



Our Washington Letter



National Editorial Association

Washington, June 6. — Congress must reach a decision within the next three days as to a recess and a summer session or an adjournment. Considerable apprehension has developed of late as to the outcome of the open conflict between the legislative body and the Chief Executive. As a consequence the enthusiasm to adjourn without regard to a balance of the books has been dulled and legislators are making a last-minute effort to set their house in order before the elections—the final judgment day with the people of voting age. The reaction from the home districts of members of Congress has not been to their liking and many are gravely concerned over their political future. It is apparent that those who put their party in voting on legislative measures must now render a personal accounting to the home folks.

In politics the spirit of change is always evident. However, a surprise package was handed to Congressmen from the Middle West in particular during the week with prominent Republican leaders putting candidates in the field against the present incumbents as a direct outcome of their votes to override the veto of the President on subsidy measures. These legislators heretofore, strongly entrenched as leaders in their communities, are now on the defensive and as state officers put it, "explanations or convincing alibis are in order." A similar protest has been made in Vermont and these movements are taken as favorable signs for the restoration of party responsibility. The legislators troubled over these changes of sentiment are now looking around for

the so-called "soldier vote" in their communities to justify their stand on the bonus.

In an effort to determine the sudden shift against Congressmen, the writer visited several representative communities in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Illinois last week. Interviews with the recognized spokesmen of both parties and weighed with the opinion of the "man on the street," brought the conclusion that the resentment against the Bonus bill was founded on the belief that it was the greatest deterrent to reduction in taxes. Some used the arguments that it was a "reflection upon the patriotism of the American soldier," that it was "an attempt to capture the class of vote of the support of former service men." The most sensible argument advanced covered the claim that many states had made provision for a bonus which was a direct tax on the citizens of that particular state and a national bonus could only be considered an unfair imposition in the form of a double-tax. There were Republicans and Democrats in these states who were absolutely sincere in their belief that "this recognition (the bonus) has long been due to those who sacrificed themselves while others reaped profits at home during the war." The Bonus bill is now a law and has met with general approval by former soldiers and their friends.

Organized labor is also giving Congress something to worry about with a demand for enactment of the Howell-Barkley bill calling for the abolition of the Railway Labor Board. The child labor amendment is another source of concern for

legislative leaders. The general proposition has been endorsed by the President but the difficulties center around the age limit for the employment of minors. Unless pressure is brought to bear this proposal will undoubtedly go over to the next session.

If Congress decides to close its activities for this year, the President will have an opportunity to exercise the "pocket veto" on important bills. The Postal Salary bill calling for additional expenditures of at least \$80,000,000 from the Treasury it is said, is slated for this fate as the Administration regards it as untimely in view of the universal demand for lower taxes which are made possible by economy in federal expenditures. The Salary bill gives increases to more than 350,000 postal employees averaging \$300 each. According to the opponents of the measure, it is designed purely as a "vote-catcher" during a campaign year and Congressmen have pledged their votes accordingly.

There are some who profess to note clever political strategy in attaching the Borah amendment to the postal bill requiring the publication of campaign contributions and expenditures. The story is current that legislators will "kill two birds with one stone," that is, vote increases to postal employees and attempt to set themselves right with the public by supporting a rider designed to "purify politics." Knowing the attitude of the President will bring a veto of the salary provisions, the amendment will pass out likewise and their conscience with the contribution issue will be satisfied.

Though President Coolidge mentioned the world court proposition in his Memorial Day address, it is expected that that proposal will be left to another Congress. Both parties are willing that the voters should discuss the issue before the

elections, as the question of international relations is something to handle with care.

