with more and better pavements, increasing weight behind the collar was demanded by the buyers, and this brought into prominence the heavier and heavier Belgian horses that sometimes tip the scale beam at close to 2,000 pounds. The breed made wonderful progress in this country until motor trucks were perfected, and seemingly fabulous prices were reported for some of the prize-winning stallions both here and in Belgium, where the government has long supervised all breeding operations to eliminate the unsound and unfit.

### Minorea Large Bird

The Minorea is the largest of the Mediterranean or egg breeds. It is characterized by its size, its length of body, and the large comb and long wattles. The Minorea shows a long back which has a noticeable slope from the shoulders downward to the base of the tail. The underline of the body is also noticeably long. The tail is rather low carried and is well spread. The Minorea also has long shanks and is well up on the legs showing hock and part of the thigh.

### Raising Geese

One acre of rough, unprofitable land is enough on which to raise a fine flock of geese but there should be a small stream of running water. If this ground is enclosed with wire netting, the geese will be by themselves, and not bother other poultry, for they are apt to be quarrelsome at feeding time. Geese should have only ground grain, though they thrive on oats after they are grown. Geese have no crop in which to soften their food so wheat and corn are not suitable feed for them.

### Farmers Pay Weed Tax

Every farmer pays his share of the weed tax, with the average amounting to about \$450 a farm a year, according to a crop production expert at the University of Illinois. Although much can be done toward reducing this loss through the use of a small fanning mill for cleaning grain, farmers must often have their seeds cleaned with special machines of commercial seedsmen in order to remove the many noxious weeds.

### Farm Purchases

Figures show that in 1936 over 15,000 farm properties were sold at a figure of \$35,200,000 by the federal land banks as compared with 9,700 properties valued at \$23,100,000 in 1935. Approximately 75 per cent of the farms sold by the land banks last year were bought by farm operators. During the past three years farm operators have largely displaced non-farmers as heaviest purchasers of federal land bank properties, officials have pointed out.

## Parading the Fashions



**A** STYLE show De Luxe for De Ladies on this De Lightful Spring day!

Betty Ann feels just a bit the most elegant of the three for her housecoat is superlative. She has "skirts" like the ladies in the feminine yesterdays; her basque is form-fitting; her sash has a bow, and her sleeves puff. The illusion is so perfect that she is about to reach for smelling salts or a sprig of old lavender.

**Matrons Have Vanity, Too.** Mama, very young for her years, can not resist styles that bring more compliments her way. The no-belt feature of this one is definitely new, and does wonders for the figure a bit past the slim stage. The continuing collar, which in soft pastels is always flattering, gives the break required by the all-in-one waist and skirt. The fitted top and flaring bottom make for style plus comfort, a demand matrons, even though youthful, always make.

**Parties and Picnics.** Winifred on the left is privately making up her mind to have a housecoat, too, though she is mightily pleased with the way her print has turned out. She chose this style because the fitted, broken waist line and front seamed skirt are so very slenderizing. She's on her way to the 4-H meeting now and has only stopped to remind Betty Ann of the picnic "The Jolly Twelve" are having on Tuesday.

**The Patterns.** Pattern 1285 comes in sizes 12-20 (30 to 40). Size 14 requires 3 3/4 yards of 39 inch material. Pattern 1282 is for sizes 14-20.

**Smiles**

Knowingly? "Does your husband talk in his sleep?" "No, and it's terribly exasperating. He just grins."—Omaha World-Herald.

**SO THEY GET ALONG**



Bragga—Does your wife use your razor to open cans? Docie—Oh, yes, of course, but I use her best powder puff for a shoe polisher.

**Soldiers make good husbands,** says Sergeant-Major Sam; they're trained to be tidy. Then why is their dining room always a mess?

**CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**GOLD FILLED CROSS,** screw back with Christian literature, 10c stamps or coin. Write Daily American Lutheran Publishing Bureau, Dept. N, 1819 E'way, N. Y.

### BARI-CIDE

**KILLS**  
Such Insect Pests As the  
**MEXICAN BEAN BEETLE**  
**CUCUMBER BEETLE**  
**POTATO BEETLE**  
Without Injury to the Foliage  
of Crops on Which Its Use is Recommended  
A Product of  
Barium Reduction Corp.,  
So. Charleston, W. Va.  
For Sale by Reliable Dealers

523