

OUTLOOK

and Independent



▶▶ Trend of the Week ◀◀

▶▶ Thomas Alva Edison

"MR. EDISON, one of the great technical inventors to whom we owe the possibility of alleviation and embellishment of our outward life, has departed from us.

"An inventive spirit has filled his own life and all our existence with bright light. Thankfully we accept his legacy, not only as a gift of his genius, but also as a mission placed in our hands. For to the new generation falls the task of finding the way for the right use of the gift given to us. Only if it solves this task will the new generation be worthy of its inheritance and become really happier than former generations."—Professor Albert Einstein.

▶▶ Gandhi on Volsteadism

"IT WAS a brave step, worthy of America, to have undertaken the most difficult task for her of total prohibition," Mahatma Gandhi has written to Arthur J. Davis of the Massachusetts Anti-Saloon League. "It would be a shame and a rude shock to reformers throughout the world if for any cause America abandoned the policy and returned to the drink evil."

What a pity that Gandhi does not know what he is talking about. "A shame and a rude shock to reformers," forsooth, were America to abandon a policy whose curious consequences have been bootlegging, rum-smuggling, beer-running, hijacking, corrupted police forces, sidewalk machine-gunning, ginger jake, sheep-dip cocktails, five-and-ten laws, life-for-a-pint sentences, bargain days in congested courts, drinking-dry Congressmen, school children with hip-flasks, disregard and disobedience of federal law, Willebrandt wine, wire-tapping, kitchen

dives and all the wretched rest of it. Will it be "a shame and a rude shock to reformers" if America abandons that policy? It will be a shame and a rude shock to reformers if she doesn't.

▶▶ Remember MacDonald

IN THE MIDST of the great expectations aroused by the visit of Premier Laval of France it is well to recall what happened during the recent visit of Premier MacDonald of Great Britain. It is well to recall the American cruisers sent out to greet Mr. MacDonald's liner, the 19-gun salute, the procession up New York Bay, the ticker-taped parade up Broadway, the ovation at City Hall, the world-wide radio broadcast, and, in a single day, the 35,000 words cabled abroad. It is well to recall that Mr. MacDonald made five official addresses, talked to both the Senate and the House, laid at least one wreath, attended innumerable luncheons and dinners, was host to a group of Philadelphia doctors, had his bronze bust placed in the Corcoran Art Gallery, and received another 19-gun salute at Washington, an honorary degree or so and the freedom of New York City. It is well to recall, finally, that his visit was called epochal by press, pulpit and politicians—to the point where it became heresy to suggest that no new era would eventuate.

That is what happened—a fraction of what happened—when Mr. Mac-

Donald visited Mr. Hoover. And the result—well, the result, alas, was a piffling little naval treaty, good enough so far as it went, no doubt, though it barely went at all. So far as the MacDonald visit was concerned it proved to be a most ironical climax. And now, so far as the Laval visit is concerned, we can but issue the caution that the time to exult and throw up our hats will be when, and if, we look upon what has actually been accomplished thereby and find it good.

▶▶ Capone Convicted

HE ERRS who thinks that the conviction of Al Capone for evasion of federal income taxes is a matter of no importance. To be sure, it is of little importance as it relates to prohibition, but it is of great importance as it relates to politics. Nowadays, of course, the supply of liquor in great cities like Chicago is determined almost wholly by the demand, and will not diminish until the demand diminishes. Lop off a liquor dealer and another will bob up to take his place, for the risk of eventual conviction is outweighed by the enormous profits.

But, though it is true that Chicago will continue to violate the prohibition laws as usual, this in no wise lessens the importance of the Capone conviction as political propaganda. Americans will hear a lot of that conviction before they have grown a year older. It will make first-class ammunition for stump speakers supporting our present dry Administration in the next campaign. Addressing dries, they will use it to show that the Administration is heart and soul for law enforcement, and getting results, too. Addressing wets and half-and-halves, they will use it to show that Capones are not an inevitable accompaniment of prohibi-



tion and that the dry laws are really enforceable after all. Practiced and perfervid stumpers will find it easy to forget, and make some of their hearers forget, that, though Capone has been convicted—convicted, ludicrously enough, for failing to divvy up with the government—hundreds of thousands of bootleggers are still going full blast, and that Volsteadism is farcically unenforced and hopelessly unenforceable, altogether wrong in principle, utterly ridiculous in practice.

