

## This Week

by ARTHUR BRISBANE

**\$1 and Board  
A Boomerang Boycott  
Bankruptcy for Cities  
17,000,000 New Babies**

Without a roll call, the house of representatives passed a bill authorizing President Roosevelt to send 250,000 idle men to work in national forests for \$1 a day and board. It isn't much, and as Mr. Green of the Federation of Labor said, it may establish a bad precedent in low wages. But one dollar a day and board is better than nothing a day and no board, and good workmen used to be hired in this country for \$100 a year.

Some congressmen tried to defeat President Roosevelt's will, but decided that the time has not come for that yet.

The Hitler party starts a nationwide boycott against Jews in Germany, calling the boycott "a reprisal for the atrocity campaign" alleged to have been made by Jews.

If carried out, without interference by the German government, the boycott will be harmful to German Jews, in the beginning, infinitely more harmful to German business and prosperity in the end.

Action that would deprive Germany of the Jewish commercial and industrial ability that has done so much to build up German prosperity, will probably not last long. The Germans are intelligent.

A bill to be introduced by Congressman Wilcox of Miami will interest holders of municipal bonds. Mr. Wilcox' bill would allow cities overburdened with debt to go into bankruptcy as individuals do, settle with their creditors on a basis of their ability to pay, and have a clean bill of health following the bankruptcy.

This will startle those taught to look on municipal bonds as first mortgages on the city. They are nothing of the kind, because nobody would have power to sell a city to meet the mortgage, or would exercise the power if he had it.

Mussolini, constructive dictator, tells mothers and fathers of Italy, also young men and women not yet married, that he wants Italy's population increased in the next 10 years by 17,000,000. In other words, a country much smaller than California, far behind California in fertility, and wealth of every kind, already possessing nearly ten times the population of California, proposes to add in 10 years four times California's population to what Italy has already.

As usual, Italians co-operated with Mussolini in his plans. They have come to believe that what he says ought to be done.

Some Italian cities offer cash rewards for marriages, others rewards for babies. Houses, cribs, bedding, sums in cash, many inducements attract "the first ten brides and grooms, the first 50 babies," etc.

Wise Mussolini knows that the real wealth of the world is intelligent population, and that he will find room and useful work for the seventeen million new Italians when they come. The most energetic will go to Italy's possessions in Africa, and elsewhere outside Italy.

Mr. Wyatt, lawyer of the Federal Reserve bank, says congress has power to abolish state banks and put all the banking under the national government. Apart from that President Roosevelt has convinced you of his own ability to do things, anyhow, and make congress say "Amen."

It is important, as Frederick H. Prince of Boston says, not to deprive small communities of services that only the little local banks can render.

