

## Weekly News Analysis

# G.O.P. Keeps Election Promise, Drafts New Pension Measures

By Joseph W. La Bine

EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of the newspaper.

### Congress

As the U. S. becomes a nation of older men and women (caused by declining birth rate) federal-state support of the indigent aged is no longer a political football but has emerged as an acute problem recognized by Democrats and Republicans alike. The present social security setup was a New Deal inspiration, but 1937's recession proved even this revolutionary step was insufficient. This month almost every congressman converging on Washington carries a new plan in his portfolio, foreshadowing the most heated battle to confront the seventy-sixth congress.

Many Republicans would like to forget that 40 of their 81 new members were elected this year on promises to support the Townsend measure or bring the pension issue to a vote. But one who refuses to forget, and who will undoubtedly fire the opening gun in next month's pension argument, is Massachusetts' Rep. Allen T. Treadway. Ranking minority member of the house ways and means committee, he will embarrass his political partisans by offering a resolution for hearings on Townsendism.

When pension arguments are sifted down, Washington observers expect Townsendism to drop from the picture, to be followed by a clear-cut Democrat-vs-Republican debate on how social security shall be amended. In this argument the most surprising feature may be Republican support of a \$30-a-month federal old age contribution, featuring a 60-year age limit as against the present limit of 65 years. If states could equal the \$30 federal contribution, pensioners would then receive \$60 a month.

Where the federal government could raise \$30 a month, or where states could raise even less, is a moot problem. There are currently 1,656,700 persons on pension rolls, costing the U. S. about \$238,500,000 for the fiscal year. States pay \$250,129,000. This gives each of the 1,656,700 indigent an average of \$19. If all eligible persons were added to the rolls, the number would swell to more than 3,000,000. Since the U. S. is already using social security payroll taxes as fast as they come in, and since most states are unable to raise their \$15 monthly share for each pension, any plans to increase payments must be preceded by plans for financing the system.

While Republicans are attempting to iron out their pension program, the administration prepares to offer congress a sweeping plan for revising the present old age insurance system. Probable recommendations:

(1) Monthly payments to widows and dependent children of workers covered by social security, plus \$200



ANTHONY EDEN  
Mr. Chamberlain's successor?

he must either turn about-face (if it is not too late) or resign to be followed by Lord Baldwin or Mr. Eden.

**Memel.** Detached from German East Prussia by the Versailles treaty, later ceded to Lithuania, this 943-square-mile territory on the Baltic is being absorbed back into the Reich without consultation with—or protest from—the four guarantors of the Memel statute (Britain, France, Italy and Japan). Using "Sudetens" methods, Germany first provoked Memelites to cry for autonomy. Following a victorious plebiscite came the cry for "anschluss" (union) with the Reich. Although Hitler announced after the Munich treaty that he had no more European territorial claims, no one doubts his agents are behind the Memel coup.

**Ukraine.** While world attention has been focused on the Franco-Italian crisis (see below) Hitler has quietly but effectively begun agitation for his projected Ukraine republic, to be carved out of Poland and Russia. A Nazi-inspired autonomy move in the Polish Ukraine, the first step, is being correlated with activity of German agents in the Russian Ukraine. The latter step is especially well timed, since meager reports out of Moscow indicate the Soviet republic is weakened by internal strife. Not content to stop there, Hitler has opened negotiations with Persia and Afghanistan for German exploitation of oil and wheat lands. In the Balkans, Yugoslavia has practically renounced the little entente to follow pro-Nazi Premier Milan Stoyadinovich.

**France.** No observer believes the recent French-German treaty is worth anything, because the Reich has actually increased anti-French activity since it was signed. France has alliances with Poland and Russia, both of which have been ignored in Germany's Ukrainian drive. France dominates the little entente, which Hitler has defeated in Yugoslavia and is undermining in other Balkan countries. And—most important—France resents Germany's support of Italian demands for Tunisia, Corsica, Nice and Savoy. Current opinion holds that France will surprise Germany and Italy with a strong and unexpected resistance to these territorial demands. In the end, however, Italy may get partial control over the Suez canal and a share in French Somaliland, offering an outlet to the sea from Ethiopia.

### International

Any shift in world military power is invariably followed by economic changes. One of these is world trade, in which Great Britain finds her position threatened by aggressive Germany. Taking a thoroughly revolutionary position, England has now broadened her government trade insurance plan to safeguard exports of materials ordinarily refused as poor risks. Beginning January 1, the export credits department may incur liabilities up to \$375,000,000 instead of the present \$250,000,000. To cover special risk items, another \$50,000,000 has been set aside. The latter policy, incidentally, will facilitate shipment of war goods to China.

