



1—William Allen White, noted writer, running for governor of Kansas as an independent. 2—Start of \$2,000,000 fire at the tank farms of the Associated Standard Oil company at Monterey, Cal., in which two men were killed and 40 injured. 3—Soviet soldiers mining a fiver in Georgia in the war with the revolutionists.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

British Labor Government Defeated—Chang Likely to Win in China.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

RAMSAY MACDONALD and his Labor cabinet went down to defeat in the British house of commons Wednesday night and the prime minister decided to have parliament dissolved and appeal to the country immediately in a general election. The crisis, which had been expected, came not over the Russian treaties but over the government's recent decision to drop the prosecution of John R. Campbell, editor of a Communist paper, who was charged with inciting sedition. MacDonald and Colonial Minister Thomas defended the action of Attorney General Sir Patrick Hastings in that case when it was attacked in the house. The Conservatives moved a vote of censure and the Liberals, who had been supporting the Labor government, proposed an amendment calling for an inquiry. The prime minister declared the government could not accept the amendment, which he characterized as a "mean and crooked party maneuver." However, it was carried by the decisive vote of 364 to 198, the combined strength of the Conservatives and the Liberals.

The contention of the opposition is that in the Campbell case the government brought the administration of the law into contempt by allowing party politics to govern. The attorney general told the commons that the Campbell article in question had been brought to his attention by the director of public prosecutions. He decided that it was prima facie seditious and he directed prosecution. Some time later a member of the Labor party told him that he had got the wrong man, Campbell having an excellent army record, being seriously wounded and decorated for bravery. He investigated and decided that on the grounds of public policy the prosecution was unwise and he dropped it.

King George hastened from Balmoral castle, Scotland, to London because of the crisis and Mr. MacDonald saw him on Thursday. It was understood the king, the big business leaders and many political chiefs were opposed to an election now, but the king yielded to MacDonald's demand.

Parliament was prorogued Thursday night, and October 29 was decided upon as the day for the general election. The Labor party really hopes to obtain a majority in the new parliament and thinks this a good time for the fight.

Once more the British Labor party has refused to permit the Communist party to affiliate with it. This action was taken at the Labor national conference in London, the vote being overwhelmingly against the Communists. It was declared the two parties have nothing in common, Communism being a product of czarism and war betrayal, in the words of Mr. MacDonald.

DEVELOPMENTS of the week in the war in China, coupled with private advices from Peking, lead to the prediction that Chang Tso-lin, the Manchurian chieftain, will ultimately be victorious in his conflict with Gen. Wu Pei-fu and the government forces. Last Wednesday Chang's son led an army in a fierce attack on the Chihli troops that were entrenched on the north side of the great wall near Shanhaikwan and, after a bloody battle, he drove them through the main gate of the wall at Chiumen and followed them into the province of Chihli. Meanwhile land, air and sea forces were taking part in a big attack on Shanhaikwan, but the Peking report said it was repulsed.

On the Shanghai front the Kiangsu and Fukien forces, which are operating for the Peking government, gained some important advantages over the Chekiang troops defending the city, the most notable being the capture of the town of Sunkiang, called the southern gateway to Shanghai.

General Chang is well supplied with troops, equipment and money. He has

about five hundred airplanes, and is constantly receiving munitions, which come by sea from Europe—from Italy, it is said. He has at least the moral support of Japan. Information from China says that Chang plans to restore the boy emperor to the throne and to re-establish the old mandarin regime.

MANEUVERS of the soviet Russians are complicating the situation in China. They have just signed an agreement with Chang whereby the management and control of the Chinese Eastern railroad has been turned over to them, putting Russia quite completely in command of the Far Eastern situation and, according to Karakhan, soviet ambassador to Peking, dealing America and the western powers a crushing blow. The former directors of the railroad have been arrested and probably will be executed. On announcement of the agreement with Chang the soviet embassy in Peking and soviet consulates general in Shanghai and elsewhere were opened and the red flag raised.