►► Fifty Years of Progress

THE CELEBRATION of the French and American victory at Yorktown requires no comment; the events speak for themselves. As a former correspondent of the *OUTLOOK* has written, "The isolation of the spot, the difficulty in reaching it, the lack of accommodations when one had got there, the heat of the weather and the tardiness of those who had the preparations in charge made it doubtful whether the undertaking would not collapse at the critical moment, or at any rate disappoint the expectations of those who had come so far to participate in it. The American, however, is apt to come up to the emergency, and although for a number of days beforehand everything was in a state of confusion and squalor, yet before the appointed hour had arrived matters were measurably straightened out and the celebration proceeded with considerable éclat.

"The event of Tuesday was the laying of the cornerstone of the monument in which President Arthur took part.



Keystone

THOMAS ALVA EDISON

The appropriation for its erection was made by Congress nearly a hundred years ago, and it is unfortunate that the

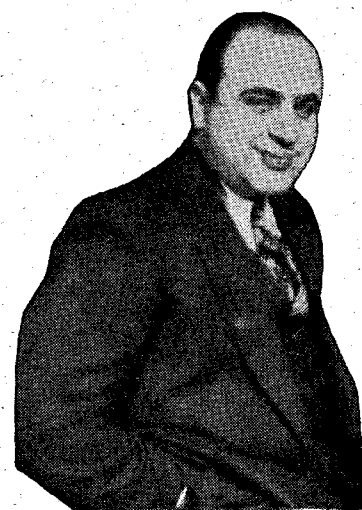
wisdom of a century had not evolved something that will befit the occasion and be creditable to American artistic skill. It was on Wednesday, the 19th, that the principal ceremonies took place. A rude shed had been erected for the accommodation of the speakers and their audience. The platform seen from the auditorium presented a brilliant spectacle, the bright colors of the flags and of the French uniforms gaily lighting up what would otherwise have been a bare and dismal interior. On the platform with the President were the French and German guests, the Cabinet officers, the governors of the several States, General Sherman and his staff, and various other dignitaries of greater or less importance. The President's address, which came first on the programme, was received with great enthusiasm and indeed there has been nothing in all the recent literature of the subject that has so finely caught or eloquently expressed the real significance of the occasion. President Arthur gave the proceedings, at the start, the direction which it was most desirable they should take, and turned what might have become in less skillful hands an occasion of offense to Great Britain into a demonstration of the heartiest good-will.

"It had been expected that the celebration would last over Friday, but since the French visitors desired to leave, the military and naval parades were crowded into one day and the affair terminated on Thursday evening. Along the dusty road where the Americans had stood, and through which the defeated English had marched into the field beyond, filed the American troops of today—first the regular infantry companies, then the marine corps, followed by sailors from the fleet, and afterwards the militia, led by the Catham Artillery of Georgia, whose organization dates from 1786. Those who had fought over the same ground twenty years ago, as General Hancock, the commanding officer of the occasion did, must have experienced a strange sensation to see the soldiers of the South marching side by side and fraternizing with those of the North, and winning equal encomiums for their soldierly bearing and martial tread." Thus our correspondent. He was writing, of course, to the *OUTLOOK* of 1881.

►► Brazil Defaults

THE SUSPENSION by the Brazilian government of cash interest payments on most of its bonds held abroad would occasion comparatively little concern in the United States if it were as simple as

it sounds. The suspension involves bonds of less than \$600,000,000 face value—\$150,000,000 worth held in the United



CAUGHT AND CONVICTED

Alphonse Capone, found guilty of evading income taxes

States—and is scheduled for but three years. Instead of paying interest in cash, Brazil will pay it in scrip to bear five per cent interest itself and to be retired in twenty to forty years. Here, then, it would seem, is nothing but a temporary loss for Americans of three annual cash payments of about \$10,000,000 each—Brazilian bonds pay 6 to 7½ per cent interest.