If this aggressive British position has caused Germany any worry, Berlin can rejoice in a \$17,000,000 barter deal with Mexico, under which she will buy oil in exchange for manufactured items. In this case, Germany's gain is Britain's loss, since London has almost completely severed diplomatic and trade relations with Mexico over exploitation of British-owned oil lands.



## WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

**U. S. Scribes Set Pace for British Boys**

NEW YORK.—In the pre-war years, about the only sure-enough newspaper man who covered Europe was Henri S. De Blowitz, the Bohemian who became a Frenchman and scooped the world with the full text of the treaty at the conference of Berlin, at the end of the Franco-Prussian war. Although he did this for the London Times, English journalists—distinctly that, rather than newspaper men—seemed to think it wasn't quite cricket and they went on wearing spats, carrying canes, and dodging leg-work. I remember citing to an English friend the De Blowitz book, published posthumously in 1903, in which he told how he got that beat on the treaty—an exciting newspaper yarn if there ever was one.

"Bit of a rotter, don't you think?" said the Englishman.

After the war, the English correspondents started shaking a leg, but, with all this Chauvinism loose in the world, we may boast that it was the American lads who set the pace. One press association and a few of our newspapers sent over to the big war some news beagles who began retrieving stories right under the nose of the morning coat scribes. They've been getting better all the time, and one of the bell-ringers is Frank Smothers of the Chicago Daily News, the tenth correspondent to be bounced out of Italy for faithful reporting in the last year.

Mr. Smothers was a fast-stepping and fast-thinking reporter in Chicago for nine years before he went to the Orient, as correspondent for the Chicago Daily News and the Boston Transcript. He was close in when the Japanese made their first grab for China and pegged home some of the best stories from that beat. In Italy, he made a similar record.

A keen analyst, as well as news-getter, he is one of a number of American foreign correspondents who have told the story of world catastrophe faster and better than any others at any place or time. He grew up in Roseville, Ill., and finished at the University of Wisconsin, after two years at Northwestern. He is 37 years old.

**George Rublee, 70 years old,** is beset with a thousand plans for taking care of European political refugees, as he heads the American efforts in this humane undertaking. His fame rests upon his achievements as an international lawyer, of the firm of Covington, Burling & Rublee, of Washington. He was a strong supporter and ally of the late Robert La Follette.

**Whenever they have had oil trouble anywhere in the Western hemisphere, they have sent for Mr. Rublee.** He has straightened out snarls over oil rights in Colombia, Mexico and other countries. He was a friend and associate of the late Dwight W. Morrow and helped him settle a number of oil and banking arguments in Mexico.

He is a native of Madison, Wis., and an alumnus of the Harvard law school. He began the practice of law at Chicago.

**THERE was a news story** the other day about a thwarted artist, who came through and had a glorious revenge on his thwarters. The Fine Arts Substitutes association, in behalf of teachers flunked by the New York board of examiners, gives an exhibition by which the public is to judge whether the board bopped them unjustly. Among the exhibitors is Max Weber, distinguished artist, represented in the Metropolitan museum, who was among those flunked by the board. With his picture goes a note to the board in which Mr. Weber tells what he thinks of it and cites his success as "proof of their incompetence."

**Mr. Weber, a native of Russia, here at the age of 19, was a modernist, so far out of bounds that the academicians would turn in a riot call whenever anybody mentioned his name.** He has been marked up more by the critics probably than any other man in America.

The turn in Mr. Weber's fortunes came in 1925, when a discerning New York Sun critic, among others, piped him up as a thoroughly competent artist. His pictures sell. He has a nice home at Great Neck, Long Island.

Consolidated News Features, WNU Service.

## FARM TOPICS

### TRIMMING CATTLE HOOFS MADE EASY

Device Permits Shaping of Foot While on Ground.

By Dr. George E. Taylor, Extension Dairyman, New Jersey College of Agriculture—WNU Service.

Modern equipment and improved technique have greatly reduced the hazards and difficulties of hoof trimming and proper care of the feet of dairy animals.

It has always been especially difficult to trim the feet on older bulls. Throwing an animal by means of ropes is difficult and there is danger of injuring the animal. There is a new device equipped with long handles which permit plenty of leverage.

The cutting edge is slightly curved and set at an angle that will permit easy trimming and shaping the hoof while the foot is resting on the ground in a normal manner. Both the sides as well as the toes can be shaped as desired in a minimum of time and effort. The animal should be placed on level ground or preferably on a cement floor in order that the hoof will contact the ground in a normal standing position.