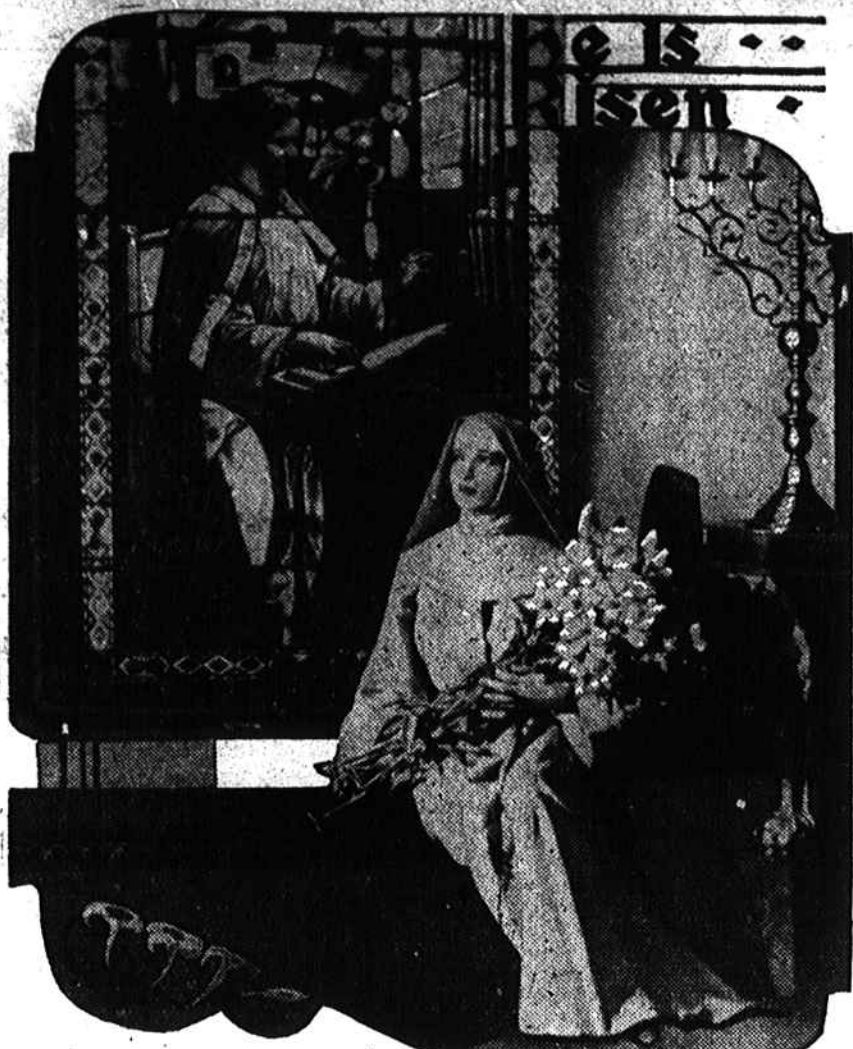
No gentleman sent from Washington could possess intimate acquaintance with a community's financial needs and its citizens' responsibility.

However, banks controlled to prevent their bursting at the rate of thousands a year, with an occasional moratorium, would be desirable. Our American system that breaks down, stalls and breaks up, like an automobile eighteen years old, isn't much of a credit to the country.

It is proposed that government regulate the quantity and character of stocks sold to the gullible public. The other assorted thievery that has been practiced on the American people is nothing compared to a fraudulent issue of watered stock. One concern issued more than sixty million shares of stocks against one unimportant light and power company, selling the stock at a price, that for the whole lot, would amount to more than fifteen hundred million dollars, enough to build five Panama canals. With such "bargains" you need not be surprised at any depression, any series of bank explosions or private bankruptcies.

Spain decides that Spanish women may vote beginning April 23 in municipal elections. That is a start. The Latin races oppose "votes for women," perhaps because Latin women play so large a part in their husbands' affairs and have already plenty to do. Where you find a man of Latin race running a business, you are apt to find his wife, dressed in plain black, behind the cashier's desk, or otherwise carrying one-half the burden.

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An Easter study in the beautiful setting offered by the old Mission Inn which is located at Riverside, Calif., showing the cloister music room of the Inn beneath one of the Saint Cecilia windows.

### Easter Relic of Old Pagan Celebration

EASTER is largely a relic of the old pagan celebration of the beginning of spring, and this explains why some of those old customs and traditions are still linked up with it—such as the use of the egg and the rabbit as symbols. But in the religious senses Easter commemorates the resurrection of Christ.

The crucifixion took place at the time of the Jewish Passover, and this fixed the time so far as the Jews were concerned. But the Jews counted time by the lunar year of 354 days, while most other nations went by the solar year. Thus a confusion as to the actual date to be observed as Christ's resurrection at once arose. That confusion caused bitter controversies during the early history of Christianity and it remains with us today.

While at first Easter was observed by the Christians at the same time as the Jewish Passover, gradually they were wrenched away from that practice and another date was proclaimed. Elaborate rules were adopted known in Latin as the "computus paschalis," by which to ascertain the date for Easter. These were based largely on the Jewish "paschal moon" but there were complications to the process and so the date does not necessarily coincide with that of the real or astronomical moon.

As the time of the actual full moon is different for different points on the earth, it is plain that some arbitrary rule would have to be adopted. It was the purpose of the church fathers not to have Easter ever fall on the same date as the Jewish Passover. However, in 1923, this did come to pass.