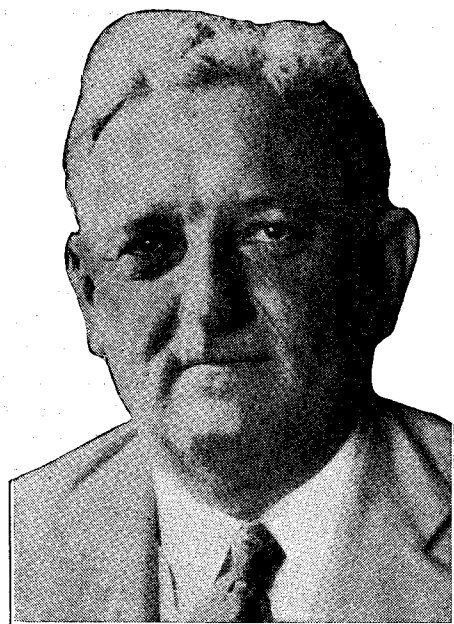
But the matter may not end here. In the first place, we can have no guarantee that Brazil will be able to resume cash interest payments at the end of three years. If such were assured, her government probably could have floated loans to care for the suspended payments. In the second place, what has been done for Brazil's federal bonds may be done for her state bonds, of which Americans hold nearly \$200,000,000 worth; negotiations concerning these bonds are in progress at this very moment. In the third place, what has been done in Brazil may be done in other Latin-American countries. While the governments in most of them have never had Brazil's reputation for stability, the economic conditions in most of them are as bad as, if not worse than, those which forced the Brazilian suspension. Moreover, if this suspension was forecast by startling nose-dives in the market value of Brazil's bonds, then additional suspensions may be forecast by similarly startling nose-dives which have taken place in the market value of other South American bonds. If the next few years bring no worse news than this from Rio de Janeiro, American bondholders will be lucky indeed.

►► On to Washington, Huey

IT IS TIME for Huey Long to go on to a bigger stage and a broader audience. While his war against claimants to his title as Governor of Louisiana is amusing enough in a way, it is an inferior vehicle for his side-splitting talents.

Elected to the United States Senate last year, our Huey, moved by the exigencies of Louisiana politics, decided to serve out his term as Governor before moving on to Congress, as other Senators-elect have done before him. Dr. Long (LL. D., Loyola) had as Lieutenant-Governor, however, one Dr. Paul N. Cyr, eminent Jeanerette dentist, who has been an ardent Long-hater for some time. Just as Dr. Long desired to retain the governorship in order to control the Democratic primaries in January and thereby determine his successor, so Dr. Cyr coveted it in order to build up his own machine. Hence Dr. Cyr's *coup d'état* and Dr. Long's *coup de maître*.

Contending that Dr. Long automatically lost his present job when he was elected to the Senate, Dr. Cyr induced a deputy court clerk at Shreveport to swear him in as Governor. Unhappily, however, he failed to take Dr. Long's capitol at Baton Rouge, which Dr. Long ordered the Louisiana National Guard to protect, as it did, despite orders to the contrary by Dr. Cyr. Thus rendered helpless, the pretender was ren-



Keystone

HUEY'S THORN

Dr. Paul N. Cyr, who claims Long's job as governor of Louisiana

dered ridiculous when some unknown unemployed man also took the oath as Governor and rendered jobless himself

when the president *pro tem* of the state Senate took the oath as Lieutenant-Governor.

So Huey seems to have won again, and he has also made a lot of Louisianans laugh again. Nevertheless, he should now take thought not merely of a state audience for his buffoonery but of the great national audience that awaits him. Entertaining a single state may be good enough for a Cyr. It is not good enough for a Long. In Washington, though, with Tom Heflin and Cole Blease gone, Huey would have the stage almost to himself—save, of course, for an occasional Brookhart—and the eyes of the whole country would be upon him. No doubt about it—Washington's the place for Huey to clown in now.

