Current Events IN REVIEW

by Edward W. Pickard

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Chief Justice Hughes Opposes Court Plan

CHIEF JUSTICE CHARLES E. HUGHES created something of a sensation by sending to the senate judiciary committee a letter declaring that an increase in the number of Supreme court justices, as proposed by President Roosevelt, "would not promote the efficiency of the court." He added:

Chief Justice Hughes

"It is believed that it would impair that efficiency so long as the court acts as a unit.

"There would be more judges to hear, more judges to confer, more judges to discuss, more judges to be convinced and to decide. The present number of justices is thought to be large enough so far as the prompt, adequate and efficient conduct of the work of the court is concerned."

Mr. Hughes said his letter was approved by Justices Van Devanter and Brandeis. He made it clear that he was commenting on an increase from the standpoint of efficiency and "apart from any question of policy," which he said, "I do not discuss."

Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, Democrat, was the first opposition witness called before the committee, and he set forth his views forcibly and at length. Before entering the committee room he said he believed the administration would eventually accept a compromise plan. He advocates a constitutional amendment, permitting congress, by two-thirds majority, to override Supreme court invalidation of acts of congress, provided a national election had intervened between invalidation and overriding.

"The administration will compromise, don't worry," Wheeler said. "They can't get more than thirty-five senate votes for the President's plan. Public opinion, which swerved toward them for a while, is now swinging heavily against them."

Edward S. Corwin, professor of constitutional law at Princeton, was heard by the senate committee in support of the President's bill and he got along very nicely until Senator Burke, leader of the opposition, called his attention to a speech the professor made a year ago and a book he wrote 25 years ago, in both of which he expressed views quite different from those he seemingly now holds. Then Senator Tom Connally took a hand in the questioning:

"Now you say the court is biased. You want to add six new justices who will be biased in the other direction, don't you?"

Professor Corwin evaded a direct answer for some time, but Senator Connally demanded to know whether he did not support the President's plan for this purpose.

"Well, that is one of the reasons," the witness said.

The American Federation of Labor, like its opponent, the C. I. O., has favored the President's court plan, though rather mildly, but President William Green, when he appeared before the senate committee, was even less emphatic in his approval of it. He denied that the court as now constituted "has assumed dictatorial power or that its members have not the mental capacity or the necessary learning."

Detroit Is Threatened With General Strike

BECAUSE the Detroit police, directed by Mayor Frank Couzens and Police Commissioner Pickert put an end to a number of the smaller sitdown strikes in that city by raiding and arresting the strikers, Homer Martin, president of the United Automobile Workers, threatened to call a general strike in all the auto plants there except those of General Motors.

Governor Murphy

"I don't believe Mr. Martin would be so unwise as to call out on general strike men who have just been through six years of suffering due to depression and loss of work," Mayor Couzens said. "It would be unfortunate for him to do so."

The mayor added that the police would continue to evict strikers from plants and stores held by others than employees at the places.

The eight Chrysler plants were still held by the sitdowners, and everyone was waiting anxiously for Gov. Frank Murphy to determine what action the state government would take to enforce the law. Eviction and arrest of the strikers had been ordered by Circuit Judge Campbell, whose order to get out was defied by the workers, but the sheriff said he couldn't act further until he was given a sufficient force of deputies.

Governor Murphy had declared that constituted authority must be obeyed, but he explained his failure to act promptly by saying that "blind adherence to a legalistic philosophy will surely lead to eventual frustration of the democratic ideal of true freedom."

The committee named by the governor to devise ways of disposing of future labor disputes was busy formulating legislation; and Mr. Murphy held frequent consultations with James F. Dewey, federal conciliator. Also he was in communication with Washington.

Sitdown Strikes Debated by the Senate

SENATORS indulged in an indignant debate concerning the sitdown strike and there were demands for a congressional investigation of this new weapon of labor. Majority Leader Joe Robinson said: "Manifestly the sitdown strike is unlawful. It is not within the rights of any individual or group of individuals to seize or retain possession of property to the exclusion of the employer for the purpose of enforcing demands against the employer."

Sen. Robinson

However, he added, it was difficult for the federal government to do anything in the matter until the Supreme court has passed on the validity of the Wagner-Connery labor relations act.

Senator Van Nuys of Indiana, Democrat, and others protested against this seeming effort to place on the Supreme court the blame for the epidemic of sitdown strikes.

Senator Johnson of California gave a "general warning" that the sit-down strike is the most ominous thing in our national life today, bad for the government and in the long run worse for labor.

The Democratic senate whip, Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois, vehemently criticized sit-down tactics of labor and demanded investigation by congress. "Is the United States a government?" Lewis asked. "Every form of commerce is being torn apart under the name of controversy between employer and employee, leading to the danger of national riots."