Easter is the first Sunday that follows this ecclesiastical or paschal full moon coming in or next after the nominal vernal equinox, March 21; if the paschal full moon falls on Sunday, then Easter skips to the following Sunday. The date of Easter is specially important because it fixes the times of the other movable feasts for the whole year.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and is the period of forty days (not including Sundays) preceding Easter. Shrove Tuesday is the last day before Lent and thus marks the end of the gay winter season, known in Europe as the "carnival" or "meat-farewell" season. The French term for Shrove Tuesday is "Mardi Gras"—meaning literally "fat Tuesday." This date is observed by feasting and revelry—hence the "fat."—Pathfinder Magazine.

### The Stone Was Rolled Away

AND when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the Mother of James, and Salome, had brought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint Him.

And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

"And they said among themselves, 'Who shall roll away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?'"

"And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away, for it was very great.

"And entering the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment, and they were affrighted.

"And he said unto them: 'Be not affrighted. Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified; He is risen; He is not here; behold the place where they laid Him.

"'But go your way, tell His disciples and Peter that He goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye seek Him, as He said unto you.'

"And they went out quickly and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed; neither said they anything to any man, for they were afraid."

### EASTER By LEILA E. BRACY

(In Detroit Free Press.)

*A SPRING day in the morning;  
The dew is warm and sweet,  
Gray mists run from the rising sun—  
Pale phantoms in retreat.*

*A young breeze, perfume-laden,  
Soft quiet promise filled,  
Swift shattered by a golden shower  
From quiv'ring bird throat spilled.*

*So Easter's gift, renewing  
The light that cannot cease  
To be, though world forgotten, brings  
The healing touch of peace.*

*Though souls travail in darkness,  
Yet does the earth endure;  
The glory of the morn shall be  
Of night's dim torture cure.*

*The world's way is a good way—  
Earth seems to Heaven drawn  
When Hope to weary hearts is born  
In the hushed Easter dawn.*



#### Resurrection Keynote

Christendom, at Easter, will resound with the resurrection message of the angel to Mary Magdalene. For more than 1,900 years the resurrection has been the keynote of Christianity. Preachers of faith in Christ as the hope of humanity have from the days of the Apostles based their messages upon this foundation and without the resurrection have regarded preaching as vain.



#### Thought Rabbits Laid Eggs

In the old days in Germany, the children built nests in the brush and thicket, even as they do in the United States today. When they ran to the nests on Easter morning, rabbits usually scurried from the bushes. And when the children found the bright eggs in the nests, they jumped to the conclusion the rabbits had laid them. Their parents did not disillusion them.

## Only Six Imports Are Vital to U. S.

All Other Needed Articles Are Produced Here.

Washington.—America's billion-dollar import trade could be cut to just six vitally necessary articles.

Out of the myriad types of goods which flow into this country each year, only a half dozen are absolute necessities which have no substitute produced at home, which could not be produced here or which are not already produced in this country.

These six articles, listed by the United States Department of Commerce, are platinum, tin, manila, sisal, kapok and rubber. In 1931, the latest year for which detailed figures are available, they made up only 6 per cent of Uncle Sam's total bill for imports. If America's importations were suddenly reduced to those six commodities, cotton, the most important export, could pay for them all twice over.

#### Coffee, Tea on List.

Another ten articles which cannot be produced here or for which no substitute can be produced are listed by the Commerce department as only semi-necessities. They are coffee, tea, cocoa, camphor, cinchona bark, cork, opium, cloves and pepper.

Cataclysmic upheavals would transform American economic and social life if imports came to include only the unproducible necessities or even the semi-necessities listed by the department. But it could be done.

Commerce experts have sorted out not only the products which America must have, but also those now being imported which could be produced domestically under favorable price conditions, which could be replaced by American substitutes and which are partly produced at home already.

Together these categories, which embrace only 90 articles in all, are half of the skeleton of American foreign trade. Altogether their cost in 1931 did not make up more than 56 per cent of what the United States actually spent on imports.

The other half of the skeleton is the ten leading American exports, cotton, petroleum, automobiles and other vehicles, industrial machinery, tobacco, fruits and nuts, grains, nonferrous and nonprecious metals, and coal and related fuels. They are the goods bringing the most money, in the order named, into this country.

If foreign trade were suddenly cut to the skeleton, if America bought

only the 60 commodities on the Commerce department list and sold only the ten types of goods now most largely sold abroad, she would still have a \$286,000,000 favorable balance of trade on the basis of 1931 figures.

