

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Senator Borah Throws His Hat in the Republican Ring—
Administration's Revamped Farm Bill Introduced
—Farley Assails Liberty League.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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WILLIAM E. BORAH, the liberal Republican senator from Idaho, is now a full fledged candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination. He formally put himself in the running by announcing that he would enter the primary in Ohio which will be held May 12. That state requires that the candidate shall declare himself in writing, and this Mr. Borah said he would do.

Senator Borah

The senator's statement follows:
"After a thorough survey of the Ohio situation I am convinced that the people of that state should be given an opportunity to express their choice in the Presidential primary on May 12. Under the so-called 'favorite son' plan this privilege is denied them."

"To obtain an expression of popular will it is my intention to place at least eight candidates or delegates at large in the field."

"I shall make a number of speeches in Ohio and present the issues as I see them."
It is understood by his friends that the senator will make a contest for delegates in almost every state having a preference primary. He says the G. O. P. conventions have been dominated by the old conservative leaders through the operations of the "favorite son" scheme and this control he intends to destroy if possible. It is his opinion that only a liberal Republican can defeat President Roosevelt next fall, and few will deny that he is the outstanding liberal in his party.

CONFORMING to the request of the President, both senate and house passed measures repealing the cotton, tobacco and potato control acts. In the house nine radicals and John J. O'Connor of New York voted "no" as a protest against the Supreme court after Marcanonio of New York had delivered a violent attack on that tribunal.

Following this action, the senate agriculture committee rewrote and introduced the administration's substitute farm bill. The revamped measure provides that the federal government would make grants to the states just as is done now under the road act. The states in turn would designate some agency, to be approved by the secretary of agriculture, to distribute the money to individual farmers. This money would be distributed on a formula taking into consideration:

- 1. Acreage of crops.
- 2. Acreage of soil improving or erosion preventing crops.
- 3. Changes in farming practices.
- 4. Percentage of the normal production of any one or more agriculture commodities designated by the secretary of agriculture, which equals that percentage of the normal national production of the commodity.

EVERY Presidential possibility these days must have some plan for the salvation of the American farmer. Senator L. J. Dickinson of Iowa, often mentioned for the Republican nomination, now brings out his permanent farm program which he says would divorce the farm problem from "bureaucratic control" in Washington. His plan would embrace erosion control, soil conservation, and restoration of fertility of lands. Administration would be handled jointly by the states and the federal government in a manner similar to highway construction.

The Dickinson program, similar to that advocated by former Gov. Frank O. Lowden of Illinois, includes payment of the balance due signers of AAA contracts, a higher tariff on farm products, continued corn loans, and extension of farm mortgages at a low rate of interest.

HEADS of various government agencies concerned with housing have submitted to the President a nationwide, low cost program based on cheap federal loans to local communities. According to authoritative sources, this undertaking would contemplate:

- 1. A long-range building program.
- 2. Interest rates perhaps as low as 1 per cent on federal loans.
- 3. Construction of facilities for as many as one million families.

Full control of management and condemnation proceedings would be lodged with local officials under the plan, the aim being to decentralize activities.

IN HIS press conference President Roosevelt announced that a billion dollars' worth of lending authorized by acts of congress would not be carried out. For example, the Home Owners' Loan corporation has passed on nearly all proposed loans and will not need between 500 million and a billion dollars, the President declared. Applications for HOLC loans closed last June 27. Outstanding loans of the agency amount to near 2 billion 900 million dollars.

TWO attacks on the American Liberty league were made in one day. The strongest was by Postmaster General Farley who spoke at a Roosevelt dinner in Miami, Fla.

"The Liberty league," said Farley, "would rule America. It would squeeze the worker dry in his old age and cast him like an orange rind into the refuse pail. It would continue the infamous policy of using the agencies of government to create a plutocracy that would perpetuate the sorry business of the Mellons and the Morgans in reducing 95 per cent of the people to the status of serfs at the mercy of the exploiters at the top."

"The American Liberty league speaks as conclusively for the reactionaries and their party as do Mr. Hoover, the United States Chamber of Commerce and the National Manufacturers' association."

"Its program is frankly plutocratic and asks for the rule of money over men, as during the 12 years before Roosevelt's administration."

"Its idea of the 'American way' is to maintain a system under which all the wealth of the nation was being concentrated in the hands of a very few—5 per cent of the people."