Amelia Earhart's Flight Stopped by Crack-Up

AMELIA EARHART'S globe-encircling flight ended, for the present, at Honolulu when she cracked up her $80,000 "laboratory plane" at the take-off for Howland island. By quick thinking and action she saved her life and those of Capt. Harry Manning and Fred J. Noonan, her navigators, but the plane was so badly damaged that it had to be shipped back to the Los Angeles factory for repairs. The daring aviatrix sailed immediately for San Francisco, asserting that she would resume the flight as soon as possible.

Amelia Earhart

As the big plane rushed down the runway for the take-off it swayed badly, the right tire burst and the ship went out of control. The left undercarriage buckled and the left wing slashed into the ground. The ship then spun to the right, crashed down on its right wing, and the right motor snapped off the right wheel. Miss Earhart quickly cut the ignition switches, so there was no fire, and no one was injured.

The first leg of the flight, from Oakland to Honolulu, had been made successfully and in record time, but an inspection revealed that the propellor bearings of the plane were almost dry when she landed. A motor expert there said Miss Earhart might have been forced down between Honolulu and Howland island had this not been discovered.

Treasury Objects to the Railway Pension Plan

THE new railway pension plan agreed upon by railroad management and labor doesn't meet with the approval of the Treasury department, which says its taxes on employers and employees are too low to meet pension outlays. If the income fails to level up with outgo, say treasury officials, the difference would come out of general government funds. It was predicted in Washington that President Roosevelt might intervene to settle the dispute.

Under the voluntary plan, taxes starting at 2:5 per cent on both employers' payrolls and employees' wages would increase gradually to 3.5 per cent on each in 1949. The management-labor understanding provides that both would back the plan in congress. It would supersede the 1935 retirement legislation now under court attack by the roads.

Pope Accuses Germany of Violating the Concordat

POPE PIUS XI, in a strong papal letter to the Catholic congregations of Germany, accused the Nazi government of violating the concordat with the Vatican which was concluded in July, 1933, and of fostering anti-Christian movements. If the terms of the concordat were not kept, said the pope, "that is not the fault of the church. The other side made unfair interpretation of the concordat, evaded its provisions, undermined its content, and finally more or less openly violated its stipulations and the unwritten law governing its actions."

Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler's newspaper Voelkischer Beobachter, in an editorial interpreted as an answer to the pastoral letter, implied the concordat might be cancelled by the reich.

"At the conclusion of the concordat, the state could not know how the church would later interpret its provisions," said the newspaper, declaring that "even an agreement with the holy see has not sacrosanct, untouchable and eternal value."

Spanish Loyalists Win on Guadalajara Front

SPANISH government forces were victorious in some heavy fighting on the Guadalajara front northeast of Madrid, their chief gain being the capture of Brihuega, headquarters of the insurgents. The latter, however, scored in the University City quarter of the capital, and on the southern front were preparing to attack Pozoblanco, the key to mercury, lead, sulphur and coal mining territory.

Paris claimed to have information that Germans had supervised and helped a line of fortifications along the Spanish Moroccan coast that threatens British control of the Strait of Gibraltar.

School Disaster Cause Not Yet Certain

SEVERAL investigations into the terrible explosion that destroyed the fine London Community school in east Texas and killed nearly 500 pupils and teachers were under way, but at this writing the cause of the disaster has not been determined. The most plausible theory was formed when D. L. Clark, field foreman for the near-by Parade Oil company, testified that the school had been using "wet" gas from the pipe lines of the company. This is a residue gas rich in butane, a highly explosive compound of carbon and hydrogen, and it is considered too dangerous for home use. Clark said he first learned the school was using the gas when he was notified that Superintendent W. C. Shaw of the school wanted it shut off. School employees said the change from "dry" to "wet"' gas was made only a month ago on order of the school board chairman. That gentleman said the company knew of the use of the gas.

Information elicited from witnesses indicated definitely that the crushing explosion in the school house had its origin in the air space between the floor of the one-story wing of the structure and the ground.

John Murrell, one time Army football player and all-American full back, now an oil engineer, described what he saw after the explosion. He said many bodies were blown into the yard and that most of the victims were blasted out of their shoes. He noticed no burns.

About 740 children and 38 teachers were in the building at the time and nearly all who were not killed outright were injured. Of the latter it was believed many would not recover.

Eccles Sees Danger in Inflationary Prices

MARRINER S. ECCLES, chairman of the Federal Reserve board, started something when he issued a warning against the dangers in inflationary price rises, which are due, he says, chiefly to foreign armament demands, strikes and monopolistic practices by certain groups in both industry and organized labor. He argued for continuance of low interest rates but said the budget should be balanced and taxes on incomes and profits should be raised, if necessary, "to sustain the volume of relief and at the same time bring the budget into balance and permit the paring down of public debt as private debt expands."

