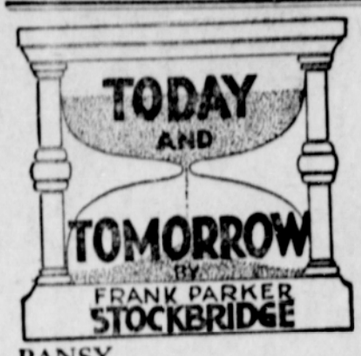
CENTRAL POINT STAR

VOLUME THREE | FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1930 | NUMBER 5



PANSY

To thousands of middle-aged and elderly Americans the news of the death of Mrs. Isabella M. Alden will come as a surprise that she should have lived so long, and will cause many a sigh of regret at the snapping of another link with the irreclaimable past.

Under the pen-name of "Pansy" Mrs. Alden wrote more than 120 books, which were enormously popular in the 1870's and, indeed, down to the beginning of the present century. She was born in 1841, and before 1850, more than eighty years ago, her first story had been published! The wife of a minister, all of her books were of a distinctly religious cast. Her most popular series, the "Esther Reid" books for girls and young women, sold into the millions. It was largely through Mrs. Alden's writings that the Chautauqua educational movement gained its great popularity.

I know of few persons who have lived such useful lives and none who spent so many years in one vocation.

POPULATION

The total number of inhabitants of the United States is 122,728,873, according the Census final figures. That was the count on April 1, 1930, and covers on Continental United States. Adding Alaska, the Philippines, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Virgin Islands, the total number of persons under the United States flag is 137,501,561.

There are but three other governments in the world under which so many people live. They are China, Russia and India. The total population of the British Commonwealth of Nations is, of course, larger, but none of the Dominions—Australia, Canada, the Union of South Africa and the rest—nor even England and Scotland together, has anywhere near as many people as we have.

And we are still growing. The 1930 figures are seventeen million higher than the 1920 count, the largest ten-year increase in our history.

ALICE

My guess is that the winner in a national referendum on the most popular woman in America would be Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, wife of the Speaker of the House and daughter of Theodore Roosevelt.

She knows more about politics, the inside working of affairs, than any other woman in America, in all probability. She never makes speeches, which may be one of the reasons why everybody thinks well of her. Her most intimate friend is Mrs. Ruth Hanna McCormick, who is running for Senator from Illinois and in whose campaign Mrs. Longworth is helping. They have been intimates from girlhood, when Alice's father lived in the White House and Ruth's father was United States Senator from Ohio.

BIRTHS

Twenty-four hundred and eighty babies were born in New York City in the last week of July. In the same week only 1,205 persons died in the city. If the same ratio of births to deaths continue through the year and prevailed all over the country, our population would soon grow so large that we could not support it.

As a matter of fact, the national birthrate in the United States is rapidly approaching the death rate. The proportion is now about 20 deaths to every 23 births.

A century and a half ago an English clergyman named Malthus wrote a learned essay in which he calculated that the pressure of population upon the means of subsistence would make it impossible for all the people on earth in the 20th century—now—to get food enough to eat. The Malthusian theory was taken seriously by many economists until recently. But, somehow, it isn't working out. Right now we have a surplus of most foodstuffs, and the birthrate is still declining.