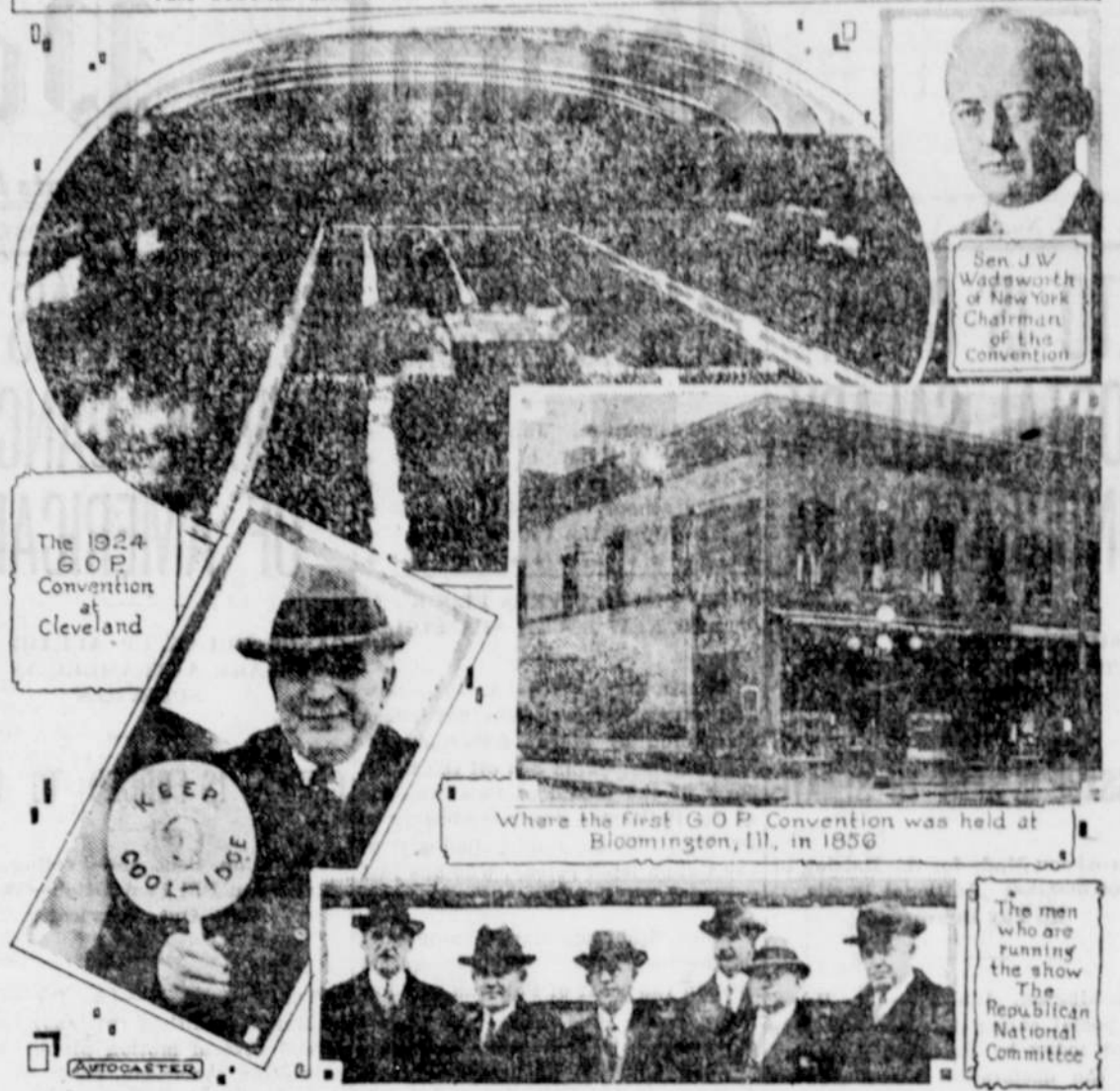
Scientific Interest in Excavations at Kish

In a letter to the London Times of January 22, Professor Langdon, writing from Mesopotamia, gives an account of the results to date of this season's excavations at Kish. Among an amount of pearl and limestone inlaid work discovered in a mound constructed entirely of plano-convex bricks, characteristic of the oldest Sumerian architecture, was a rectangular tablet of slate which shows a king of Kish smiting his Sumerian enemies. Their closely shaven heads, cheeks and upper lips, but long beards, indicate a date earlier than Ur-Lagash, c. 3100 B. C. Taken with other pearl heads found here, this disposes of the theory that the Semites occupied Kish in the prehistoric period. The discovery north of Inghara of two large Sumerian buildings in a state of complete preservation has made possible the preparation of the only known plan of a large Sumerian palace. Below the plano-convex brick pavement, which cannot be later than 3100 B. C., was an accumulated deposit of 15 feet, representing at least 1500 to 2000 years' previous occupation, and therefore going back to about 5000 B. C. A complete sequence of pottery from the earliest Sumerian period down to Nebuchadnezzar has been established, and a series of fine copper implements has been found. The general result of the excavations brings into prominence the enormous extent of the ruins, which, if grouped contiguously, would cover 120 acres, the very great antiquity of the site, and the priority of the Sumerians.