M. S. Eccles

The federal reserve system, said Mr. Eccles, "is powerful to maintain a stable economy unless other essential nonmonetary factors necessary to stability are brought into line either by private interests or by the government."

This statement, presumably made with the approval of Secretary Morgenthau and the knowledge of President Roosevelt, aroused a lot of talk in Washington and the administration leaders were discussing taxes and receipts. Generally they agreed that there will be no extensive tax change—merely a resolution in June extending for one year $400,000,000 in "nuisance" levies. It may be the Eccles warning will serve to curb the demands of various department heads and congressmen for more huge appropriations

Hugh Bradley Says:

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Tops as Trainer Sande Longs for Old Jockey Days

FAINT wrinkles—perhaps come from long afternoons of peering into blazing suns while galloping hell for leather down the home stretch — encroach upon his steady gray blue eyes now. The reddish hair is thinning on the top—perhaps worn away by the billions of pats inevitably, albeit figuratively, bestowed there by adoring bettors. Yet the Earle Sande who rides only saddle horses now —and mounts them only in the cool of the morning when few are present to heed or cheer—still is a slim young man who must be reckoned with around a race track. Examine the list of winners at the recently closed Hialeah meeting if you doubt that.

Earl Sande

Sande brought seven horses to the meeting. That was a woefully small number as compared to roles of the mighty stables invited to try their luck at this race emporium. But Sande saddled fourteen winners, most of them triumphing with wide stretches of open daylight to spare. This is a rare success for a man who took up a new job scarcely three years ago. All the fingers of one hand would not be needed to count the veteran trainers, already wise in the ways of their profession when a slim Idaho kid was booting home his first big-time winner in 1918, who can boast of as much good fortune.

How does this once greatest of jockeys like the work to which he now has turned? We sat on a faded old brocade sofa in front of his barn door and talked about it, while thoroughbreds craned their necks out of nearby doors and his two dogs, a police and a red setter, clamored to divide Earle's attention.

"Yes, training was a lot different from riding. You had to pay attention to a lot of new things. Things you might have noted before but never had regarded as really important."

What things, for instance? Sande looked at his visitor, grinned, then fondled the setter's ears. "Well, just things."

The visitor changed the subject.

What would Sande rather do? Prepare horses for some other jockey to win with or boot them home himself? There was a moment's hesitation, then earnest response.

"Why, ride them, of course. There was nothing in life like that. One of the hardest things to get over was not even being able to straddle some colt for a morning gallop on the track. But of course a fellow with so much weight couldn't do that. It wouldn't be fair to the horses."

Sande now weighs 125 as compared to the 115 or so of his best riding years. Was he training any riders to follow in his own renown?

"No, not now. Most of the jocks who rode for him were experienced fellows. Still he would like to do it some day. Real jockeys were born, not made, even though experience and training did smooth them out. What he would like to do was go back home to Idaho some day, find some little kid practically raised in the saddle and see what could be done with him."

Sceneshifter, winner several days previously for the Maxwell Howard stable for which Sande trains, was whinnying from a nearby door. Sande rose, patted the colt on the nose several times, spoke to him and then returned.

Were horses just like people? Did you get to like some of them right away and were some of them almost impossible to understand?

"Surely, they were. There was little Billy Kelly who ran for Commander Ross almost twenty years ago. Billy was a gentle chap, liked to play and loved to be petted. Sir Barton, a far bigger money winner in the same barn and at the same time, also was a great horse, but he was inclined to be a bully."

What was the greatest horse Sande ever rode? The answer came without hesitation.

"Man o' War, of course. Big Red liked to have his own way and was kind of temperamental, but nobody made any mistake by calling him truly great. The others? Well, it was pretty hard to pick them in any kind of order. That Gallant Fox could run all day, Osmand was as good as anybody could wish."

NOT IN THE BOX SCORE:

MEL OTT has replaced the departed Mark Koening as the best golfer among the Giants. He shoots in the low 80s and, like Carl Hubbell, with whom he plays two or three times a week in Florida, does it right-handed. Joe Moore is fairly good but inconsistent. If he does the outgoing nine in less than par he bobs up with a 50 coming home. By the same token, when he reaches the turn in sad state he usually plays the last nine in fine style. . . . Adolfo Luque is the biggest eater among the Giants. Gus Mancuso tells the sad tale of the time when he invited the coach to dinner and saw him devour six dozen blue points without a letup . . . Bill Terry always turns to the financial quotations first when he opens his morning paper at breakfast . . . Long before he became a big-time ball player Sam Leslie, one of the easiest going of the Giants, was ambitious to become a professional prize fighter . . . Giants were not surprised when the Dodgers handed Freddy Lindstrom his unconditional release. They recalled that Freddy and Manager Grimes never were anything like pals.