►► Privileged Concentrates

DISPATCHES from Washington declare that federal authorities plan no special campaign against the sale of grape concentrates, now that a federal judge in Kansas City, Missouri, has found a concentrate-distributing company guilty of violating the dry law. The assurance is hardly necessary. As every one now knows, the federal authorities, far from harassing the concentrate-sellers, are helping them in every way possible.

They have cheerfully accepted that construction of the Volstead law which holds that home-made wine, unlike other alcoholic beverages, is legal unless "intoxicating in fact"—that is, unless called intoxicating by a jury. They have never asked the Supreme Court to overrule this construction. Neither have they ever asked Congress to amend the law so that no such construction would be possible.

If they wished, they might ask the Supreme Court to outlaw the sale of California grape concentrates, and possibly the court would do so, since the Volstead act specifically provides that it be liberally interpreted so as to prevent the use of intoxicating liquor. Instead, they have actually subsidized the grape-growers with funds from the Federal Farm Board. They have also decided to prosecute the concentrate seller only when they can prove that his products are sold "with an intent that they be used in the manufacture of a beverage which is intoxicating in fact." Since intent is difficult to prove, this means that their rule is not to prosecute concentrate sellers at all. The exceptions come only when the sellers forget to be discreet, or when some district prohibition official tackles them without encouragement from Washington.

What it comes down to is that the

Administration is making a covert and piffling wet gesture. Intended to satisfy both wets and dries—as well as the grape



growers of Mr. Hoover's home state—it is actually satisfying neither. It irritates the dries and strikes the wets as simply another example of hypocrisy in high places.

►► Fur 'n Agin It Again

PRESIDENT HOOVER is still undecided whether he loves the taxpayers more than the unemployed or the unemployed more than the taxpayers. On Wednesdays he sidles up to the unemployed with plans for costly public works programs. On Thursdays he sidles up to the taxpayers with plans for drastic economies in government, though the fact is that no economy can possibly prevent another whopping deficit next June. On Fridays—on Friday, October 16, for example—he sidles up to the unemployed and the taxpayers both.

On that day Mr. Hoover said in one breath that, times being what they are, the only sound fiscal policy "is to reduce the expenditures of the government to the last cent consonant with the obligations of the government." In the next breath he said that "the federal government must make its contribution to expanded employment so long as the present situation continues." In a third breath he said that "these are times when with the large deficit facing the country even meritorious projects can, must and will be deferred." Two days later, in a radio address from Fortress Monroe, Virginia, he said that "the federal government is taking its part in aid to unemployment through the advancement and enlargement of public works in all parts of the nation."

Boil all this down and what we have is the self-contradictory statement that the government must save money so as to relieve the taxpayers but must spend money so as to relieve the unemployed.

So far as we can see, no one can possibly object to this program—at any rate, not to more than half of it.

►► For Wage Insurance

It is easy to understand why the American Federation of Labor, at its convention in Vancouver, opposed compulsory unemployment insurance which involves government contributions—the dreaded dole. It is difficult to understand why the Federation did not advocate compulsory unemployment insurance which does not involve government contributions. There is no dole to affright any one here. It is, at its best, simply a sound method by which employees, aided by employers, may save for a rainy day.

If the business depression has taught us anything, it is that some form of unemployment insurance is indispensable. The obvious form for the United States, the form which best accords with our traditions, is that in which the government extends no financial assistance whatever, in which the funds are contributed by employers and employees alone. To the development of this form so that it will be fair both to union and non-union labor, and generally acceptable to state legislatures, the Federation might well devote its best talents.

Few people realize that the dole is not an inevitable accompaniment of unemployment insurance. Fewer realize that several unemployment insurance systems, financed by employers, by employees, or by both, are already in operation in the United States. The task ahead of us is to extend such insurance until it covers practically all our industries. This, as the Rockefeller-financed Industrial Relations Counselors reported last December after careful study of the subject, “will come only through legislation.” Human nature being what it is, employers are not eager to set aside funds for unemployment insurance just as they now set aside funds for accident insurance. They must, therefore, be compelled to do so by state legislatures.

