



1—Lady Richmond Brown and F. A. Mitchell Hedges, English explorers, planning a two years' expedition to the heart of the Maya country of Central America. 2—Children of the Near East relief station in Armenia forming a message of thanks to America. 3—Entire membership of agricultural commission appointed by President Coolidge at its first session; Chairman Carey seated fifth from left.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Commission Begins Study of Ailments of Agriculture—Porter's Opium Plan

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

THERE seems now to be an actual chance that the worst ailments of American agriculture will be discovered and remedies for them devised. The commission appointed for this purpose by President Coolidge has been given the fullest latitude by him and has begun its task in a way that shows it means business. But it realizes the magnitude of the work and holds out no hope that its conclusions can be laid before congress at the approaching short session, as the President had thought possible. It will have some recommendations to make at that time, to meet emergencies, however. One of these will have to do with the cattle industry, which has not shown the signs of recovery that other branches of farming have shown this fall. The cattlemen have been unable to obtain credit and have been marketing their young stock prematurely, and many of them have gone into bankruptcy.

To begin with, the commission arranged for the co-operation of all the bureau chiefs of the Department of Agriculture and called on them for great amounts of information from many sources. When this is at hand the real work will start. The commission is composed of real farmers and live stock men and three of the members are heads of big farm organizations. Former Gov. R. D. Carey is chairman. In a preliminary talk concerning the work he said: "One of the first requests of the commission was for a digest of the large number of agricultural bills introduced in the last session of congress and still pending. In this connection co-operative marketing of agricultural products will come in for special attention. The present laws bearing upon co-operative marketing will be closely studied and the co-operative bills now pending in congress will be considered.

Information has been requested by the commission on all phases of the tariff, including protection afforded agriculture under the present law and upon what basis the tariff in each case was determined.

Present powers of the federal government with respect to quarantine regulations for the protection of different branches of agriculture will be considered. This subject will be taken up in its entire scope, including regulations between the United States and foreign countries, as between various states, and between the federal government and the various states.

One of the most important studies to be undertaken by the commission will have to do with foreign competition of American agricultural products. This will involve an investigation of the costs of foreign products with which major American products compete and a study of the main obstacles with reference to exporting surplus products from this country."

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE has been asked by the American Legion, through National Commander Drain, to endorse in his message to congress a number of recommendations from the Legion having to do with national defense. The more important of these are: Universal draft in time of war; maintenance of the navy on a par with that of Great Britain and elevation of our battleship guns; liberal appropriations for the air service and the army; restoration of General Pershing to the active list; retirement of disabled emergency officers, and completion of the government's permanent hospital building program.

EVEN as the "Davies plan" is operating to restore the financial and economic stability of Europe, so may the "Porter plan" also American, put an end to the illegal use of opium and other pernicious drugs. It has been submitted to the League of Nations conference on opium in Geneva by its author, Congressman Stephen Porter,

chairman of the American delegation, and is warmly supported by the representatives of most of the forty-odd powers; but at this writing some of them, notably Great Britain, are opposed because it will mean economic losses, and maneuvers to render the plan ineffective are expected.

The Porter plan provides for the reduction and restriction of the growing of opium-making poppies and for a system of import licenses under the control of the governments; for full superintendence of the marketing of the drug, from the manufactory to the prescription counter; and for the complete outlawing of heroin. It also provides that certain countries that permit the importation of certain narcotic drugs reduce their imports by 10 per cent annually and finally shut out those drugs entirely.

SERN declarations by Australia, New Zealand and Canada that they propose to keep themselves "white" despite the success of Japan in influencing the drawing up of the proposed security, arbitration and disarmament protocol are having their effect. The British government has asked the League of Nations council to postpone indefinitely consideration of the protocol, on the ground that it has not had time to study it. British officials denied this meant the scrapping of the agreement, saying a substitute might be offered. In Washington the action was viewed as the beginning of readjustments in which Great Britain would gradually turn away from Japan and defer more to the attitude of the United States. It will be remembered that, as drawn up, the protocol permits Japan to appeal to the League of Nations against any nation that excludes the Japanese, as does the United States.

One early result of the British action may be the calling of a conference by President Coolidge to consider the further reduction of naval strength and of land forces. He had this in mind last summer, but dropped the plan when a similar conference was proposed by the league. This latter project, it is believed, must now be postponed or entirely abandoned because of the British request.

YOUNG Mr. Gilbert, agent general for reparations, has run against his first big snag. The entente nations have been collecting, through recovery acts, a 26 per cent tax on German imports, and Mr. Gilbert has notified the German minister of finance that after December 1 the reparations agent will collect such moneys, but will not reimburse the German government for them. Mr. Gilbert meant this as an assertion of the jurisdiction of the transfer commission over all reparations money. It is not an attack on the recoveries, as Germans at first hoped it was. The French especially are displeased with Mr. Gilbert's action. They assert they will continue to collect the tax and that it has nothing to do with the Dawes plan. The British are said to take the same attitude. The dispute may be referred to a neutral expert, as provided in the Dawes plan.