PREMIER ZAGHLOUL PASHA'S visit to London to induce Great Britain to abandon its control over Egypt and the Sudan and its protection of the Suez canal resulted in complete failure. The British government flatly rejected Zaghoul's demands. His attitude is said to be due partly to the stand taken by Australia. Prime Minister Bruce of that dominion cabled to the government denying its right to decide on the evacuation of Egypt without the consent of the Pacific dominions. He said surrender of the control of Egypt to incompetent natives would set Australia back a hundred years and would compel her to reconsider the whole question of adherence to the empire.

ALL arrangements were made for placing the German reconstruction loan on the market this week. The American allotment will be underwritten by a syndicate headed by J. P. Morgan & Co., Kuhn, Loeb & Co., the First National bank and the National City bank of New York, and will be \$110,000,000, or \$10,000,000 more than had been expected. In fixing the final details the British financiers won a big victory over the Americans, for it was decided that everywhere except in America participation in the loan should be reckoned in pounds sterling instead of in dollars. This, it is considered, will have a great influence in maintaining England's financial prestige.

PACIFISTS from all parts of the world gathered in Berlin last week for the purpose of outlining a constitution for a super-league of nations. They held a big demonstration in Potsdam which so enraged the Nationalistic societies that thousands of their members assembled there the same day and attempted to put the pacifists to rout. Professor Basch of the French Sorbonne especially aroused the wrath of the Nationalists by his plea for Franco-German amity and the cavalry was called out to disperse the mobs that attacked him. Next day, however, several well-known German generals participated in the proceedings and warmly seconded General Verraux when he declared: "A general strike of everybody, generals included, must be declared if there is another war."

The French government has approved of Germany's admission to the League of Nations, conceding that she should be recognized as a great power and granted a permanent seat in the council. But it is insisted that Germany must assume all responsibilities shared by the other powers, which means she must sign the security and arbitration protocol without reservations and agree to the execution of all treaties.

Following up the presentation of a balanced budget, Premier Herriot's cabinet has announced that it will not be possible to include further expenses of the devastated regions in the budget. Hereafter the war-ravaged parts of France must depend on public loans for their reconstruction work.

THERE has just been filed in the Federal court in New Orleans a suit that will be watched with considerable interest. Its purpose is to oust

from office Walter L. Cohen, the negro controller of customs of that port, on the ground that he is of African blood and descent and therefore not a citizen of the United States, and that he is inherently incapable of becoming such. The petition attacks the validity of the Fourteenth amendment to the Constitution, setting forth that it was not legally adopted, not having been proposed by two-thirds of each house of congress nor ratified by three-fourths of the states. It is alleged that at that time eleven states were unconstitutionally deprived of their equal suffrage in the senate, that six states were by coercion forced to ratify the amendment, and that congress "did without power or authority unlawfully declare said amendment to the Constitution adopted and a part of the Constitution."

Of course, if the action were successful, it would result in the disenfranchisement of every negro in the United States. But neither Cohen nor the United States attorney down there seems to take the matter seriously.

AS THE Presidential campaign draws toward the close the fight is growing decidedly warm. Of course the managers of each of the three major candidacies claim they can see a clear victory for their ticket. And this is true, even of the LaFollette managers, who assert that Davis no longer has a chance and that the race is between Coolidge and the Wisconsin senator. Both LaFollette and the Democrats scoff at the theory of the Republicans that the Democrats are helping the third party in various states for the purpose of throwing the election into congress, where, it is figured out, the result would be the seating of Charles Bryan in the Presidential chair. But the G. O. P. leaders stick to their story and are devoting their main efforts to confining LaFollette's victories to Wisconsin and perhaps Minnesota.

Senator Brookhart's action in bolting the Coolidge-Dawes ticket and the story that Judge Kenyon was about to resign from the bench and take the stump for LaFollette have had a result that the Republicans believe may win the state of Iowa for Coolidge, if there had been any doubt of it. Judge Kenyon, who has a very large following in Iowa, sent word to General Dawes that the story was entirely untrue and that he was supporting the Republican national ticket.

Senator Borah of Idaho, who has not always been in accord with the administration, in opening his campaign declared he was running for re-election as a regular Republican and would take the stump for Coolidge, who, he said, "is the only President who has had the courage to combat the growing tendency toward bureaucracy and extravagance and, therefore, is one of the greatest men in the political history of the United States."