Economic maturity stealing upon Uncle Sam is revealed in the two lists, the one of important exports and the other of vital imports. America is no longer a young country pouring out bounteous raw materials in exchange for manufactures. Two of the leading exports, automobiles and industrial machinery, are manufactures.

#### All Are Raw Materials.

Imports tell the same story. All of them are raw materials and most of them, not being native, would have to be bought regardless of the country's economic age. Others of the essential imports, however, disclose the exhaustion or outstripping of natural resources known as economic middle age. For instance, America, the land of lush forests, must import pulp wood.

None of the six absolutely irreplaceable imports—platinum, tin, manila, sisal, kapok and rubber—ever have been produced in this country, however. They play a very small part in America's actual import business.

Most costly import on the department's whole list is sugar. It is classified as a necessity which we import but which we also produce in some measure at home.

Silk, a semi-necessity for which American products could be substituted, commands the second largest import business among the articles listed. China, Japan, and Italy ship it into this country. Coffee, an irreplaceable semi-necessity is third in importance, and newsprint, a necessity

## HELLO! WHITE HOUSE



Miss Louise Hachmeister of New York has the distinction of being the first woman to hold the post of telephone operator at the White House. Miss Hachmeister won the esteem of President Roosevelt during the busy days of his recent campaign, serving as telephone operator at Democratic headquarters in New York.

produced in part at home, is fourth. Taken together these four imports made up exactly a third of the money spent abroad for imports during 1931. They composed 59 per cent of the cost of goods listed by the department as necessities and semi-necessities. After them in importance comes rubber and wood pulp. Between these six commodities and the other necessary and semi-necessary imports is a great gap.

## Will Forecast Weather Month in Advance

Scientist Says It Will Come in Our Lifetime.

Chicago.—Cold waves such as the nation recently recovered from will be accurately forecast by science more than a month in advance in the not distant future, according to Dr. Oliver Justin Lee, head of the Dearborn Astronomical observatory.

He declared this would undoubtedly be accomplished by science within our lifetime as a result of a world-wide study of solar radiation now being made under the direction of the leading scientific minds.

Completion of this gigantic task will mean the fulfillment of a dream long cherished by science to make possible "long distance" weather forecasting. It will mean the saving of untold millions of dollars from crop losses throughout the world, and a tremendous advance to aviation.

"Since solar radiation is the basis of all life, science has been concentrating on it to give us the answers, to many problems that now confront

us," Doctor Lee said. "Many observations have been established throughout the world, particularly for the purpose of studying solar radiation, until now virtually a world-wide network exists in which scientists for many nations are represented.

"Specific instruments have been devised especially for this study of the changing intensity of the sun's radiation, and recordings are taken each day all over the world where the sun shines."

While sun spots have "a tremendous connection" with the earth's weather, Doctor Lee said they cannot yet be held responsible for such rapid changes in temperature as noted during the recent cold wave, because "nobody has yet found any direct connection."

The sun is now going into the minimum stage of its eleven-year-sun spot cycle, Doctor Lee explained, and this leads to the belief sometimes that intense cold weather is due in such a period. This does not hold true, he said, despite the fact that at times solar heat varies from 2 to 3 per cent at the minimum sun spot stage.