Curious Fish

There is a curious fish called the remora, which is one of the laziest creatures in the world. On the top of its head is a powerful sucker, by means of which it attaches itself to the underside of other fish, or even of boats. In this way it makes journeys of hundreds of miles without moving a fin.

All Roads Lead to Cleveland and G. O. P. Convention



Cleveland, O.—Politics rule Cleveland today with the G. O. P. Elephant in the star role. With the Republican National Committee on the scene; delegates and convention onlookers arriving hourly, it is a certainty the town will be jammed when the Convention convenes next Tuesday, June 10.

READ THE ADS. THEN BUY FROM THE HOME MERCHANTS

Million Americans Go to School of Water Safety

Men, Women and Children Crowding to Join New Kind of Army Waging War on Drowning Accidents Everywhere

POLICEMAN JACK BYRNES of Utica, N. Y., saved seven persons by forcing illuminating gas out of their lungs and pumping in fresh air. Byrnes the night before sat at a lecture on resuscitation and watched the American Red Cross lecturer demonstrate how to use the hands as pumping apparatus to start breathing that has been stopped by suffocation. One lecture plus an intelligent officer in this case preserved a whole family. At Allston, Mass., an ambulance surgeon put Policeman Rogers to work on a woman gas victim, and he had her breathing normally when she was carried into a hospital.

H. P. Midgley, freshman in Furman University, Greenville, S. C., brought his classmate, **H. H. Lott**, from the bottom of an eight-foot deep swimming pool. The university coach and another student started pumping operations, and Lott came through the experience safely and a life friend of Midgley, his preserver.

AMERICAN RED CROSS AND BOY SCOUTS LIFE-SAVING CAMPAIGN POSTER.



EXPERT RED CROSS LIFE-SAVER DEMONSTRATING THE BREAKING OF THE "DEATH CLUTCH"

Four boys, totally blind, students at an institution in Watertown, Mass., after seven lessons in the school swimming pool, passed the Red Cross life-savers' tests with an average of 92 per cent, amazing spectators with their stunts in diving and retrieving objects and their deftness in demonstrating the prone-pressure method of resuscitation.

In Gage County, in the extreme southwestern part of Nebraska, where the Big Blue River approaches its diminishing source, 232 adults and youths qualified as water-safety experts, organizing themselves into four corps of life savers.

Million Taking to Water

The Boy Scouts of America, over 600,000 strong, inaugurate this summer a nation-wide campaign for water safety, with "Every Scout a Swimmer" as their slogan. There are besides 200,000 "Lone Scouts" not attached to troops and about 140,000 men leaders, so that this movement will reach close to a million, with instruction that is not only based on self preservation, but on the rescue of others who may be in danger in the water and on the land.

Throughout the country there are today approximately 15,000 men, 9,800 women and 20,500 boys and girls who have qualified by passing the severe examination required to attain the right of proudly wearing the Red Cross emblem of a preserver of life.

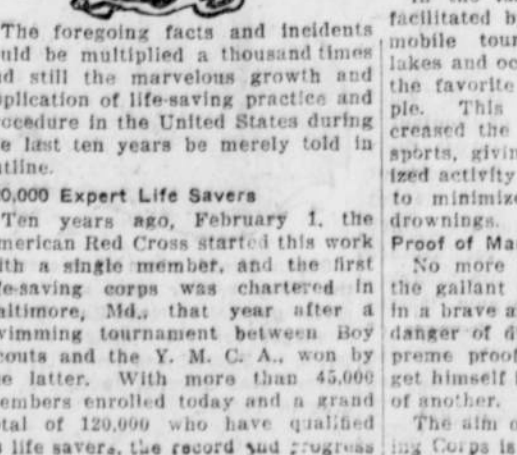
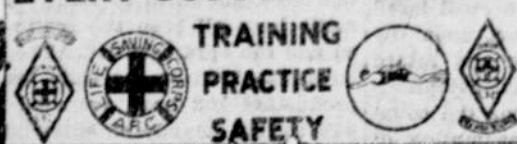
The foregoing facts and incidents could be multiplied a thousand times and still the marvelous growth and application of life-saving practice and procedure in the United States during the last ten years be merely told in outline.