Mr. Davis, campaigning last week in the East, delivered many shrewd thrusts at the administration. In Buffalo, replying to a recent speech by Secretary of State Hughes, he especially attacked President Coolidge's foreign policy, saying:

"The truth is that since March 4, 1921, the control of America's foreign policy has rested neither with Presidents Harding nor Coolidge, nor with the secretary of state, but with a minority in the senate, to whose slightest nod both President and secretary have bowed without protest or complaint. Indeed, Mr. Hughes himself confesses that it has been necessary to conduct the affairs of his department in extralegal fashion, lest they might be 'tied up in controversy.'"

As the week closed Mr. Davis was in Indiana beginning a two weeks' tour of the Middle West.

WHILE the Zeppelin ZR-3 was being prepared in Germany for the trip across the Atlantic, our home-built dirigible, the Shenandoah, started on a great tour of the United States which, up to the time of writing, has been eminently satisfactory. From Lakehurst, N. J., she sailed southwest and west to Fort Worth, Tex., for her first stop, and thence went across the mountains to San Diego. Her course from there is up the Pacific coast to Camp Lewis at Lakeview, Wash. The ship is actually performing better than the schedule calls for, in both speed and fuel consumption.

The AMERICAN LEGION

(Copy for This Department Supplied by the American Legion News Service.)

JAMES DRAIN, NEW LEGION COMMANDER

James A. Drain, who was elected national commander of the American Legion at its sixth annual convention at St. Paul, Minn., has had a long and active career in the National Guard and in the army, and has taken a leading part in the program of the Legion. Commander Drain has decided to move to Indianapolis and will administer the affairs of the Legion from national headquarters there, as did Past Commander John R. Quinn. He expects, it is understood, to devote most of his time and energy to building up the internal organization of the Legion. He declared that the Legion will adhere strictly to its policy of no political entanglements.

Mr. Drain served for 20 months as commander of the department of the District of Columbia. He has been active in rehabilitation work. He served as chairman of the Fourth dis-



James A. Drain.

trict rehabilitation committee of the Legion, which is, because of its location at the national capital, extremely important. The new commander has been a member of the national executive committee of the Legion and also of the board of directors of the American Legion Weekly.

Rising from private to brigadier general, the new Legion head began his military career in the National Guard of the state of Washington. He was a captain in the Spanish-American war. In the World war he was ordnance officer with the tank corps, later serving as a member of the Anglo-American tank commission.

Warren county, Illinois, is the birthplace of Commander Drain. He was born on September 30, 1870. He has practiced law in Nebraska, Washington state, New York city and in the national capital. He is chairman of the executive committee of the National Guard association and president of the National Rifle association of America.

American Legion Helps Widow in Need of Aid

A widow of Ohio who had two sons in the service, one having died in service and one since as a result of service, held two compensation checks received by her son but not indorsed by him before his death. The burial expenses for her son amounted to more than \$500. She needed cash. Her son had told her before his death that if, after his death, she needed advice and assistance to go to the American Legion. She did. Through the agency of the American Legion the Probate court was prevailed upon to execute administration papers at a cost of \$20 less than in usual cases and the much-needed checks were redrawn in favor of the widow. Claim was made by the service department of the Legion for death compensation for the widow and in less than three weeks the claim was allowed by the bureau and the widow granted a death compensation of \$25 a month until 1937.

Tyndall Appreciative

In a bulletin read before the officers and men of the Thirty-eighth division and One Hundred and Fiftieth field artillery of Indiana, Maj. Gen. Robert H. Tyndall, national treasurer of the American Legion, expressed his appreciation to the men of his command for their efficient and enthusiastic cooperation in the recent field maneuvers held at Camp Knox, Ky. The "Cyclone" division took an important part in the maneuvers which were undertaken in preparation for National Defense day, September 12.

Donated Silver Cup

Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt of New York occupied a box at the water sports carnival and "gymkhana" given at Bar Harbor, Maine, under the auspices of the American Legion. Mrs. Vanderbilt donated a silver cup for the chariot race, the concluding feature.