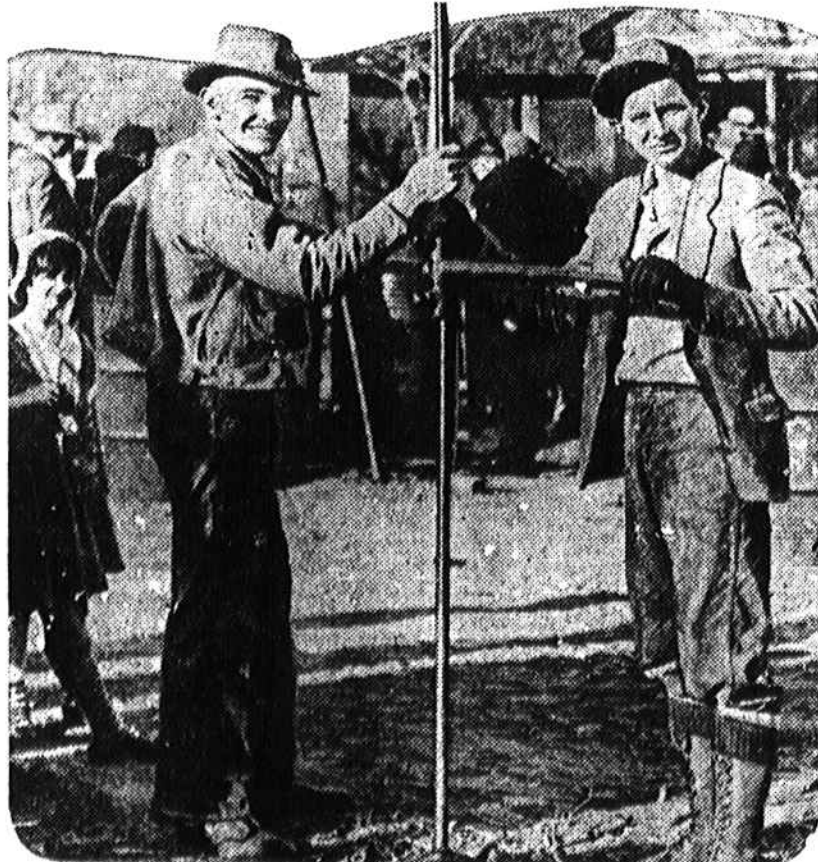
### Squatters Use Home in Owner's Absence

Loveland, Colo.—When Carl Gooch and his wife went to California, "squatters" moved into the Gooch residence and made themselves at home.

Upon his return to Loveland Gooch discovered that the uninvited guests had moved out with some of the furniture, linen, towels and clothing. They had used a quantity of coal and wood and had depleted the pantry shelves.

The only satisfaction Gooch was able to get out of the visit was the knowledge that the "squatters" were clean. They had taken a bath and left the water in the bathtub as evidence.

## Getting Oil From 'the Back Yards



Oklahoma has another oil boom, this time a series of backyard oil wells drilled on city lots on the edge of the residential section of Blackwell. Two of the oil "miners" are shown working their well, which is the smallest in the world. The wells come in at an average depth of only 23 feet from an oil sand 18 inches deep. They are being drilled with post augers and pumped by hand with common farm pitcher pumps, and each has a yield of five or six barrels a day.

### Paris Plans Organizing Felines to Combat Rats

Paris.—The city of Paris may raise an army of municipal cats to combat the growing menace of rats.

The people of the Folle-Merle court quarter, one of the oldest in Paris, some of them on the verge of abandoning their apartments to the rodents, are clamoring for cats. Their alderman, M. Rene Flquet, at their demand has just made a complaint to Prefect Edouard Renard of the Seine department.

Paris has before it the examples set by Lyons and Havre. In Lyons, Edouard Herriot, mayor and former premier of France, has instituted "chatteries"—French for cat raising centers—to combat rats. In Havre, Mayor Leon Meyer, now minister of merchant marine, has done the same thing.

Heretofore, Paris has contented itself with providing free rat poison. But poison has not proved adequate to counterbalance the high birth rate of French rats.

"It must be kept in mind," declared M. Flquet to M. Renard, "that a pair of rats produce from 50 to 65 offspring a year, in three litters."

### Indian Dances Menace

Farms, Canada Decides

Ottawa, Ont.—After grave argument the Canadian house of commons has decided that Canadian Indians may not don aboriginal costume and attend pageants or dances without special permission from the nearest Indian agent. The amusement and entertainment with which they have provided the white man has been the ruin of many an Indian farm, wrecked through neglect, it was stated by the government.

### Book "Lost" 17 Years

Is Returned to Library

Birmingham, Ala.—A campaign for the return of overdue books at the Birmingham public library recently brought back a volume that had been missing since 1917. The campaign lasted three weeks, during which period no overdue fines were assessed. There were 6,207 books returned during the drive.

### Odd Divorce Suit Is Won

San Francisco.—Because her husband, Herman Berger, New York city subway motorman, had his hair waxed and then permanently waved, his wife Hannah obtained an interlocutory decree of divorce. She termed her husband's actions "mental cruelty."