At their convention in Washington the United Mine Workers also took a crack at the Liberty league, adopting a resolution denouncing the organization as "inimical to the interests and people of the United States."

FIVE of the members of the new federal reserve board were inducted into office with due ceremony. A sixth, Ralph W. Morrison of Texas, was to arrive later and be sworn in. The seventh member had not yet been named by President Roosevelt.

Mariner S. Eccles, appointed chairman, and M. S. Szymczak of Chicago, were holdovers. The others besides Morrison are Ronald Ransom, Atlanta banker; John McKee of Ohio, former chief bank examiner for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and Joseph A. Broderick of New York.

The reserve board, which has been called "a supreme court of banking," has powers unparalleled in American financial history. Among these is authority to double present margins that member banks are required to maintain against deposits; the dominant voice on the open-market committee—which charts the system's participation in the government bond market, and over which it had no authority under the former law; power of veto over the heads of the various reserve banks which insures the selection of a president who will co-operate with the board, and the power to fix margins governing relations between banks and brokers.

SENATOR VANDENBERG of Michigan has grave doubts of the economic necessity or value of the ship canal that is being dug across central Florida, and offered in the senate commerce committee a resolution for investigation by a special committee. In support of his move he produced letters from eleven companies operating steamships saying they would not use the canal even if no tolls were charged. They asserted the expense of employing canal pilots added to the risk of damage to ships would offset saving in navigation costs.

Work was started some time ago on the canal, which, if completed, will cost between \$140,000,000 and \$200,000,000.

UNITED Mine Works of America, in convention in Washington, shouted boisterous defiance at William Green's plea that they drop their campaign for industrial organization.

The A. F. of L. president opened his speech before the 1,700 delegates from the coal pits with a plea for co-operation to prevent a split in the ranks of American labor. The A. F. of L., which favors the craft (or skilled worker) unions, had ordered the miners, led by John L. Lewis, to abandon their committee working for industrial unions.

But as he warmed up to his subject, Mr. Green clashed more directly with the views of the miners and the scattered applause which had greeted his remarks changed to boos and shouts of opposition.

JOSEPH B. EASTMAN, co-ordinator of transportation, is trying to wipe out an estimated annual waste of \$50,000,000 in railroad terminal operations, and announced that he would soon order the unification of terminal facilities in eleven cities. This, he figures, will save the affected railroads at least \$800,000 annually. Mr. Eastman had tried unsuccessfully to have the carriers make the changes voluntarily.



J. B. Eastman

The unifications will be ordered at Worcester, Mass.; Mechanicsville, N. Y.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Montgomery, Ala.; Meridian, Miss.; Freeport, Ill.; Des Moines and Council Bluffs, Iowa; Beaumont, Texas, and Ogden, Utah.

After the first group of orders, Eastman said that, if necessary, he was prepared to compel "other steps of increasing magnitude," but would "stand aside if railroads are able to produce their own momentum."

ON ORDERS from Gov. Harold G. Hoffman of New Jersey, further investigation of the Lindbergh kidnapping and murder case has been started. Col. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, head of the state police, assigned two of his star detectives for the inquiry, and requested the aid of federal investigating agencies and the New York police.

The governor wants the investigation to be painstaking and thorough. The reprieve which he granted Hauptmann will expire on February 15. After that date at least four weeks, and perhaps five, will elapse before the date for the execution which will be ordered by Justice Thomas W. Trenchard.

DAVID LLOYD GEORGE, former British prime minister who, together with President Wilson and Clemenceau, was largely responsible for the re-making of the map of the world after the war, now admits that work was not wisely done. Rising in parliament to support a resolution by Lansburg, Laborite, urging Britain to call a world conference to deal with the causes of war, Lloyd George said:

"I do not believe there will be peace in the world until you consider the colonial mandates granted at the conclusion of the World war, when Germany's colonies were split up. Belgium got the best part of German East Africa and the whole of the Congo. Portugal and Holland each got millions of square miles. These countries have tropical territories. On the other hand you have Germany with none, Italy with practically none."

The house of commons rejected the proposal, however, passing instead an amendment expressing confidence that the national government is taking all practical steps possible for the promotion of international prosperity and a better understanding among all peoples.