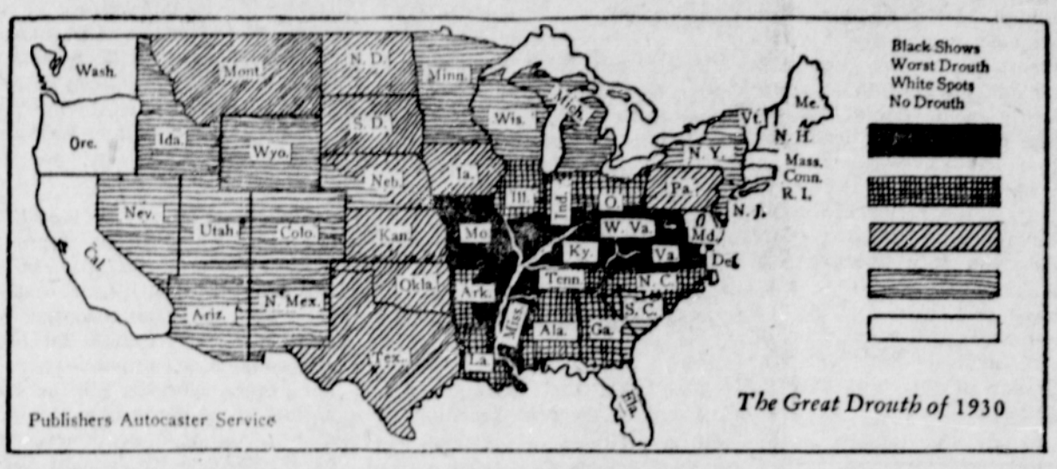
DROUGHT

If mankind ever learns how to forecast the weather for even a few weeks ahead, it will mark the beginning of our final victory over Nature. But so long as we are at the mercy of the weather we can hardly say that we have conquered our environment.

The drought of 1930, extending throughout the Middle West and the South, is the severest in 30 years. Last year the Northeast and the Northwest suffered from lack of rain, but without serious economic consequences. This year the wheat and corn belts are the victims, with greatly reduced crops as a result.

The compensation lies in the larger market for wheat, as a subsitute for corn for cattle feeding, and higher prices for both grains because of the short supply.

Drouth of 1930 Most Serious in History



Publishers Autocaster Service

The Great Drouth of 1930

No Similar Calamity Has Been So Widespread Or Done So Much Damage

The Great Drouth of 1930 will go down in history as one of the most serious calamities which ever befell the United States.

As this is written, there has been no rainfall, or none of consequence in an area which covers nearly one-third of the United States for weeks. There was less than half the normal rainfall for months before that. Last winter was a dry one. Indeed, since December the greater part of the United States has received less than half of its normal share of rain.

It makes little difference in some important regions whether rain comes now or not. The damage has been done.

Dr. Marvin, Chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau, says:

"This is unquestionably the worst drouth in the history of the Weather Bureau, and the Bureau is sixty years old."

Never before has a drouth assumed such serious proportions as to stir the whole nation to relief efforts.

In regions where pastures have been burned up, water sources have gone dry and crops have failed utterly, the Red Cross is beginning active relief work.; President Hoover and the Farm Board have authorized the extension of Government credit to farmers in the stricken regions on the most liberal terms. The Interstate Commerce Commission has authorized reduced freight rates on livestock and cattle feed. The President has appointed a relief commission which will do what can humanly be done to alleviate distriess, for in some parts of the Mississippi Valley farmer people are actually on the verge of starvation because of the loss of all their crops and their livestock because of the dry weather.

The year 1930 will be known, as one Washington correspondent put it, as "the year when the Kentucky Blue Grass turned white."

Nobody is able yet to estimate the total loss to agriculture in dollars, but it will run into the hundreds of millions. The corn crop is so seriously damaged that in that one commodity alone the loss may run to a half a billion.

Nobody knows precisely what caused the drouth. It is due, of course, to lack of rainfall. but why didn't the rain fall normally in the stricken sections, not only this Summer but last Winter and Spring? The weather bureau sharps can't answer that question. They can only point to the record of what happened.

Added to the lack of rain, or because of it, extremely high temperatures have been experienced all Summer in the country east of the Rocky Mountains.

Daytime temperatures especially were exceedingly high, with 100 degrees or higher reported from sections east of the Rocky Mountains on every day of the month from the 4th to its close. The daily maximum averaged from 94 to 98 degrees in the central and northern portions of Alabama and Mississippi Northern Louisiana, Western Tennesee, the lower Ohio Valley, Arkansas and the greater portions of Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. The highest temperatures occured the last few days of the month, when Kansas northward reported 106 to 108 degrees.

