

OBSERVATIONS

Grist from the Daily Grind

By C. P. S.

Tough Chickens The Chinese holding the forts in the Shanghai district seem to be tougher than we thought them.

Now it appears quite possible that the Japanese will have to bring a considerable army to Shanghai if they are to drive the Chinese back twenty miles, as they proposed to do.

Canal On Way Now that the Imperial Irrigation district has by an overwhelming majority voted approval of the contract with Secretary Wilbur for building the All-American canal at a cost not to exceed \$38,500,000, the last of the features of the Boulder dam project may be considered on its way.

There may be a little litigation in the attempt to foil the will of the majority, just as happened with the bill authorizing the project, and the Los Angeles aqueduct bonds.

Nevertheless, like the other features, this too will soon be under full construction in spite of all opposition. The All-American canal is the final unit in the plan for the expenditure of about one hundred and sixty-five million dollars. The items roughly are \$72,000,000 for the dam; \$32,500,000 for power plants; \$31,500,000 for All-American canal and the balance to cover interest on the money during construction.

New Ambassador Andrew W. Mellon yesterday took the oath of office as ambassador to Great Britain, thus entering upon a new line of service for his country.

Andy has well earned the credit of being the greatest secretary of the treasury since Alexander Hamilton.

Now he is being promoted from a \$15,000 per year salary to \$17,500, a raise of twenty-five hundred a year. Which, after all, is not so much when one realizes that to support the embassy to which he is assigned will cost about \$100,000 per year.

The truth is that Andy can afford to spend a little money in his old age. In Washington he kept up one of the most beautiful homes in the city at an expense far exceeding the salary of his office.

Over Confidence When a fellow conceives an idea and it works, he gets applause and perhaps wealth. If it fails, he is just a "poor boob." Nevertheless, the work started by the fellow who failed may develop into the greatest usefulness to mankind.

The fellow who was killed yesterday in Los Angeles when he jumped from the top of a high building to test his newly invented parachute failed in his ambitions. Possibly he was just a poor boob. Yet his death may be the very thing needed to bring his ideas to the notice of others who may be able to make them work.

Smashing Trains Statistics are quoted to show that there are hundreds of collisions each year between trains and automobiles in which automobiles run smack into the sides of trains. It seems to make no difference whether the trains are moving or stationary.

Frequently the automobiles are driven into disaster in the face of wigwag signals, red lights and even waving tagmen.

It is not a matter of morals. It is generally, that long and constant watching the road while driving at high speed lets the mind sag into inactivity. Our senses do not function except in the particular matter of steering the car.

High speed and nervous strain have partially hypnotized our minds or paralyzed our senses so that we do not realize what we are doing.

Drivers do not generally intend to be careless. Nevertheless, this habit of driving cars into the sides of trains is taking a sad toll of life.

GUARDSWATCH N. F. MINISTER ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Extraordinary police precautions were taken today against new unemployed rioting after yesterday's attack on the government offices in which Prime Minister Sir Richard A. Squires was slightly hurt.

A new police force is being organized. The mounted police contingent, which was discontinued four years ago, is being reorganized. Special policemen were sworn in for emergency duty. The city was quiet.

The prime minister went to his office this afternoon. His face bearing marks of the mob's violence yesterday when rioters invaded the council chamber demanding larger food rations and an increase in the dole of \$1.60 a month. His face was bruised and his hands cut.

Sir Richard escaped threats of more serious injury when he ordered the dole office to hand out four times the regular amount of food.

LAS VEGAS WEATHER February 12—Maximum, 64; minimum, 31. METAL MARKET NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Copper, 23 1/2 cents pound. Lead, 3.75 cents pound. Bar silver, 29 1/2 cents ounce.

LAS VEGAS AGE SOUTHERN NEVADA'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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BOULDER DAM PROJECT The Progress of this Vast Engineering Work is Fully and Accurately Covered. Associated Press and United Press Wire Service Bring News of the World to This Paper—A Leader For More Than a Quarter of a Century.

RIVER RISE ALARMS VALLEY

TRI-NATIONS LIQUOR RING EXPOSED BY AGENTS

104 Indictments End Long Investigation Of Big Syndicate Canada, Honduras & U. S. Men Involved In Booze System

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 12. (U.P.)—A liquor syndicate, allegedly conceived by Chicago gangsters, supplied by Canadian distilleries and operated between three nations by conspiring seamen, navigators, radio experts, airplane pilots and gunmen, was exposed today in a federal indictment naming 104 persons.