If the hoof is rolled or turned over on the sides or toes, it may be necessary to shape the bottom of the hoof in addition. A sharp pair of snippers and a blacksmith knife may be used for this purpose. It is comparatively easy to pick up the front feet for trimming but handling the hind feet is more difficult. Cording the hind leg just above the hock with a small diameter rope will make the task of picking up the hind feet much easier. When the rope is tightly drawn the leg soon becomes numb and much easier to handle. If the animal starts to fight when the cord is first placed around the leg, permit the animal to step around a few minutes before attempting to raise the hoof from the ground.

### Good Grading Bench Is Aid to Poultry Farmer

The grading and packing of eggs is a pleasant task on the poultry farm equipped with a grading bench, an egg scale and egg candler.

Many farms have egg scales and candlers, but it is surprising how few have grading benches. Without this important piece of equipment, notes a writer in the Philadelphia Inquirer, egg grading and packing is a back-breaking practice which is not conducive to efficient work. A convenient and easily constructed bench can be made, however, at very little expense.

The table top should be six feet long, 26 inches wide and 25 inches from the floor. The height will depend on the size of the person doing the grading.

Its height should be such that the top of an egg case placed on the table will be at the waistline of the operator. A shelf 12 inches wide and 24 inches above the top of the bench would be very handy for scales, fillers, nails and other articles.

### Floor for Pig Pen

Plank floors of any kind are not recommended for piggeries due to the fact that it is difficult to keep such floors in a sanitary condition. The best flooring material for piggeries is concrete, though a sleeping bed in one corner of the pen is usually covered with planks as such a bed is warmer than a concrete surface for the pigs to lie on, advises an authority in the Montreal Herald. Birch or other hard wood planks would be satisfactory for use for sleeping beds on concrete provided they are kept dry, but if allowed to get wet, pine, cedar or other lumber from coniferous trees would be better.

### Slips in Caponizing

Caponizing is usually accomplished by the use of a fine wire snare or forceps, of which there are a number of types, including one using an electric current. The operation itself is one requiring practice and skill to avoid the production of "slips," or incomplete removals of the organs and the consequent failure to secure the wanted results in the growth and character of the bird. A certain percentage of slips is to be expected, even at the hands of skilled operators and the losses thus suffered must be charged to production costs. The operation is best learned by watching a good operator and practicing upon a dead bird.

### Record Lamb Crop

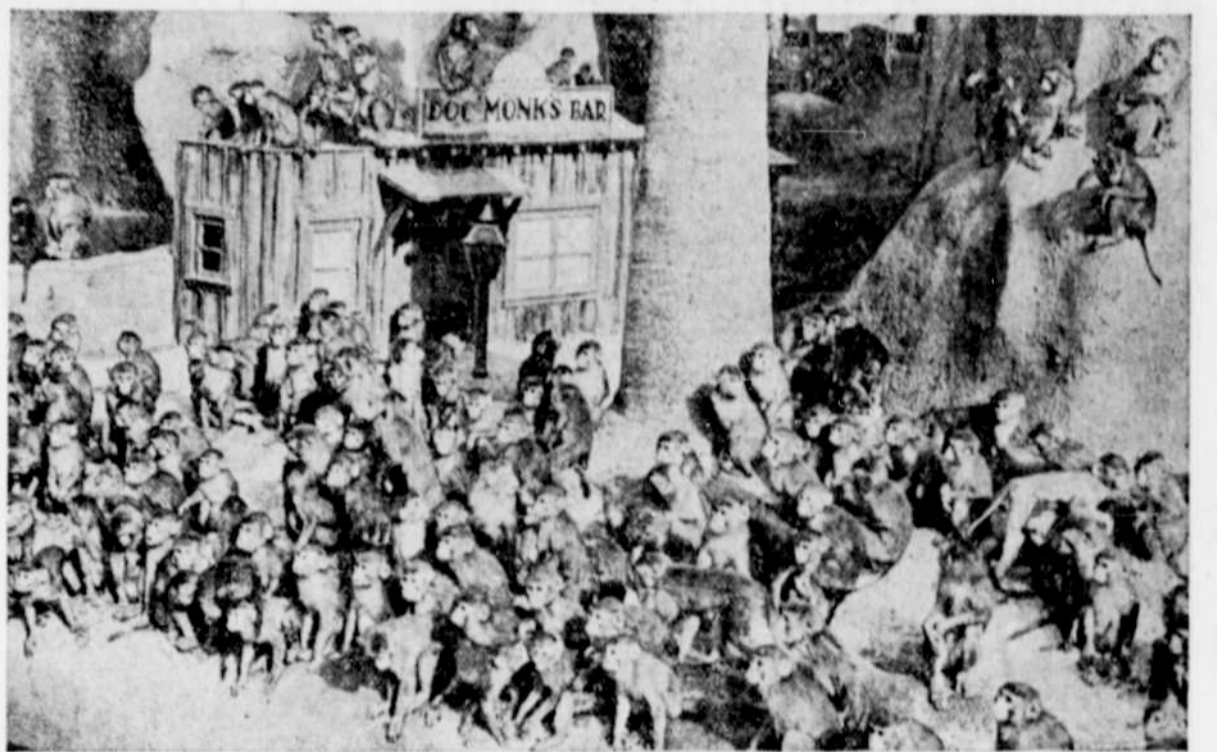
The largest lamb crop on record was reported by the United States bureau of agricultural economics when the 1938 crop was estimated at 32,221,000 head. This year's production is about 5 per cent larger than in 1937, about two million head or nearly 7 per cent greater than the five year (1933-1937) average, and 606,000 head larger than the previous record crop of 1931. The increase from last year was a result of the larger crop in the West.