WILHELM GUSTLOFF, Nazi leader in Switzerland, was assassinated in Davos by David Frankfurter, son of a rabbi and a native of Jugoslavia who told the police he acted on no one's orders and was not connected with any political group. The German government immediately sent to Switzerland a strong protest, stressing that Berlin has often warned the Swiss government of the "dangers of anti-Nazi agitation by the liberal and Marxist press." The net result of the murder is likely to be bad for the Jews, for they may find that Switzerland will not be the hospitable haven for refugees that it has been in the past.

To reduce the danger of clashes between Jews and militant Nazis, Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, German minister of propaganda, prohibited all meetings of Jewish cultural associations.

WHETHER an oil embargo against Italy could be made effective was the knotty problem confronting a League of Nations committee of experts that met in Geneva. About a dozen countries were represented, but Poland refused to take part on the ground that it exports no oil to Italy, but only to Czechoslovakia.

League authorities said the investigation into practical possibilities of enforcing an oil embargo against Italy, in addition to the present war penalties, was likely to center to a large degree on the attitude of the United States.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers

Moro—Sherman County Co-operative Grain Growers is installing a gasoline and oil plant to serve members and others, in the north end of the county.

Oregon City—The Clackamas county health unit has purchased a modern eye-testing instrument, which will be put in service in the schools of the county to test the eyes of pupils.

Medford—A total decrease of \$5403 in Jackson county taxes for the coming year as compared with 1935 is shown in the assessment rolls. The state and county levy is 15.7 mills.

Estacada—Taxpayers of Clackamas county are to pay this year \$1,820,542, as compared with \$1,701,782 last year. The assessed valuation of the county has decreased from \$35,335,956 to \$34,963,026.

Marshfield—The plea of young roller skaters of Marshfield for a place to be set aside on some smooth street for evening skating, safe from speeding automobiles, has been granted by the city council.

Ashland—Miss Lydia McCall, general delivery and stamp clerk of the Ashland postoffice, has retired, after 30 years' service, under provisions of the civil service retirement act. She was first appointed in 1905.

Moro—Indications are that about a dozen new diesel tractors will be pulling plows in Sherman county when work opens up in the spring. Cost of the new equipment will be between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

Lakeview—The 13th voting precinct here is known as Sink precinct. All state measures were sunk at the recent special election. The Sink district cast 13 votes against each state measure except sales tax and one extra vote was cast against it. There was not an affirmative vote cast.

Dayton—Despite the cool nights, evidence of spring is at hand. Migratory birds are returning, many California jays enjoying the Oregon sunshine in the libert orchards in this locality. Farmers are plowing and many patches of early potatoes, peas, onions, etc., for home use have been planted here.

The Dalles—W. Wray Lawrence, Wasco county agent, states that a good wheat yield is in prospect next summer if weather is average. The wheat is much smaller than usual at this season, and the roots less developed, due to the long drouth last fall. However, nearly six inches of moisture in January offset the previous dry spell.

Astoria—Abandonment of any attempt to carry on ill-fated fishing operations during the winter was announced by J. W. Anderson, manager of the Pacific Marine Products of Warrenton. It was indicated, however, that considerable activity can be expected this spring. Anderson's company, the Hovden company, Santa Cruz Oil company and probably one or two other companies will operate.

Burns—The digging of seven wells over the valley has caused much speculation, but Fred F. Burye, of the geological department, says they are for the observation of the probable volume of the underground water supply. The wells have been dug to a depth of from 12 to 45 feet, and each has been supplied with casing, recording instruments and a padlocked cover. Three of these wells have been sunk along the Hanley lane, two on the Burns-Crane highway, one near the Harney road not far from Frank Whiting's, and one on the experiment station.

Marshfield—May 31 is the date set for completion of the 5337-foot Coos Bay bridge, R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer, told 50 Marshfield residents at a dinner in honor of members of the highway commission. Baldock, with the commission, spent Thursday inspecting the structure and other coast bridges. Completion of the span will eliminate necessity of summer tourist traffic making use of the ferry, and will shove the opening date of the bridge up 90 days over schedule, Baldock said. Highway officials originally specified the span would be finished by August 28.

Sparkplug in Turkey's Craw
Bend—Turkeys show lightning speed in pursuing grasshoppers over the central Oregon range lands, and Mrs. Pauline Dyer, restaurant operator here, jocosely offered a reason. She displayed a three-inch-long sparkplug found in the craw of a turkey dressed in her eating place.

The Man Who Knows

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