HUNDRED WITNESSES The indictment was returned by a grand jury which spent two weeks hearing 100 witnesses, many from Chicago and New York. It was announced today by U. S. Attorney Edmund E. Talbot. It named four Vancouver, B. C., distilleries, four Chicago men alleged to be lieutenants of Al Capone; a Mississippi county supervisor, residents of Belize, British Honduras, supposedly the lower base for syndicate operations; and scores of men all over the continent.

Talbot, who described with startling familiarity the lives and records of the men he accused, told the United Press the syndicate landed \$2,500,000 worth of retail liquor on the Gulf coast in the past six months. He said Canadian distilleries financed the syndicate.

WIRE TAPPED Federal agents, he said, worked for months in an effort to trap the heads of the ring before taking the sweeping action. Expert "wire tappers" from Washington and government radio experts as well as undercover men were used.

The syndicate was said to have had its inception in Chicago, when beer barons there two years ago found a Canadian law hampered liquor running across the border. The law forbade shipment of liquor consigned to dry land points, but permitted trucking to ships bound for other ports.

ESTABLISH BASE The smugglers thereupon established a base at Belize, consigning liquor to that port and re-hipping to the American coast. Schooners took the liquor to within 20 miles of the coast where speed boats met them and slipped into bays to land it. Airplanes were used for scouting and for speedy shipments. Radios handled the communications and navigators found the secret channels.

The Canadian distilleries named in the indictment were: The Burrard Stock and Bond company, the National Supply company, the Consolidated Exporters corporation, Ltd., and the United Distilleries, Ltd., all of Vancouver.

MAN MUST HAVE SANITY HEARING Jack Davis is being held by city police for a sanity hearing, following his arrest early Friday morning in the lobby of the National hotel, by George P. Roy, of the Home Merchant Patrol service.

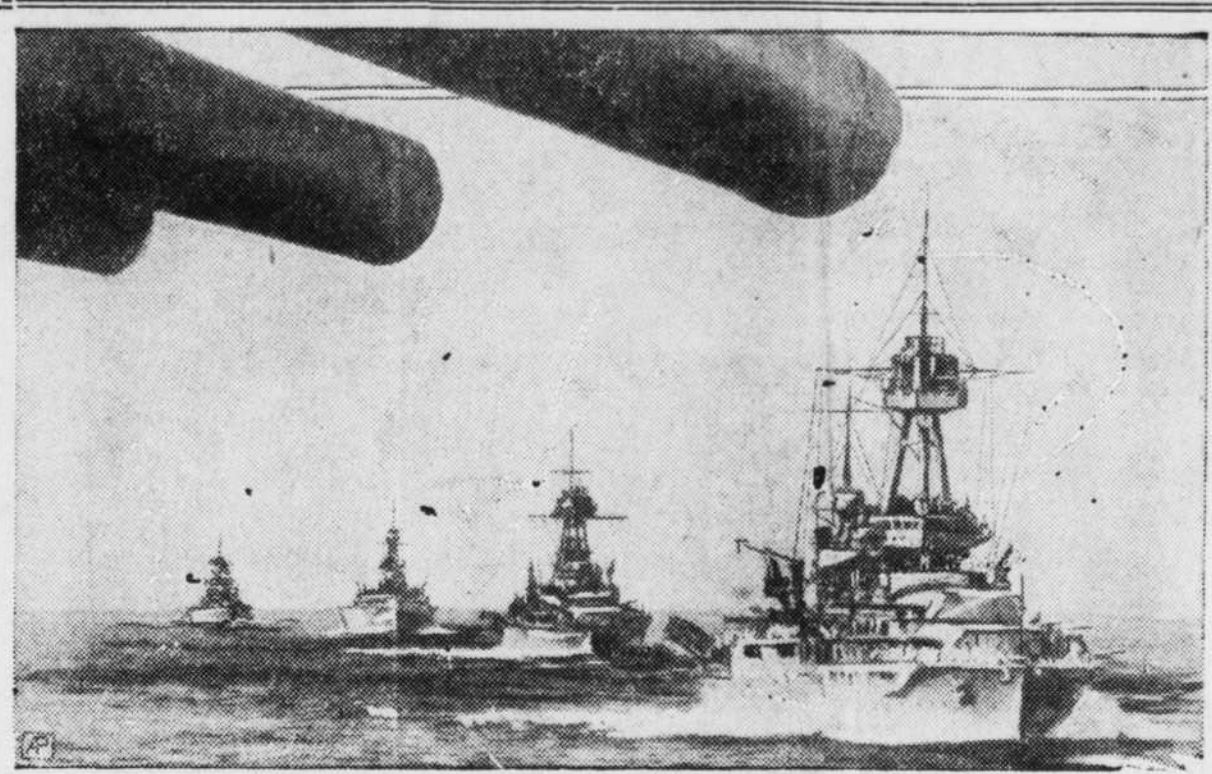
Davis' conduct in the jail after his arrest caused police to suggest a sanity investigation. He floated three days ago after being arrested on a vagrancy charge. Davis did not leave town, but was caught in the act of looting the National hotel office by Roy, who turned him over to the city police.