## Jewish Children Await Adoption by British Families



Two hundred German-Jewish refugee children are as happy as they can be under the present circumstances. Pictured at the Dovercourt bay holiday camp, Harwich, England, shortly after their recent arrival from Germany, they await adoption by British families. They range in age from 12 to 17 years.

## 'Bar' Is Popular Spot in Hollywood's Monkey Town



No bars or cages obstruct the view of visitors at Hollywood's Monkey island, where 535 monkeys, imported from India, hold open house every day. Beneath the artificial mountains on the "tropical island," the monkeys have their "dormitories," with special heating devices. Around the island is a 15-foot moat, containing clear, circulating water. The Monkey club bar is a popular rendezvous for John Monk.

## From New York to Florida via Canoe



Frank Murphy, with a typical Irish grin, threw away his map after arriving in Miami, Fla., after a 1,500-mile trip from New York via the inland water route. The three-months' trip cost him \$40, and was made in an 18-foot canoe equipped with a four-foot mast and three square yards of sail.

## BADMINTON CHAMP



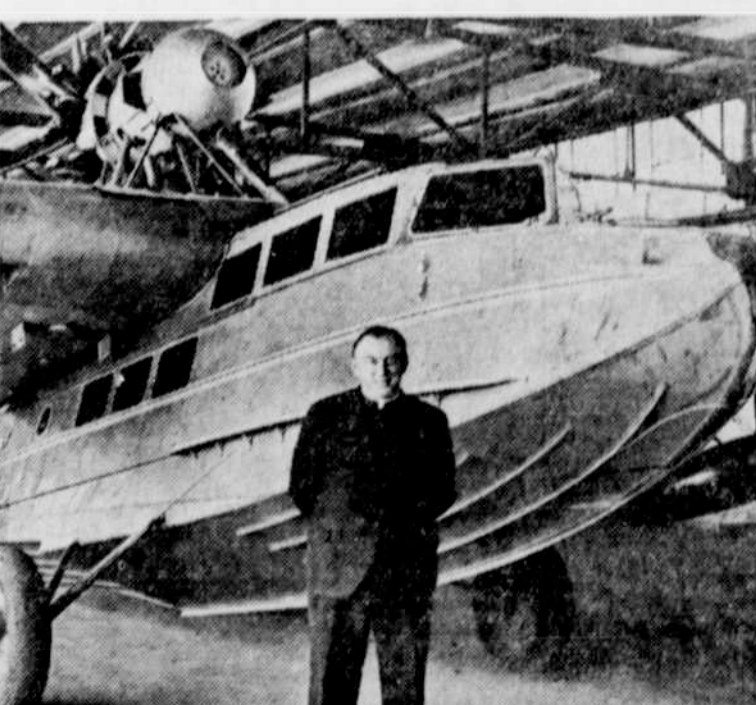
In addition to other badminton honors, Mrs. Del Barkhoff of Seattle is the present national championship title holder. For her coming tours in defense of her titles in Spokane, Los Angeles and New York, she will travel 10,000 miles.

## MODERN TRAVELER



A very modern miss is Beverly Anne Barneburg, four-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Barneburg of Boston, who recently boarded an American Airlines plane for San Antonio where she visited her grandmother.

## Arctic Priest Takes Church With Him



Completely equipped with an altar, this new Fokker amphibian plane will carry Reverend Paul Schulte back to the Arctic, where he is known as the "Flying Priest." Long a missionary in the north country, Father Schulte returned to the United States to purchase the new plane.

See Remains of Prehistoric City  
Remains of a prehistoric lake city may be seen in the waters near Geneva, Switzerland.