LEGION IS PRAISED

GOV. CHANNING H. COX, of Massachusetts, speaking at the state convention of the American Legion held at Pittsfield recently, praised the Legion as patriots at a time when patriots are needed. He said: "At times when it has seemed that the people had forgotten their obligations to their state and nation, the Legion has always called their attention to them. It was the Legion that came to the rescue last Patriots' day in Boston. It rallied a parade through the streets of the State capital and averted the effects of the propaganda which was being circulated at that time. On Armistice day, too, with the huge demonstration in Boston the Legion showed its strong right arm. It means much to have you men who know your duty and do it, of conserving the patriotism of the people of this country, and your leadership is indeed appropriate and timely."

LEGIIONNAIRES AID VETERANS OF 1864

The things that will or will not make good news copy vary greatly with the passing of the years. Announcement that the Union Veteran Legion would hold its annual national convention some time in September in Altoona, Pa., made only a bare inch of newspaper copy. "And who, and what, is the Union Veteran Legion anyway, that they should be given even an inch of space in the newspapers? I don't recollect ever having heard of them," you say. Which is rather surprising, for at one time in the nation's history the Union Veteran Legion was making column after column of breathless copy. Sherman's march to the sea made good copy in those days—first-page stuff that was avidly read by a grateful populace. But that was more than a half century ago and news values change and the makers of much of that copy, the Union Veteran Legion, are dropped from the first page entirely and get only a skimpy inch on an inside sheet. However, there are those in these United States who read the newspapers rather carefully, among them the American Legion, and the bare inch of copy concerning the proposed national convention of the Union Veteran Legion was sufficient to catch the eye of American Legionnaires of Altoona and interest them to such an extent that a committee was immediately appointed to aid the Union Veteran Legion in preparing for their national convention. In appointing the committee to help the Union Veteran Legion with their convention, the American Legion was motivated by the following facts:

To be a member of the Union Veteran Legion one must have been a volunteer and have served not less than three years in the Civil war. Most of the surviving members of the organization are very old, and the toll, harassments and uncertainty of preparing for a national convention would be a severe strain upon the strength of the veterans of '64. So the American Legion decided to lift the load from the shoulders of their venerable comrades to enable them to be free to enjoy themselves without the worries and trials incident to the administration of a convention.

Takes Rap at Wealthy Women Who Seek Honor

If bachelors of the Legion could only figure out some way to induce rich American heiresses to heed the words of Gov. Pat M. Neff of Texas when he addressed the sixth annual convention of the Texas department of the Legion, they would, as the saying goes, "be sitting pretty." Governor Neff sympathized as follows: "I have no patience and very little respect for those wealthy American daughters who are willing to trade their wealth to an empty European title. If I were an American girl I would rather be the wife of an American Legionnaire, though of humble means, than the wife of a silly duke with no other claim than that he is the son of some queen and lives among the pictures of a forgotten past."

Notables Present at Ball Given by Legion

When the Legion gives a party it generally has the company of most folks worth while, and such proved to be the case at the grand ball given at the state convention of the Legion at Pittsfield, Mass., recently, which the following personages attended: Gov. Channing H. Cox, Mayor James M. Curley of Boston, Senator David I. Walsh, Maj. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, Commander Ham, G. A. R.; Mrs. Elizabeth O'Brien, department president, American Legion Auxiliary; Congressman Allen T. Treadway, Congressman Louis A. Frothingham, Rear Admiral de Steibner, U. S. N.; Commissioner Richard Flynn, and some five hundred more of our leading citizens.

And Also Wormwood

"Alphonse, you-all recollect dem markers ovah dar what de Frenchmen used tuh mark kilometers? What you' done call 'em—milestones?" "Milestones in France, man? What's in yo' head ain't. Dem's Gaul stones." —American Legion Weekly.

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"It's lucky she can't see the back of her neck."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Do You Cough?

Columbia, S. C.—"Several years ago I contracted a cough which seemed to sap the very life out of me, and do what I would I could not break it up. I got weaker and more miserable, turned against food, and at night the cough would get so bad that I could not sleep. I heard of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and began to take it. It entirely broke up my cough and I could sleep well at night; in fact, I felt stronger and better than I had for years." —J. E. Hare, 813 Gibb Street.

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