►► The Church in Spain

FERNANDO DE LOS RIOS, Spanish Minister of Justice, goes astray when he says that his country intends to place the church “in the same position as in America.” The evident intention in Spain is not merely to disestablish the church but to dismember it. The provisions relating to the church in the new Spanish Constitution scarcely resemble the First Amendment to our own Constitution declaring that “Congress shall

make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

It is not surprising to find hostility to the church so intense and widespread in Spain. So closely related were the monarchy and the Catholic church that the overthrow of the one inevitably meant attacks upon the other. As soon as Alfonso was expelled it became apparent that anti-clericalism—as well as the separatist tendencies of certain provinces—would complicate Spain’s job of transforming itself into a republic. Temporarily the separatist movements have died down, but on October 14, six



Wide World

ANTI-CLERICAL

Don Manuel Azana, new president of Spain

months to the day after the Spanish revolution, the feeling against the church reached a climax in the resignation of President Alcala Zamora.

Though a Catholic, Zamora was evidently willing to have the Cortes, or National Assembly, adopt Article III of the new Constitution, declaring that “No official state religion exists.” He was not, however, willing to have hostility toward the church carried further. Hence he opposed and brought about the defeat of another article—dissolving all church orders and nationalizing their property—and resigned when, despite his opposition, the Cortes adopted Article XXIV, empowering, though not compelling, the state to dissolve church orders, to confiscate part of their property and to prevent them from teaching and from engaging in commerce and industry. These blows at the church were supported by Don Manuel Azana, who succeeded Zamora as President.

One can but wonder whether the pendulum which has been swinging away from the church in Spain will not eventually swing back. To be sure, it has

not done so in Russia, but the Roman Catholic church seems to have a far stronger hold on the Spanish people than the Greek Catholic church ever had on the Russians.

►► Indicted Bishop

THE indictment of a bishop is not an ordinary event. But James Cannon, Jr.—indicted on charges of violating the corrupt practices act by failing to file his 1928 anti-Smith expenditures in full—is not an ordinary bishop. The average bishop becomes known for his work as a spiritual leader. Bishop Cannon has become known for—but let the story be told by the *New York Times*’ quarterly news indexes, for example, by those covering the year from July 1, 1930, to June 30, 1931. Dates omitted, the first quarter reads:

Stock transactions inserted in Cong. Record. Marries H. H. McCallum.

Plans

To preside at three conferences in Brazil to set up autonomous M. E. Ch.; not a member of Amer. delegation.

Refuses to discuss marriage.

4 traveling elders present indictment against him to W. N. Ainsworth, chmn of Coll. of Meth. Bishops, who must appoint com. of 12 to investigate Cannon’s personal and pol. conduct; accusations kept secret.

Reptd to have sailed for N. Y. from Brazil.

Bishop H. M. Du Bose urges him to resign; W. N. Ainsworth officials receive charges. Comments by radio on accusations against him.

F. J. Prettyman, one of 4 elders who instituted charges against him, answers his objections.

Arrives at Hamilton, Bermuda; F. J. Prettyman and I. P. Martin defend legality of charges.

Arrives in New York; refuses to discuss charges against him; discusses ntl issues, especially prohibition.

And the next quarter:

J. C. L. Dowling denies statement that R. C.s as class oppose prohibition.

W. N. Ainsworth and 4 elders who brought charges against him, F. J. Prettyman, I. P. Martin, C. J. Harrell and J. T. Mastin confer.

Ainsworth will appt. investigating com.; Blackstone (Pa.) Coll. for Girls considers asking Cannon to resign as chmn of bd of trustees; he resigns.

Prepares to fight charges.

Sues W. R. Hearst for \$5,000,000, charging publisher with making false statements in his newspapers.

