

Review of the History-Making Events of the World

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

© Western Newspaper Union

Decline in Relief Rolls Predicted by Hopkins

IN HIS first press conference since the Presidential election Harry L. Hopkins, works progress administrator, asserted his belief that relief rolls this winter would be at the lowest point since the start of the depression.

He estimated that 3,750,000 families and single persons would be receiving federal and local aid January 1, 1937, compared to a peak of 5,316,000 in January, 1935.

"I think," Hopkins said confidently, "that we will go into January of this year caring for 1,000,000 less cases than a year ago and a reduction of about 1,500,000 from 1935."

The administrator's attention was called to the fact that latest figures showed that 3,493,012 persons were employed the first two weeks of October, an increase of 29,026 over the preceding half month. He explained this by pointing out that the drought in the Midwest added 32,831 destitute farmers to his WPA project list.

Steel Workers Ask for Legislation

FIRST of the big groups that aided in the re-election of President Roosevelt to call on him for their reward, the steel workers have asked that the Chief Executive recommend to the next congress the passage of legislation outlawing company unions and forbidding coercion of workers by employers. George A. Patterson and Elmer J. Malol, employee representatives of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel company, carried this request to the White House.

The Carnegie-Illinois company has offered employees a 10 per cent wage increase on condition that workers sign an agreement to permit adjustment of wages to the cost of living. At his press conference President Roosevelt said living costs should not be permitted to operate to curb wage increases. Furthermore, Secretary of Labor Perkins ruled informally that the employee representatives had no authority to sign such an agreement for their fellow employees.

Labor Board Dissolves Harvester Council Plan

EMPLOYER corporations were hit by a ruling of the National Labor Relations board ordering the dissolution of the "industrial council plan" of the International Harvester company at the plant in Fort Wayne, Ind.

While the ruling dealt only with the Indiana plant, the board pointed out that the same plan also exists in the other 14 Harvester plants in the United States and Canada. It sets a precedent also for future decisions in regard to similar plans in other manufacturing plants throughout the country.

The industrial council of the Harvester company is an illegal labor organization under the terms of the National Labor Relations act, the board ruled. Under it the employees possess "only the shadow, not the substance, of collective bargaining," according to the decision. Numerous benefits conferred on the employees under the plan are admitted but the board says most of them "are granted in the form of paternalism."

A. F. of L. Council's Report on Social Security Act

WHEN the American Federation of Labor's annual convention opened in Tampa it had before it the report of the executive council dealing with, among many other topics, the social security act. The report heartily approved of a federal social security program and

urged adoption of state laws that would give labor the greatest possible benefit from the federal statute. If the federal law is unconstitutional, the council said, "it is clear that its provisions must be changed or that sanction must be afforded to them through an amendment to the constitution."

The council questioned the wisdom of obtaining the necessary funds through a payroll tax "which to a great extent is to be paid directly or indirectly by the workers involved" and suggested that congress repeal this feature of the law as soon as it convenes.

In discussing unemployment since NRA's end, the council said:

"The shorter work week and the six hour day furnish the real solution to the insistent problem of unemployment. It is the responsibility that private industry must accept in order to give the necessary balance to economic expansion."

The council reported a membership of 3,422,398 on August 31—the greatest since 1921.

The council dismissed John L. Lewis' epochal rebellion with a detailed factual account of its progress during the last year. "Appropriate action" was suggested.

George L. Berry, national co-ordinator for industrial recovery and president of the Printing Pressmen's union, proposed that the controversy with Lewis and his C. I. O. group be ended by arbitration, but this was rejected by President Green and other federation leaders. John P. Frey lost no time in introducing his resolution for expulsion of the rebel unions with their membership of over a million.

Year's Breathing Spell Likely for Farmers

SECRETARY of Agriculture Wallace in an interview intimates that for a year there may be no new legislation for crop control along the lines of the outlawed AAA, for farmers would like to have one really good crop without forced curtailment. But he added: "We will need some legislation eventually unless the weather changes or the world demand for our products greatly improves."

Wallace was asked whether the lack of a control plan might not result in another surplus, leaving the administration up in the air without any machinery to cope with it. He said he could not estimate a surplus ahead of time and that he would rather wait to see what would happen.

