

Current Events in Review

By Edward W. Pickard

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Decline in Relief Rolls Predicted by Hopkins

IN HIS first press conference since the Presidential election Harry L. Hopkins, works progress administrator, asserted his belief that relief rolls this winter would be at the lowest point since the start of the depression.

He estimated that 3,750,000 families and single persons would be receiving federal and local aid January 1, 1937, compared to a peak of 5,316,000 in January, 1935.



H.L. Hopkins

"I think," Hopkins said confidently, "that we will go into January of this year caring for 1,000,000 less cases than a year ago and a reduction of about 1,500,000 from 1935."

The administrator's attention was called to the fact that latest figures showed that 3,498,012 persons were employed the first two weeks of October, an increase of 29,020 over the preceding half month. He explained this by pointing out that the drought in the Midwest added 32,831 destitute farmers to his WPA project list.

Steel Workers Ask for Legislation

FIRST of the big groups that aided in the re-election of President Roosevelt to call on him for their reward, the steel workers have asked that the Chief Executive recommend to the next congress the passage of legislation outlawing company unions and forbidding coercion of workers by employers.

George A. Patterson and Elmer J. Malo, employee representatives of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel company, carried this request to the White House.

The Carnegie-Illinois company has offered employees a 10 per cent wage increase on condition that workers sign an agreement to permit adjustment of wages to the cost of living. At his press conference President Roosevelt said living costs should not be permitted to operate to curb wage increases. Furthermore, Secretary of Labor Perkins ruled informally that the employee representatives had no authority to sign such an agreement for their fellow employees.

Labor Board Dissolves Harvester Council Plan

EMPLLOYER corporations were hit by a ruling of the National Labor Relations board ordering the dissolution of the "industrial council plan" of the International Harvester company at the plant in Fort Wayne, Ind.

While the ruling dealt only with the Indiana plant, the board pointed out that the same plan also exists in the other 14 Harvester plants in the United States and Canada. It sets a precedent also for future decisions in regard to similar plans in other manufacturing plants throughout the country.

The industrial council of the Harvester company is an illegal labor organization under the terms of the National Labor Relations act, the board ruled. Under it the employees possess "only the shadow, not the substance, of collective bargaining," according to the decision. Numerous benefits conferred on the employees under the plan are admitted but the board says most of them "are granted in the form of paternalism."

A. F. of L. Council's Report on Social Security Act

WHEN the American Federation of Labor's annual convention opened in Tampa it had before it the report of the executive council dealing with, among many other topics, the social security act. The report heartily approved of a federal social security program and urged adoption of state laws that would give labor the greatest possible benefit from the federal statute.

If the federal law is unconstitutional, the council said, "it is clear that its provisions must be changed or that sanction must be afforded to them through an amendment to the constitution."

The council questioned the wisdom of obtaining the necessary funds through a payroll tax "which to a great extent is to be paid directly or indirectly by the workers involved" and suggested that congress repeal this feature of the law as soon as it convenes.

In discussing unemployment since NRA's end, the council said: "The shorter work week and the six hour day furnish the real solution to the insistent problem of unemployment. It is the responsibility that private industry must accept in order to give the necessary balance to economic expansion."

The council reported a membership of 3,422,398 on August 31—the greatest since 1921.

The council dismissed John L.

Lewis' epochal rebellion with a detailed factual account of its progress during the last year. "Appropriate action" was suggested.

George L. Berry, national co-ordinator for industrial recovery and president of the Printing Pressmen's union, proposed that the controversy with Lewis and his C. I. O. group be ended by arbitration, but this was rejected by President Green and other federation leaders. John P. Frey lost no time in introducing his resolution for expulsion of the rebel unions with their membership of over a million.

President Starts on His Ocean Cruise

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT went by train to Charleston, S. C., to board the cruiser Indianapolis for a jaunt in southern waters. He said he was not certain where the ship would take him, but in Washington it was assumed that he would proceed at once for Buenos Aires to attend the opening of the Pan-American peace conference on December 1. In that case he will make stops at Port of Spain, Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo, and will not return before December 15. If his plans are changed, he will merely spend two or three weeks fishing in the Caribbean.

At his last press conference before departing the President said he had about completed drafting the 1937 budget. He said also that he had outlined to his subordinates the things he wants done during his absence, these including:

Drafting of a farm tenancy law to end evils attending the system of share-cropping and farm tenancy, now chiefly prevalent in the South.

Clarifying amendments to the social security act.

Amendments to the Tennessee Valley Authority act, permitting broader social and economic improvement of the regions served by the TVA's huge power projects.

Year's Breathing Spell Likely for Farmers

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 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.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., to Marry Ethel du Pont

THE engagement of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., third son of President and Mrs. Roosevelt, to Miss Ethel du Pont of Wilmington, Del., was announced by the young lady's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene du Pont. There had been rumors of this romance for months, but announcement was delayed until after the election. The wedding will be in June after Mr. Roosevelt's graduation from Harvard, and will be a quiet affair. Miss du Pont's father is a member of the board of directors of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours company. She is a niece of Lamont du Pont, president of the company; of Pierre S. du Pont, chairman of the board, and of Irene du Pont, another director of the board. She was presented to society on June 27 last.