Listed by Crusaders as aiding prohibition defeat.

Accusers, after meeting with him, press charges; investigation to begin as soon as Bishop Ainsworth appts. com. of 12.

Reptd suffering from breakdown in Wash, D. C., hosp.

III.

W. N. Ainsworth announces apptmt of com. to investigate charges against him.

Meeting of com. to investigate charges postponed because of his illness.
G. H. Tinkham urges prosecution for alleged violation of corrupt practices act in Pres. Campaign of 1928.
Opposes dry support of prohibition referendum.

And the next quarter:

Ill; condition.
M. E. Ch. South hearing; Sen. presses election charges.
Hearing on charges scheduled; read for inquiry; charges heard in secret; por.; hearings; part of charges based on statements of 2nd wife, H. M.; trial with M. F. Morgan as main witness; cleared of all charges.
Accuser, Rev. Dr. C. J. Harrell, protests against clearing; Cannon ill in hosp.
Faces new inquiry by Nye Com. concerning use of Jameson fund in Pres. Campaign of 1928; promises to appear.
Attends Sen. campaign investigating com. hearings in wheel chair; S. A. Barrow testifies Cannon appropriated \$8,000 check for campaign fund.
Bd of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals of M. E. Ch. approves exoneration by M. E. Ch. South bd of ministers; urges end of "unscrupulous persecution."
Makes good his son's worthless checks.

And the next quarter—but why go on through the next quarter? Suffice it to say that it has Bishop Cannon challenging "power of Sen campaign funds investigating com to investigate further his activities in anti-Smith campaign in Va"; denying "implication that he seeks delay to gain protection of statute of limitations"; filing "suit against Repr G H Tinkham for \$500,000 for alleged libel"; predicting "election of dry candidates in 1932," and suing "W R Hearst, Chicago Herald and Examiner and 29 other Hearst newspapers on libel charges." No, it will not be a shock to see this particular Bishop in the courtroom and the witness box.

►►O'Neill's Trilogy

O'NEILL ENTHUSIASTS who have flinched at the prospect of spending three entire evenings and three admission fees to see the new trilogy, *Mourning Becomes Electra* need not flinch so much. In spite of persistent announcements to the contrary, it now appears that the forthcoming work, which opens in New York late this month, will be performed, complete, in one evening. It will begin at five o'clock with an hour's intermission for dinner. Once a threatened earthquake has been avoided, a mere thunderstorm becomes a positive pleasure. Who, having prepared to devote three evenings to O'Neill, will murmur if he has only to arrive at the theatre at tea time and remain far, far into the night?



Remarkable Remarks

Most people realize that there has been a profound industrial depression.—H. G. WELLS.

God sends these depressions to chasten us and to unite us. In adversity, strange as it may seem, we see instances of true charity and consideration of others.—CARDINAL MUNDELEIN.

We are growing out of this worship of material possessions.—HENRY FORD.

Russia has us fooled, beaten, shamed, shown up, outpointed, and all but knocked out.—GEORGE BERNARD SHAW.

Something ought to be done about prohibition.—MRS. ELLA A. BOOLE.

Clean out your crooked administrations, put in clean men, tell 'em to get the gangsters . . . your gangsters are gone.—MAJ. GEN. SMEDLEY D. BUTLER.

We must keep America whole, and safe, and unspoiled.—AL CAPONE.

Ours is a country which gives its people civil and religious liberty.—VICE-PRESIDENT CHARLES CURTIS.

It takes money to run political campaigns.—RT. REV. JAMES CANNON, JR.

A great many divorces are caused by the woman's unwillingness to live up to her part of the contract.—PEGGY HOPKINS JOYCE.

Conditions governing the Remarkable Remarks contest will be found on page 288

The interesting thing, however, is that, if the new play is up to O'Neill's best standard, it probably would be a financial success even if it took three evenings. Eugene O'Neill is one man, in this day when the customer always comes first, who can play fast and loose with his audiences' patience and get away with it. He has tried them with esoteric ideas and with a whole bagful of technical innovations. Of late he has added the sternest trial of all—long-windedness. Yet they flock to see him. His last play, the nine-act *Strange Interlude*, which begins at five-thirty, after four successful years is still filling the houses on tour.