"It may be possible to find a solution that will prove better than the AAA or the soil conservation act," he said.

President Starts on His Ocean Cruise

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT went by train to Charleston, S. C., to board the cruiser Indianapolis for a jaunt in southern waters. He said he was not certain where the ship would take him, but in Washington it was assumed that he would proceed at once for Buenos Aires to attend the opening of the Pan-American peace conference on December 1. In that case he will make stops at Port of Spain, Rio de Janeiro and Montevideo, and will not return before December 15. If his plans are changed, he will merely spend two or three weeks fishing in the Caribbean.

At his last press conference before departing the President said he had about completed drafting the 1937 budget. He said also that he had outlined to his subordinates the things he wants done during his absence, these including:

Drafting of a farm tenancy law to end evils attending the system of share-cropping and farm tenancy,

now chiefly prevalent in the South.

Clarifying amendments to the social security act.

Amendments to the Tennessee Valley Authority act, permitting broader social and economic improvement of the regions served by the TVA's huge power projects.

Beck of Poland Fixes Things With England

COL. JOSEF BECK, foreign minister of Poland, concluded his visit to London and departed with assurances of Great Britain's friendliness and desire to co-operate with Poland in its contest against Nazi intrigues, especially in relation to the Free City of Danzig. Foreign Minister Eden talked with Colonel Beck for three days and was told by him that Poland would reject the overtures of both Moscow and Berlin and work for the same neutrality in eastern Europe that Belgium intends to maintain in the west.

One feature of Poland's celebration of its independence day was the bestowal of a baton on Gen. Edward Rydz-Smigley, making him the fourth marshal in the revived nation's history. He thus succeeds the late Marshal Josef Pilsudsky and is regarded by many as the new military dictator of Poland. President Moscicki presented the baton during an imposing ceremony in the courtyard of Warsaw castle.

Hitler Scraps Another Treaty Clause

A DOLF HITLER has torn up another clause of the Versailles treaty—the one that internationalized the German rivers and canals. He has announced that the reich has resumed sovereignty over all such waters. The treaty clause was designed partly to give Czechoslovakia free access to the sea, and that nation now has agreed with Belgium to protest formally against Germany's action. British Foreign Minister Eden rather mildly criticized Hitler's course.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., to Marry Ethel du Pont

THE engagement of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., third son of President and Mrs. Roosevelt, to Miss Ethel du Pont of Wilmington, Del., was announced by the young lady's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene du Pont. There had been rumors of this romance for months, but announcement was delayed until after the election. The wedding will be in June after Mr. Roosevelt's graduation from Harvard, and will be a quiet affair. Miss du Pont's father is a member of the board of directors of the E. I. du Pont de Nemours company. She is a niece of Lamont du Pont, president of the company; of Pierre S. du Pont, chairman of the board, and of Irene du Pont, another director of the board. She was presented to society on June 27 last.

President Leads in the Armistice Day Doings

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT led the nation in observance of Armistice day by going to Arlington National cemetery and laying a wreath of chrysanthemums beside the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The ceremony was quiet and simple. General Pershing, commander of the American expeditionary forces, and Secretary of the Navy Swanson stood by the President's side and a small detachment of soldiers, sailors and marines was present. General Pershing also placed a wreath at the tomb, and all stood bare headed as "taps" was sounded precisely at 11 o'clock eighteen years after the guns ceased firing on the western front in France.

Everywhere in the United States and in all the allied countries the anniversary was suitably observed, and in Poland the day was one of especial rejoicing for it is regarded as the birthday of that re-born nation.

An ironical note came from Geneva where the League of Nations announced that 5,200,000 men are now permanently under arms throughout the world. Of this total 545,000 are attached to world navies.

The league calculations show that men under arms throughout the world war numbered 5,900,000, not counting naval units. The figures released show that since 1931-'32 world armies have increased 1,700,000 men. In Europe total armed forces are now 4,800,000, compared with 3,600,000 in 1931-'32.