120,000 Expert Life Savers

Ten years ago, February 1, the American Red Cross started this work with a single member, and the first life-saving corps was chartered in Baltimore, Md., that year after a swimming tournament between Boy Scouts and the Y. M. C. A., won by the latter. With more than 45,000 members enrolled today and a grand total of 120,000 who have qualified as life savers, the record and progress



EVERY SCOUT A SWIMMER



A TYPICAL RED CROSS LIFE-SAVING GROUP, TRENTON, N.J.



RED CROSS LIFE-SAVING CORPS PROVE THE PRONE PRESSURE METHOD OF RESUSCITATION.

able loss of life by drowning. Its program embraces widespread circulation of information on water safety; devising of systems of protection, prevention, rescue and resuscitation; organizing of local life-saving corps charged with definite patrol and instruction service; giving leadership to co-operating organizations that possess facilities for carrying on instruction in water-safety methods. This program has been developed soundly and steadily. Principles of accident prevention have been devised, systems of protection for bathers standardized, and a complete manual on water safety published.

Heavy Toll of Drownings. The development of a distinctively preventive service, the very opposite of the all-too-common method of waiting until disaster comes and then attempting to set up bars against repetition, is the practical example of a

Red Cross ideal expressed in its charter granted by Congress authorizing the society in time of peace to train its members to render humanitarian service in emergencies. Every year an appalling list of drownings marks the heavy toll of lost lives, usually of victims in the prime of youth. The distress in suffering brought into thousands of homes by the annual drownings is awakening the American people out of indifference toward these poignant losses, with the result that in all walks of life very industrial support is being accorded the life-saving program.

Recognized by Government.

Recognition after the years' experience which proved the soundness of the Red Cross purpose to carry out its work of prevention and preservation encourages the belief that in another ten years it will have grown tenfold. The Government has put its seal of approval upon life saving by using the course at the West Point Military Academy and the Annapolis Naval Academy, also by affording instruction under Red Cross experts at camps of the regular army, the reserve officers and the military training centers for civilians.

Men's and women's colleges and State universities, equipped with swimming pools, the summer camps of private schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., boys' clubs, high schools in large cities, athletic clubs and local organizations interested in general community safety measures, are actively supporting this service of training in water safety and life saving under Red Cross auspices in every State.

Army of Women Swimmers.

Women's aroused interest in water safety has mobilized an army of swimmers in girls' camps, playground swimming pools, women's colleges and various institutions moving forward to attain a practical accident-proof standard. It is a fact that in

this day of co-education the young women's all-around training is considered incomplete if swimming is not a part of their physical education.

Kansas City, Mo., offers an outstanding example. The 300 women experts organized into the Kansas City Corps volunteered to perform lifeguard and instruction duty so the city could maintain a public bathing resort where all the children might enjoy themselves in safety. It is the natural impulse of women to protect the children, which inspires the belief among life-saving authorities that the day is not far distant when America's children will learn to swim as naturally as they learn to walk.

Backed by Whole Country.

The future of life saving is bright with promise and the Red Cross looks hopefully to the time when every unprotected waterfront will have its corps of members expertly trained in rescue and resuscitation. The hearty aid of Red Cross Chapters in this aim is a great influence in carrying this service to the American people.

H. F. Enlow, National Director of Life Saving, says:

"The maintenance and development of the Red Cross Life-Saving Corps is a distinctly preventive service. It has justified itself through its accomplishments over the period of ten years. It is growing out of a sturdy infancy into a stalwart manhood that cannot be denied because it is the expression of common sense actions leading to the fullness of life. Nowhere it has been opposed; everywhere it has been enthusiastically accepted and endorsed. Its future is secure because life saving along water courses has been built upon a sound foundation, and its increasing structure is firmly laid in procedure and method tested in the crucible of practical experience. Every individual who will may freely take of this instruction—and that there are thousands upon thousands who do so will to learn is recorded in the history of the Red Cross Life-Saving Service covering the past decade."