The answer is, of course, that O'Neill writes fine plays. Yet it takes courage, even for a first-rate playwright, to risk prolixity, especially when he depends on box-office receipts for his living. The artist in any field who has over much to say is more likely to make disciples than to make money. Richard Wagner was one who could tax the endurance powers of his audiences to the limit and make both disciples and money. Apparently O'Neill is another.

J. J. Bruchlman, Woodville, Ohio, \$5 prize.

Merion Roberts, 3220 Thomas St., Chicago, Ill., \$2 prize.

Miss Violet Jahn, 123 S. Edith, Apt. 6, Albuquerque, New Mexico, \$2 prize.

Henry Chas. Suter, S. Jacksonville, Fla., \$2 prize.

Dile Train, 73 Sullivan St., Forty Fort, Penna., \$2 prize.

Miss Elois F. Elden, 1405 Grant St., Berkeley, Calif., \$2 prize.

Mrs. Isabel W. Waite, 19 Pleasant St., Reading, Mass., \$2 prize.

Mrs. A. Oravitz, 335 McKean Ave., Charleroi, Pa., \$2 prize.

Mrs. H. Gehrke, 102 E. Stoughton St., Champaign, Ill., \$2 prize.

Mrs. Olive M. Hagar, 5540 Pershing Ave., St. Louis, Mo., \$2 prize.

►►Follow Through

MID-OCTOBER interest in the control of the House of Representatives, of the British House of Commons and of the German Reichstag—subjects recently discussed in these pages—centered upon the following developments:

On October 13 Thomas R. Amlie, a wet La Follette Republican, was elected to Congress by the First Wisconsin District. This gave the Republicans a majority of one in the House, which was turned into a tie four days later by the death of Representative Ackerman of New Jersey. It may be turned back either way by the five other special elections to be held in early November. Whether the Republicans or the Democrats organize Congress, however, the important point is that neither will have a majority for effective control.

On October 16 the lists were closed for candidates in the British elections of October 27, when Premier MacDonald will seek a majority in the House of Commons for his National Government—made up of Conservatives, Liberals and a few Laborites who stuck with him

rather than with the Labor party itself. The closing gave the Conservatives 47 seats without opposition, but afforded no



ONE WHO MISSED
Robert P. Lamont, another
of the prophets with-
out accuracy

clue to the outcome of the regular elections. With six distinct groups in the field, with the free-traders rallied against MacDonald, with decreased doles and civil service salaries injuring his popularity, the campaign is so complicated that even observers on the spot eschew predictions.

On October 16 a series of votes in the Reichstag gave Chancellor Bruening a new lease on life for his Moderate government. The extreme parties—Communists on the left and Fascists, or Hitlerites, on the right—attempted to force new parliamentary elections in the hope of using hard times to gain additional seats. As a result of their defeat the Reichstag has voted to adjourn until February. This means that Dr. Bruening can proceed with his program of moderation without fear of elections or parliamentary intervention.

Remember?

How on December 6, 1929, Robert P. Lamont, Secretary of Commerce, said: "Within the last few days 'confidence' has replaced 'fear' in the business world, and the country may look forward to the future with hope."

And on December 31, 1929, he said: "It is impossible, of course, to forecast what temporary ups and downs may occur, but the nature of the economic development of the United States is such that one may confidently predict, for a long run, a continuance of prosperity and progress."

And on February 10, 1930, he said: "There is nothing in the business situation to be disturbed about."

And on March 3, 1930, he said: "My own opinion is that during the forepart of this year American industrial enterprise has had inevitably to slow down. That slowing down seems to be passing over, and with the unusual increase of out-of-door work in the Northern states as weather conditions moderate, we are likely to find the country as a whole enjoying its wonted state of prosperity."

And on December 6, 1930, he said: "We have weathered the worst of the storm, and signs of stability and recovery are already appearing."