Loyalists Defend Madrid With Desperation

LOYALIST defenders of Madrid, reinforced by troops from the southeast and apparently supplied with airplanes and tanks from Russia, put up unexpected resistance to the furious attacks of the Fascists, delaying the capture of the capital. The insurgents sent many planes to rain bombs on the city and there were dramatic battles in the air as well as on land. The attackers at one time smashed the defending lines at the Los Franceses bridge and forced their way across the Manzanares river and into the northwest quarter of Madrid, but probably retired, for the loyalists dynamited the bridge and captured several rebel tanks. The new supreme defense council in the capital, taking charge when the president and other government officials fled to Valencia, was reported to be functioning smoothly and was confident of ultimate victory over the rebels, even if Madrid were lost to them.

Clark Howell, Eminent Editor, Is Dead

CLARK HOWELL, editor and president of the Atlanta Constitution and one of the best known journalists in the United States, died at his home in Atlanta at the age of seventy-three after a long illness. He was one of the original directors of the Associated Press. He was elected to the position at the time of its incorporation in 1900 and held it at the time of his death.

Always active in state and national politics, Mr. Howell was a pioneer in the formation of "Roosevelt for President" clubs. He was offered his choice of several diplomatic posts in 1933 but declined, saying he felt he could better serve the President and the nation as publisher of the Constitution. He was at various times a member of temporary national commissions, but in the main devoted his time to his journalistic labors. A few years ago the Constitution won the Pulitzer prize for "meritorious service" in exposing political conditions in Atlanta.

Secretary Roper Plans Census of Jobless

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."

Government Buys 9 Million Acres of Poor Farm Land

REFORM G. TUGWELL, Resettlement administrator, announced that the government had acquired more than nine million acres of land considered unsuitable for crop production, and he added that it should buy ten times as much. The Resettlement administration is committed to pay \$39,916,603 for the land, under option in 210 different projects in 44 states at an average price of \$4.40 an acre.

These acres, Tugwell said, "could not support human subsistence" when used as they have been, and so were being restored to grazing, forestry, recreation, and other use for which they were naturally fitted.

Tugwell reported 5,476 families still residing on the tracts "will need aid in resettling." More than 2,000 families already have been moved, it was disclosed, and many others found new homes without aid.

Hitler Scraps Another Treaty Clause

ADOLF HITLER has torn up another clause of the Versailles treaty—the one that internationalized the German rivers and canals. He has announced that the reich has resumed sovereignty over all such waters. The treaty clause was designed partly to give Czechoslovakia free access to the sea, and that nation now has agreed with Belgium to protest formally against Germany's action. British Foreign Minister Eden rather mildly criticized Hitler's course.

Belgium Asks Specific Pledge From League

WITH embarrassing directness, Belgium has demanded that the League of Nations be specific on what help an attacked member nation "could count on." In a note, she demanded clarification of the league covenant, particularly the article applying to sanctions against an aggressor. Efforts to prevent war should be emphasized by the league, Belgium said, and measures against countries which endanger peace should be improved upon.

In a recent speech to parliament, intended to clarify a previous address by King Leopold, Foreign Minister Spaak said his country would assure both Germany and France that Belgium never would become the jumping off place for an attack on the territory of either power.

San Francisco's Bridge Formally Opened

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 largest 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.

Lovely and Inexpensive



AMONG other things to be thankful for in this land of peace and plenty, think how pleasant it is to be able to procure such lovely patterns so conveniently and so inexpensively. No longer is style the perquisite of wealth alone; every woman can look and be at her best in any company, thanks to Sewing Circle patterns.

Pattern 1981, a youthful lounging or sleeping pajama, features a nobby, cutaway peplum and comfortably cut trousers. There is an easy yoke, a cleverly cut collar, and a choice of long or short sleeves. Why not make them in alternate materials? The size range, 14, 16, 18, 20, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42. Size 16 (34 bust) requires 5 yards of 39 inch material.

Pattern 1852 fashions into an adorable little frock which will make small eyes dance and sparkle. Just eight pieces to the pattern, including the band and facings, you can run it up in a jiffy and have a perfect gift for your baby daughter or favorite niece. As simple as can be, it is nevertheless pert and engaging, truly a prize. Send for it in size 2, 4, 6, or 8 years. Material selection—dimity or swiss or voile or crepe or gingham. Size 4 requires just 2 1-8 yds. of 35 or 39 inch.

Pattern 1970 is a comely and graceful morning or daytime frock for matron sizes, the sort that goes on in a hurry and wears well without a lot of fuss and bother. The jabot is softly feminine and the panelled skirt is cut along lines every larger woman appreciates. The collar and cuffs are in contrast, if you wish, and the selection of materials is practically unlimited. This lovely pattern is available in all of the following sizes—36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, and 52. Size 40 requires 4 3-8 yards of 35 or 39 inch fabric plus 3-4 yd. contrast.

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Household Questions

If cinnamon toast is served frequently, it pays to mix some cinnamon and sugar and keep it in a shaker so that it can be used quickly.

To prevent the delivery boy from tracking dirt across the kitchen floor place a shelf at the back door on which he can place packages.

Before storing winter cabbage wrap each head in an old newspaper. This will keep the cabbage crisp and green much longer.

A teaspoon of granulated sugar added to the water in which turnips are boiled removes the strong turnip taste some object to.

Small amounts of fruit jelly may be used for coloring icings.

To remove the feathers from wild ducks, dip them in boiling water, then wrap in a thick cloth. The feathers are steamed loose in a very few minutes and the "pins" will give little or no trouble.

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