The recent deaths of Judge Walter P. Steffen and Johnny O'Brien in Chicago cost intercollegiate football dearly. Steffen in early middle age had achieved a magnificent career as a player and a coach. O'Brien was a young man, just beginning to earn recognition as a coach at Notre Dame. As an athlete "One Play" Johnny O'Brien earned immortality in Notre Dame's football lore . . . Jack Dempsey continues in a quiet was his philanthropies among old cronies of the prize ring. Dandy Dick Griffin, a bantamweight from Texas who fought on the Dempsey-Carpentier card at Boyle's Thirty Acres, had two operations recently in New York to restore his sight. The old mauler is footing the bill.

Recalls When Schalk Used Six Gloves

When Ray Schalk was achieving fame with the White Sox he always brought at least six gloves into the dugout with him each day. Each of these gloves differed slightly from others in shape or the amount of padding and each of them had been built according to exact directions from Ray. This was because he figured each pitcher—Cicotte, Faber, Kerr and others—threw some particular type of ball which it took a special kind of glove to handle properly . . . Roy Henshaw, Cub pitcher traded to Brooklyn last winter, carries his own table tennis paddles with him on trips. He began practicing at midnight at the Dodgers' camp and had a visit from the house detective when the ball, bouncing off the wall, annoyed the guest in the next room. The detective was all for throwing him into a dungeon when Roy said Manager Burleigh Grimes could identify him. Grimes was the indignant party in the next room who had lodged the complaint.

Ray Schalk

Ted Lyons, dean of the White Sox pitchers, says Larry Rosenthal is the best center fielder the team has had since Johnny Mostil, and Mostil, according to Lyons, is the greatest he ever has seen . . . Emil Levsen, pitcher for the Cleveland Indians under Tris Speaker, is now in charge of a creamery at Springville, Ia., near Cedar Rapids . . . He has been director of junior baseball for the American Legion the last few years. . . . One of the products of this program is Bob Feller, who had his start in baseball with the Valley Junction American Legion Junior club.

According to Joe Foley, promoter at the Chicago Stadium, reservations already in hand for the Louis-Braddock bout amount to nearly $500,000 . . . Larry Northcott, star wing of the Montreal Maroons, was a bank employee before entering professional hockey . . . The city fire chief runs the bowling alleys in Beaumont, Tex., and insists on his fire fighters keeping fit by rolling a few games daily . . . Bob Garbark, Toledo catcher, who is receiving a trial with the Cubs this spring, was mentioned on several all-star football teams for his work with the Gettysburg college eleven in 1932 . . . Joe Savoldi is on a wrestling tour of South America .

William H. Lewis of Harvard was placed at center on the teams of 1892 and 1893 and still is named on many all-time all-America teams. He afterwards coached at his alma mater and became an assistant United States attorney general . . . Gibson White, owner of Rosalind the Hambletonian winner last year, is taking health treatments at Tucson, Ariz . . . Homer Martin, labor union official, was national hop, skip, and jump champion in 1924.

Baseball umpires in Cuba are at least as good as their semi-pro brethren in the U. S. The best of them is a gentleman named Raul Atan, whose ancestors lived in China . . . Probably because most of their stars are living examples of that "good field, no hit" crack of Mike Gonzales, Cuban fans applaud fielding feats more vigorously than they do occasional long distance blows . . . Fans are permitted to keep balls knocked into the stands, but the Cuban specators are not in a class with Brooklyn fans when it comes to catching them . . .

Household Questions

Date Kisses — Thirty stoned dates, one cup almonds, white one egg, one cup powdered sugar. Chop dates; blanch almonds and cut into long strips. Beat egg very stiff, add sugar, dates and almonds. Drop in buttered tins with teaspoon and bake in quick oven.

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To keep the crease in men's trousers, turn them inside out and soap down the crease with a piece of dry soap, then turn back to the right side and press, using a damp cloth. The crease will remain for a long time.

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If you store eggs with the small ends down they will keep better.

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If sirup for hotcakes is heated before serving it brings out the flavor of the sirup and does not chill the hotcakes.

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When the frying pan becomes slightly burnt, drop a raw peeled potato into the pan for a few minutes. Then remove it, and all traces of burning will have disappeared.

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A thin syrup of sugar and water flavored with almond essence is good to sweeten fruit cup.

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By Contrast

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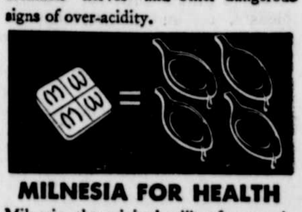
DOLLARS & HEALTH

The successful person is a healthy person. Don't let yourself be handicapped by sick headaches, a sluggish condition, stomach "nerves" and other dangerous signs of over-acidity.



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