Haircut Costs Highway Worker \$77 After Woman Judge Tries His Case

PORTAGE, Wis., Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Orie Meland is a highway worker, not a barber. He scrapes roads, not faces.

So he's in jail musing over the fact that a haircut costing \$77.50 comes high, especially when the barber must pay the bill. But to go back into history: It was Christmas night in the old cheese factory at Keyser. The boys were celebrating. Orie decided to give his cousin, Theodore Meland, a

"ENEMIES" CRASH NATION'S GATE



The "far-flung" battle line of 55 warships extended around Hawaii proved successful in conquering the United States territory, despite the thousands of soldiers in "invincible" fortifications and scores of planes and submarines used by the defenders. It is the first combined exercise in which both army and navy participated since that of 1925.

HURTS FATAL U. S. ISLANDS TO OVERTON "CONQUERED" WOMAN

HONOLULU, T. H., Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Complete victory for the United States battle fleet in its sham attack on the Hawaiian Islands was reported tonight.

The annual winter maneuvers came to a climax shortly before noon when the Blue expeditionary forces began landing troops between Waianae and Nanakuhi, on the leeward side of Oahu island beyond Pearl harbor.

The battle fleet therefore was believed assured of victory. More than 60 ships of the fleet sailed from San Pedro, Calif., a few weeks ago. The war game started as they approached the islands.

"Black" forces made elaborate preparations for defense of the islands. Navy ships stationed here, army planes and soldiers joined in an effort to locate the attackers and turn them back.

Many spectacular "battles" were waged in the air, and it was believed that the victories were almost evenly divided.

TRIBUTE PAID DR. J. W. BUTTE

The final tribute of respect was paid yesterday afternoon at the Palm funeral home to the memory of Dr. J. W. Butte, by his brothers, O. J. Goodwin, A. S. Henderson, Pat Gallagher and Fred Stoller, who filled the other stations.

An eloquent and touching eulogy was delivered by Brother Fred Stoller and vocal music was given by Dan Ferguson, who sang two beautiful numbers.

A wealth of floral offerings surrounded the casket, evidencing the affection in which the deceased was held by many friends.

At Woodlawn cemetery the burial service of the Elks was given by Exalted Ruler Thomas and the final prayer read as the mortal remains of Brother J. W. Butte were consigned to their last resting place.

"The faults of our brothers we write upon the sands, their virtues on the tablets of love and memory."

RELIEF PLANS ON SMOOTH COURSE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12. (U.P.)—President Hoover's gigantic credit relief plan started an apparently smooth course through congress today. By next week it should be enacted into law so that its work of revitalizing the banking structure may begin without further delay.

AFTER BRIEF CONSIDERATION, the senate banking and currency committee voted the bill favorably. An amendment will be sought to the original bill restricting its working to small banks.

The house banking and currency committee approved the bill unanimously late today, and plans to offer it in the house Monday. Rep. Louis T. McFadden of Pennsylvania announced he might oppose it there. The committee decided to propose minor changes in the present wording.

Charles G. Dawes, verbally pug-nacious president of the \$2,000,000 reconstruction finance corporation, released a drum fire of "hells" and "damns" in secret session. He went to tell the committee the intimate truth of the banking situation in the country.