Everywhere rivers, creeks and brooks are dried up or running extremely low. There is a scarcity of water for live stock and domestic uses. In the worst affected zones cattle are dying for lack of water and pasturage. In others the stockmen, anticipating what may be ahead, are selling their herds at sacrifices. In large sectors of the Eastern orchard belts, the fruit is burned to a crisp and useless for any purpose. Hay and other pasturage crops are affected and corn has sufered marked deterioriation. The damage involves every state in which the raising of grain is a principal industry.

The part of the country hit hardest is the Mississippi Valley. This area comprises Western West Virginia, Southern Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, Eastern Missouri and Arkansas, Western Tennessee and Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana. The area is increasing and a situation almost as serious now exists in Oklahoma, Eastern Texas, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska and the remaining States in which the drouth first assumed grave proportions. Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, North Carolina and Alabama face a serious situation, as do the States on the eastern slopes of the Rockies. Minnesota, Wisconsin, New England, New York and the Pacific Coast states are the only sections in which conditions described as seminormal still exist. A phenomenon is the case of Florida and Georgia. Neither has been seriously affected.

The grain crops, with the exception of corn, have escaped the heat. Those crops were ready for the harvest before the drouth became serious. The major damae affects corn, cotton, fruits, hay and live stock. That ruin is facing vast numbers of farmers is certain.

One source of worry arises from the fact of burn-up pastures. Many ranchmen are said already to be feeding the hay usually reserved for winter feed. While the early forage crops were abundant they can only go so far toward supplementing the lack of pasturage.

With packers' storage plants said to be glutted with beef, and cattle prices lower than they have been for some years, the market is in no condition to stand heavy runs —shipped because of the inability to feed them on the farm or ranch.

With swine it is different. Pigs mature quickly and the feeder can adjust his crops to his feed supply.

Advancing prices will bring some compensation for the losses caused by nature, but the experience of the Corn Belt has been that no rise in prices can quite compensate for loss of a crop.

SAMBO'S PHILOSOPHY

"Some folkces nevah thinks 'bout savin' up fo' a rainy day 'til hit gits black, an' begins to thundah."

FIRE DAMAGED PROPERTY DWNED BY SAM KOHLER

A fire Monday afternoon completly destroyed the garage and wood shed and did considerable damage to the house owned by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kohler. All furniture and household goods were saved. The volunteer fire department are to be complimented on their very efficient work when the fire broke out. Mr. Kohler was in Medford and Mr. Kohler and daughter were in Ashland. They were notified by phone and arrived home soon after.

ALFALFA FROM COUNTY QUARANTINED FOR WEEVIL

There is a complaint from Grants Pass, and eminating from the office of the county agent of that county about the shipping of alfalfa from this county thru Josephine county. Mr. Howell, county agent stated that Jackson county alfalfa is banned from his county due to the prevalence of weevil and he has been forced to bring several lawbreakers into court on charges of having broken quarantine. In Oregon there are three infested counties, two eastern counties and Jackson. How the pest got into the local fields, is only a matter of conjecture but the fact that it is here is working a hardship upon the growers due to the fact that all hay must be consumed at home.

The weevil first made its appearance in the west in Utah and since its discovery it has spread over several states and as yet methods for its eradication are indefinite as no real satisfactory method of control has been discovered.

Mr. Howell informs us that the people of this section will do well not to haul any alfalfa hay into Josephine county as ignorance is not considered a good excuse for the disobedience of the quarantine rules.

IN the RADIO STUDIOES SHE STOPPED

Henry Burbig, Columbia comedian, was clowning on a recent broadcast.

"Will the little girl out in Ohio please stop biting her nails?" he said.

One of the hostesses at WOK, Cleveland, who was actually biting her nails at the time hasn't bitten one since!