Loyalists Defend Madrid With Desperation

LOYALIST defenders of Madrid, reinforced by troops from the southeast and apparently supplied with airplanes and tanks from Russia, put up unexpected resistance to the furious attacks of the Fascists, delaying the capture of the capital. The insurgents sent many planes to rain bombs on the city and there were dramatic battles in the air as well as on land. The attackers at one time smashed the defending lines at the Los Franceses bridge and forced their way across the Manzanares river and into the northwest quarter of Madrid, but probably retired, for the loyalists dynamited the bridge and captured several rebel tanks. The new supreme defense council in the capital, taking charge when the president and other government officials fled to Valencia, was reported to be functioning smoothly and was confident of victory.

Clark Howell, Eminent Editor, Is Dead

CLARK HOWELL, editor and president of the Atlanta Constitution and one of the best known journalists in the United States, died at his home in Atlanta, at the age of seventy-three after a long illness. He was one of the original directors of the Associated Press. He was elected to the position at the time of its incorporation in 1909 and held it at the time of his death.

Always active in state and national politics, Mr. Howell was a pioneer in the formation of "Roosevelt for President" clubs. He was offered his choice of several diplomatic posts in 1933 but declined, saying he felt he could better serve the President and the nation as publisher of the Constitution. He was at various times a member of temporary national commissions, but in the main devoted his time to his journalistic labors. A few years ago the Constitution won the Pulitzer prize for "meritorious service" in exposing political conditions in Atlanta.

San Francisco's Bridge Formally Opened

SAN FRANCISCO'S dream of 30 years was realized when the great bridge across the bay of Oakland was formally opened with elaborate ceremony. The largest vehicular bridge in the world has been under construction since July 19, 1933, at a cost of \$77,000,000, the funds being largely supplied by the Reconstruction Finance corporation. It is eight and a quarter miles long and, except for a tunnel passage through Yerba Buena island, is entirely over water.

Government Buys 9 Million Acres of Poor Farm Land

REXFORD G. TUGWELL, Resettlement administrator, announced that the government had acquired more than nine million acres of land considered unsuitable for crop production, and he added that it should buy ten times as much. The Resettlement administration is committed to pay \$39,916,603 for the land, under option in 210 different projects in 41 states

at an average price of \$19.00 an acre.

These acres, Tugwell said, "not support human subsistence when used as they have been, but are being restored to pasture, forestry, recreation, and other uses for which they were naturally fitted."

Tugwell reported 1,478 families still residing on the tract "rescued" and in resettling. More than 2,000 families already have been moved, it was disclosed, and others found new homes elsewhere.

Belgium Asks Specific Pledge From League

WITH embarrassing directness Belgium has demanded of the League of Nations be specific on what help an attacked nation "could count on." It is the demand for clarification of the league covenant, particularly the article applying to sanctions against an aggressor. Efforts to prevent war should be emphasized, Belgium said, and sanctions against countries which endanger peace should be imposed.

In a recent speech to parliament intended to clarify a point addressed by King Leopold, French Minister Spaak said his country would assure both Germany and France that Belgium over no becoming the jumping off place for attack on the territory of either power.

Secretary Roper Plans Census of Jobless

NOW that the election is over, Secretary of Commerce Henry C. Wallace is laying plans for the census of the unemployed in the United States which has so long been called for. He said he would ask congress to appropriate between 12 and 15 million dollars for this count and that it would require the services of about 25,000 persons who would be given special training for several months.

"The census would not only take up an enormous task, but it would also take up an enormous task," said Roper, "but we want to know which trades or industries the unemployed would fall into. We also like to help the states in classifying the unemployed from the employable."

"There are many economic conditions involved. Some families have enough income to support them, but one or more members may be unemployed. We want to obtain information on this phase."

Standley to Be New Chief of Naval Operations

WHEN Admiral William D. Leahy retires on January 1 from the post of chief of naval operations, it will be filled by Standley. This selection by the President was announced in Washington. Half a dozen other high officers of the navy will be advanced when the change occurs.

It was also announced that Gen. John H. Russell, commander of the marine corps, would be succeeded in that post when he retires from active service December 1. Brig. Gen. Thomas Holcomb, latter will be elevated to the rank of major general of marines.

Dr. E. E. Day Is Elected President of Cornell

CORNELL university at Ithaca, N. Y., is to have a new president the person of Dr. Edmund E. Day, an internationally known scientist and economist. He will assume office June 30 next on the retirement of Dr. Livingston Farrand, a graduate of Dartmouth and taught there and at Harvard and University of Michigan.