WAVES ARMS "No, no," he shouted, waving his arms, when he found that newspaper men were in the committee room. The doors were closed, and Dawes began. His explosive expletives could be heard outside. He was primed for the meeting, having spent part of last evening walking the downtown streets thinking up his speech, puffing at his underslung pipe, his red chew dog tugging before him on a leash.

So secret was the nature of Dawes' statement that the committee stenographer's notes were torn from his book and destroyed.

Next came quiet, persuasive Eugene Meyer, governor of the federal reserve board. He said that the credit relief bill, providing as it does for liberalizing the lending and currency issuing rules of the federal reserve banks, would release not less than \$750,000,000 in idle gold, to give several times that much credit value. Meyer suggested the period during which the banks might issue currency under the liberalized rules be set at two years instead of one.

MILLS APPEARS Third and last was Ogden L. Mills, new secretary of the treasury, affable, pink faced, his voice rising from that of a salesman to the determined advocate whenever he thought a point needed emphasizing.

"It is the most constructive piece of banking legislation introduced in congress in many years," Mills said of the credit relief bill. "I should like to see it a permanent part of the law."

PLOW CREWS RESCUE CARS

THE DALLES, Ore., Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Men, women and children who shivered through the night in a snow-bound caravan of cars on a Mount Hood highway, arrived here today after snowplows had broken through the drifts which trapped them.

VATICAN CITY, Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Enthroned high above the multitude before the tomb of St. Peter, Pope Pius XI today broadcast an appeal to the world for that "peace which now seems to escape our searches."

Concluding an elaborate ceremonial on the tenth anniversary of his coronation, the pope urged the faithful to "pray in perfect union of mind and heart for this most necessary peace."

POPE URGES WORLD PEACE

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Crews Stand Ready To Build Levees Should High Water Tear Out Barriers

REDS AND JAPS SIGN PACT, STATES PAPER

By The United Press The Chinese and Japanese forces on the Shanghai-Woosung front fought another "stand-still" artillery and small-arms battle last midnight (Friday) without appreciable change in their positions.

CONCENTRATE TROOPS The Japanese continued concentrations, estimating that 20,000 marines and soldiers would be ready by this afternoon (Saturday) for the long-expected drive to wipe out Chinese defenders in the Yangtze delta.

The four-hour truce Friday morning permitted relief parties headed by Catholic priests and nuns to enter the Chapei battlefield and evacuate some 5,000 Chinese civilians from the danger area. Others were evacuated by Japanese officers from the countryside around Woosung.

The latest peace negotiations, led by the American, British and French ministers who arrived in Shanghai from Nanking, collapsed as artillery renewed intensive firing Friday night.

REFUSE TO ACT At Geneva, the League of Nations council refused to act on China's demand that the council call a special session of the general assembly of the League of Nations to deal with the situation in Shanghai. China is now expected to make a formal demand for the assembly meeting on Monday. If necessary, China can force convocation of the assembly despite opposition of Japan and other delegates.

At Tokio, the privy council committee approved an appropriation of some \$12,000,000 for military expenses in Shanghai and final approval probably will be given today.

The London Daily Express reported that a secret treaty had been concluded between Russia and Japan, giving Japan dominion over Manchuria and large areas in Mongolia. The Moscow government accepted the pact after a bitter internal controversy over whether the Soviets would fight Japan, the newspaper said.

U. S. TEAM IS HIGH AT LAKE

LAKE PLACID, N. Y., Feb. 12. (U.P.)—The United States, with 83 points, held the lead in team scoring at the end of the ninth day of competition in the third Olympic winter games.

Norway was second with 68 points and Canada third with 39. Other scores follow: Sweden, 27; Austria, 15; Finland, 10; France, 10; Hungary, 7; Switzerland, 6; Germany, 4; Rumania, 3; Italy, Belgium and Czechoslovakia one each.

Famous Oyster-Opener, Expert On Bi-Valves For Half Century, Dies

NEW YORK, Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Henry Briggs, who in a 51-year career as an oyster opener in New York hotels, served an estimated 30,000,000 oysters, died today at his Brooklyn home. He was 77 years old.

"Captain Henry" as he was known, came to New York in 1881 and became manager of the oyster bar at the old Astor house. His customers included Theodore Roosevelt, William McKinley, John Jacob Astor, William K. Vanderbilt and

U. S. China Chief



(Official Photo, U. S. Army Signal Corps.) Lieut. Col. George A. Lynch, executive officer of the 31st infantry, whose regiment has entered the Shanghai international settlement to protect Americans there during the Sino-Japanese crisis.