AUSTRIA, after all, is deprived of the services of Mr. Seipel, for, stating that he found it impossible to carry out successfully the economic policies laid down by the League of Nations, he has resigned. Rudolph Rimek has succeeded him as chancellor and, though he promises to follow Mr. Seipel's reconstruction policies, the outlook is not very good. Doctor Seipel was driven from office by the opposition of bankers and officials to a budget of \$100,000,000 for next year and by the resentment of speculators and profiteers whose operations he sought to check.

GEN. WU PEI-FU reached Hankow and, in conjunction with the technicians of the Yangtze and Yellow river provinces, established a military government and proclaimed its independence of Peking. He said he intended to raise 200,000 troops for the purpose of driving General Feng and Marshal Chang from the capital, and then left for Wuchang with 20,000 men. Sun Yat-sen is now in Japan to discuss the situation and strengthen the friendship of the Japanese for his side of the quarrel in China. Meanwhile Chiang is watching for the chance to eliminate Feñg, the betrayer of Wu.

ESTHONIA is going ahead resolutely with the trials of about two hundred Communists accused of revolutionary plotting, and several have been executed, despite the demands and threatening actions of soviet Russia. There are daily demonstrations before the Estonian consulate in Moscow, arranged by officials of the Third Internationale, and along the Estonian border are large concentrations of soviet troops.

TWO ministries quit office last week, that of Portugal, because parliament refused it a vote of confidence, and that of Finland because the diet accepted measures providing pensions for state officials. The new government of Mexico took office, Calles being inaugurated President.

LUMBERMEN from 40 states and that of Portugal, because parliament refused it a vote of confidence, and that of Finland because the diet accepted measures providing pensions for state officials. The new government of Mexico took office, Calles being inaugurated President.

THE American Federation of Labor is in convention in El Paso, Texas, and probably will have before it nothing more exciting than the row between the United Mine Workers of America and the Coal River Collieries company, which is owned by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Early in the proceedings a resolution was introduced censuring the actions and attitude of the coal company and condemning Warren S. Stone, chairman of its board of directors and president of the engineers' brotherhood. A warm fight over this was promised in committee, and also on the floor if it were recommended for adoption. John L. Lewis, head of the mine workers, was endorsed for the position of secretary of labor. President Gompers, in his opening address, intimated that he would soon be compelled by age to relinquish his activities, but there was little question of his re-election for another term.

WHAT was considered a victory for radical socialism and a demonstration of the strength of Premier Herriot's position was the action of the French senate in granting amnesty to Joseph Caillaux, former premier, who was convicted of obstructing the prosecution of the war, and to Louis Malvy, former minister of the interior, who was convicted of having communicated with the enemy. Both men had been banished, the former from Paris and the latter from France.

ALL Ireland and innumerable people elsewhere mourn the death of the venerable Cardinal Logue at his residence in Armagh. He celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday about a month ago. The cardinal was beloved by Catholics and Protestants alike and was always the unflinching advocate of peace in Ireland. He was given the red hat 21 years ago.

Thomas H. Ince, one of the leading producers of moving pictures in America and the developer of many film celebrities, was stricken with heart disease while aboard his yacht off San Diego and died three days later at his Beverly Hills home. He had just passed his forty-third birthday. Among the stars who owe their success to Mr. Ince are Charles Ray, William S. Hart, Douglas McLean, Dorothy Dalton, Madge Bellamy and Doris May.

BY DIRECTION of Attorney General Stone, the Department of Justice has obtained the indictment of the Baltimore Daily Post for publishing income tax lists. This is a test case and speedy court action is sought.

The Kitchen Cabinet

Underneath the surface of Today Lies Yesterday, and what we call the Past. The only thing which never can decay.

Things bygone are the only things that last; The Present is mere grass, quick-mown away; The Past is stone, and stands forever fast. —Eugene Lee-Hamilton.

CHRISTMAS SWEETS

Let us prepare early to collect something different in recipes for our Christmas candy. A candy thermometer may be bought for a small sum, and if carefully used will last a lifetime. With a thermometer one is sure to have uniform results. A bright clear day is always best for any of the boiled candies.

Peanut Candy.—Who does not enjoy a good peanut candy, not too hard and brittle? Here is one that is the "best ever." Take one pound of peanuts, shell, remove the brown husks and roll with the rolling pin until the nuts are like coarse crumbs. Put into a saucepan two pounds of brown sugar and twelve tablespoonfuls of butter. Put over the heat and count the time from the first bubble, stir constantly and cook just seven minutes, then add the peanuts, stir and pour into a well-greased dripping pan. Mark off in squares.