LUCKY 13

Phil Lord, otherwise Seth Parker of the National network, is superstitious about number 13 but it means good luck to him. He was born on July 13 and there are 13 letters in his name—Phillips H. Lord. His first appearance on the air was on July 13, 1928. There are 13 members of the cast in "Sunday Night at Seth Parker's. His contract for his latest program, "Uncle Abe and David" was signed on Friday, June 13. And now he appears 13 times each week, twice each night except Sunday in "Uncle Abe and David" and once each Sunday nigth as Seth Parker!

FIFTY FOR THE STEIN SONG—

The most popular piece of music in the United States at the present writing is the Stein Song, which was written twenty years ago. The story goes that years ago the Universit yof Maine sought to purchase the rights to it. Carl Fisher offered to sell the plates for fifty dollars, but the school authorities thought the price too high. Now the music house is reaping a fortune from the sales of the aged melody.

And in case you might wonder how it is that that song became popular overnight I'll let you in on some inside information. It seems that the National Broadcasting System wanted to find out if they could "make" a song popular by continual and continuouos playing over the air or what they call "plugging a song." Accordingly, they selected the Maine Stein song for its inherent qualities of melody and told Rudy Vallee to reintroduce the song and to "plug" it. And the word was sent right down the line of NBC orchestras that no program would be considered complete unless it included at least one rendition of the Stein Song. So now you folks know why the most popular song of this dry country is the Stein Song?

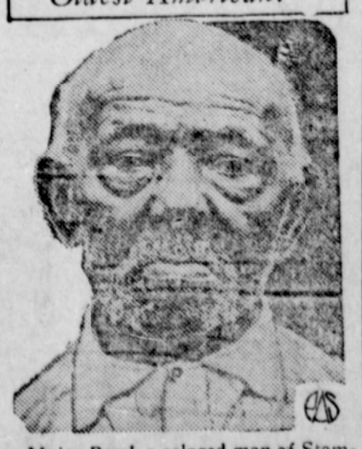
DID YOU KNOW THAT—

Tay Knight, NBC production expert, is back from his vacation in Mexico with a pocket full of notes on the proper sound effects for a bull fight, and a case of ptomaine poisoning!

To get the sound effect of a driving rain of a metal roof, nothing has been found better than split peas jiggled in a couple of tin cans.

Godfrey Ludlow, NBC violinist, estimates that it would require over 100 years of concert work to play to as many people as he reaches in a single night through the medium of radio!

Oldest American?



Major Bond, a colored man of Stamford, Conn., claiming to be 115 years old, is the oldest person discovered by the census enumerators.

New Features Will Be Seen At County Fair

Plans for the annual Jackson county fair, which will open Wednesday,, September 10, are moving forward with increased momentum with novel features never before witnessed in southern Oregon, promised in the program forecasts released by County Agent R. G. Fowler, manager of the fair.

Leading the amusement list announced today are the performances to be staged by the Hitt Fireworks company which will present an outdoor showing of the thrilling war film, "Over the Top." While the moving picture is showing, the actual pyrotechnic effect to simulate it will be electrically fired at the same instant. The picture will be punctuated with realistic bombardments and flashes.

Among the scenes will be a fight between an American airplane and a German Zeppelin. This picture is the newest form of talkie and will be accompanied by an actual assemblage of heavy artillery.

Present indications also point to the best horse racing program ever held on the local track, Mr. Fowler stated this morning. Horses are being entered from San Francisco to the Canadian line.

The stock barns will be filled to capacity and many owners have been refused the privilege of entering their animals due to Limited space. The owner of a nationally known Guernsey herd has applied to the committee for entrance as well as owners of several beef herds in California. These applications are proof of the reputation the Jackson county fair has achieved in other sections and are enthusiastically received by local fair workers, whose only regret is that they are unable to grant out of state stockmen space for exhibiting at the Jackson county grounds.

Lights "Hubby" Home

Only the female lightning bug makes light. The male is not equipped with any illuminating power. He has the habit of going out nights, however, so the female has had to make use of her ability to make part of her body shine with a sort of phosphorous green light in order to show him the way home.

Seventeen-year old Dorothy Dell Goff of New Orleans, winner of the international beauty contest held at Galveston.