VEGANS MUST TESTIFY IN CARSON

Subpoenaed by U. S. Marshal "Bill" Lewis during the last three days here on official business, four Vegans must leave next week for Carson City to appear before the federal court next week.

Chief of Police Clay H. Williams and Officer Dott E. Smith plan to leave Monday for the capital city, carrying with them the evidence in the counterfeiting case in which they must testify. Fred Gildner and Manager Hardie of the local Western Union office, have also been subpoenaed, and will leave later in the week, in time to be there by Feb. 18, when the trial will be held before Judge Norcross.

Earl Roberts, John M. Stadig, Jack Hyland, and John Esposito are the defendants in the case, and as evidence, Federal authorities will introduce what they describe as one of the most complete counterfeiting outfits ever seized in Nevada.

TWO IN ILLINOIS PRIMARY ENTRIES

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Illinois presidential primary entries found only two names entered to-night. Senator James Hamilton Lewis' petition was filed with the secretary of state as a Democratic presidential aspirant, while Senator Joseph I. France of Maryland had his name down as a Republican hope.

FOUR HELD IN BAD COIN CASE

Four men are being held of the fourteen arrested by city and county officers in a raid described as breaking up the second counterfeiting ring uncovered in Las Vegas within the past few months.

After interrogation by W. A. Merrill, all those arrested were released with the exception of Alfred Costello, V. I. Hayes, G. B. Graves, and Ray Thompson, against whom there is sufficient evidence to warrant their being held.

HOOVER RECOMMENDED SEATTLE, Feb. 12. (U.P.)—Re-nomination of President Hoover was recommended today by the Republican state central committee. The 1932 state convention will be held in Seattle May 7.

Famed Crop Producing Area At Mercy Of River Whims

BRAWLEY, Calif., Feb. 12. (U.P.)—The mighty Colorado river was on a rampage tonight, but no damage had been inflicted at a late hour, watch crews reported.

Swollen by heavy rains, and the thaw of snows in Arizona and the upper watershed, the flow measured 30,700 second feet at the Grand canyon today with the crest of the flood still due in the lower stretches of the big stream.

The Imperial valley was prepared for any emergency. Determined men stood by in Brawley, heart of the rich agricultural district of the valley, ready to rush to any break that might occur in the river.

Rock trains stood loaded at An-rade. The watch along the levees was multiplied for both night and day shifts, and material was being converged upon supposedly weak points in the protective system.

Should the river, swollen by the sudden freshet, break through its banks, the Imperial country would be at the mercy of the muddy waters, unless the breach could be blocked rapidly.

The June flood that annually races through the Colorado into the Gulf of California, has the channel of the river, thereby maintaining a deep enough cut to handle the excess water.

The sudden rises, such as the river is now experiencing, do not have the scouring and gouging action, but deposit more silt, and thereby reduce the capacity of the channel to handle the increased flow.

ROYAL POLICE NEAR TRAPPER

AKLAVIK, Northwest Territory, Feb. 12. (U.P.)—The trail shows his steps are getting shorter," checked a brief radio message tonight, indicating that the Arctic's wildest manhunt was about to end in tragedy, with a crazy man frozen to death as Royal Canadian mounted police were about to capture him.

The message referred to Arthur Johnson, trapper, who lost his mind in the frozen Tundra near Rat river last month and who killed one officer, and wounded another in their repeated attempts to catch him.

"They'll get him or his body soon now," said officers in Aklavik when the message came from Quarter-master Sergeant R. F. Riddell, who is leading the posse.

Johnson, a "bush-crazy" trapper, has eluded the police for weeks. Four times he has fought squads of officers in pitched battles. Each time he has escaped and plunged on further inside the Arctic circle.

This week the police have hunted him both by land and air. A dozen picked men, led by Riddell and Staff Sergeant Hersey, both experienced trackers, have forged across the ice barriers after the mad trapper. Capt. W. R. May joined the hunt Tuesday in his airplane.

On his first trip, May sighted the posse but saw nothing of Johnson. On the second, Wednesday, even was a blizzard. He could not even find the posse. Today he flew out again but ran into such severe storms he was forced to return to Aklavik.