Caramel Mixture.—Put into a saucepan one cupful of white sugar, one-half cupful of light brown sugar, one-third of a cupful of sirup, one-fourth of a cupful of butter and one-half cupful of heavy cream. Stir until dissolved, then cook without stirring to 246 degrees Fahr. Flavor with almond or vanilla and pour into a buttered pan. When cool shape into balls and cover with fondant, folding it around the ball with the fingers. Press a pecan nut meat closely on the outside.

Cream Candy.—Cook together two cupfuls of sugar and one cupful of cream until it forms a soft ball in water. Flavor to taste and beat well before pouring into a greased dish.

Peppermint Creams.—Boil together one and one-half cupfuls of granulated sugar and one-half cupful of water, until it spins a thread. Add six drops of peppermint extract. Beat until creamy, then drop by teaspoonfuls on glazed paper.

Lo, now is come the joyful feast! Let every man be jolly, Each room with yule leaves is dressed, And every post with holly.

Now all the neighbors' chimneys smoke, And Christmas blocks are burning; Their ovens they with bak'd meats choke, And all their spits are turning.

Without the door let sorrow lie, And if, for cold, it hap to die, We'll bury 't in a Christmas pye. And evermore be merry.

Fondant.—Take four cupfuls of sugar, one cupful of water and stir until dissolved over heat, cover and cook about five minutes; now add one-half teaspoonful of cream of tartar and if the thermometer is used, cook to 238 degrees Fahr. If no thermometer, drop a little into cold water and when a soft waxy ball can be rolled with the fingers, remove at once and pour out on a lightly greased platter to cool. When cool enough to bear the finger, begin to stir with a wooden spoon, then knead into a loaf, pack in a bowl, cover with waxed paper and let stand for a day or two to ripen.

Stuffed Raisins.—Mix equal parts of fondant and almond paste with a little color of green. Wash and wipe the raisins and cut nearly into halves. Remove the seeds and place a small ball of almond fondant in the raisin so that a wide band shows. Let dry overnight, then dip in glaze.

Agar Paste.—Soak four tablespoonfuls of granulated agar in one cupful of cold water. Put three-fourths of a cupful of sugar and one-half cupful of white sirup in a saucepan. Dissolve the agar by stirring constantly placed over heat, then strain over the sugar and cook to 222 degrees Fahr. Flavor, color and pour into a pan lined with heavy paper and wet with cold water. Pour in to the depth of half an inch and set away to harden for two days. Cut into squares, dip in fondant, melted, sprinkle with chopped nuts. A teaspoonful of glycerin added to a recipe for fondant will, when melting, give a gloss to the candies.

Grilled Almonds.—Heat in a frying pan four tablespoonfuls of olive oil and when very hot turn in two cupfuls of blanched almonds. Stir until the nuts are brown, then drain in a sieve and spread the nuts on absorbent paper to dry. Sprinkle with salt and serve very soon before the nuts lose their crispness.

Nellie Maxwell

For Golds



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Bonus for Babies
With the idea of increasing the birth rate in Greater Berlin, which is below normal, the German city decided that every new baby is to be given a savings account of three gold marks by the municipality. Where twins, triplets or quadruplets are born, extra bonuses are to be bestowed. The savings account will be made out in the name of the baby itself and will draw interest. The money may be withdrawn from the bank only when the child reaches the age of fourteen.

A Close Call
Friend—"Did you get the DuBarry estate settled up?" Lawyer—"Yes, but the heirs almost got a part of it."

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Sparrow Air Champion
Even the lowly sparrow still can outfly the dirigible ZR-3, if the record of a Belgian farmer can be trusted. Desiring to test the speed of a sparrow which nested under the eaves of his cottage, the farmer tagged the sparrow and four carrier pigeons and mailed them to a friend at Compiègne, France, 146 miles distant from his home, with instructions to release the birds.

According to the farmer, it took the pigeons more than five minutes to find their bearings. On the other hand, the sparrow started homeward immediately, and, flying a straight course, arrived at its nest in an hour and eight minutes.

Sore eyes, blood-shot eyes, watery eyes, itchy eyes, all healed promptly with nightly applications of Romby Eye Balsam. Adv.

China Discovers Yeast
Insistent calls of Chinese housewives for fresh bread has led to the recent establishment of a modern compressed yeast plant near Shanghai, capable of producing 3,000 pounds of yeast daily. The tendency of the Chinese to turn more and more from their traditional rice-habit has become noticeable in recent years with the starting up of flour mills throughout the republic and the increased imports of flour. The new yeast plant is the only one of its kind in the Far East, the New York Times says. Its product is sold as far south as Singapore and as far north as Harbin.

The actual is limited, the impossible is immense.

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