And on December 31, 1930, he said that "while it is impossible to forecast at what time unmistakable evidence of improvement in business will occur, it is clear that we have reached a point where cessation of further declines and beginning of recovery may reasonably be expected."

Remember?

(To be continued)

Note on a Cracker

PERHAPS it's the depression, perhaps it's just the dearth of good cooks. At any rate, the department of agricultural chemistry at Ohio State University has developed a new food product which should make Brillat-Savarin spin in his grave and Oscar of the Waldorf fling aside his truffle paste in despair.

It looks like a cracker, according to reports. It tastes like a cracker—a salted one of whole wheat. In fact, it is a cracker, but with a difference. According to Dr. John F. Lyman, under whose supervision it was developed, it supplies all the staple elements in the human diet, except water and possibly fresh vegetables. The idea, apparently, is that you may sit down with a pocketful of crackers, a glass of water and perhaps a bit of spinach and be assured that you are eating the equivalent of soup, roast chicken with stuffing, potatoes, green peas, salad and apple pie and coffee.

As anyone else would who likes to tuck his napkin into his collar before a thumping good dinner, we read the news about these crackers with a feeling of indignation. Then it occurred to us that probably they were not intended for human beings but rather for endurance fliers, pole sitters, long-distance swimmers, marathon dancers and other strange persons who wouldn't be eating anything good anyhow. We decided that the American people were sound at heart and that they would ignore the new cracker and go on ordering steak and potatoes. Whereupon we relaxed and started thinking about dinner.

In Brief

WHAT A WHOPPING international incident would have been created if M. Laval, having arrived at New York, had accidentally boarded a train for Albany instead of one for Washington It is reported that Mrs. Minnie ("Ma") Kennedy Hudson, mother of Aimee Semple McPherson Hutton, will go on the stage with her husband. One feels that she will be very happy there Administration spokesmen say that the stock market, which has been going down, is not an accurate barometer of business. Isn't it—or isn't it—strange, though, that they never say that when the stock market is going up? It must be a comfort to the Tariff Board to reflect that if it did suspend operations during the depression, as some people say it should, no one would ever know the difference The only trouble with Gerard Swope's statement that we never will get universal unemployment insurance without government action is that we're all going to feel pretty silly calling the president of the General Electric Company a Bolshevik And pretty silly telling Mr. Swope, who was born in St. Louis, Missouri, to go back to Russia where he came from We rather like the idea that this country should prevent foreign critics from passing remarks about our dollar and our financial



Wide World

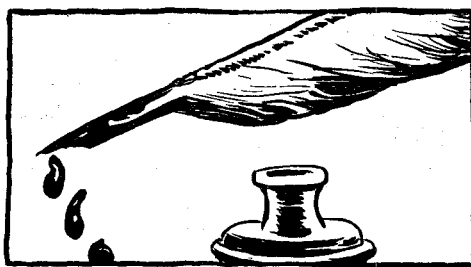
ON THE SPOT

Prentiss B. Gilbert, our representative at Geneva

stability in general, and if only some one will tell us how to put it into execution we'll be for it enthusiastically.

➤➤ Good for Secretary Stimson! ◀◀

SECRETARY of State Stimson and his chief, President Hoover, both deserve high praise for their coöperation with the League of Nations to remove the threat of war in Manchuria. Those who have denounced this intelligent action have simply made themselves absurd. What, fundamentally, was Mr. Stimson's task? It was to do his part to prevent a war in the Far East. And what were the instruments at hand for the accomplishment of this task? The best ones were the League of Nations, which taken by itself is none too strong, and the Kellogg pact, or Pact of Paris, which taken by itself is extremely feeble. The obvious thing to do, then, was to make the two weak instruments into a strong one by temporarily binding them together. And that is what Secretary Stimson did.



➤➤ LET US SEE EXACTLY what our relations with the League in this affair have been. On September 22 the League Council decided to ask Japan and China to refrain from any act which might aggravate the situation in Manchuria and to send a memorandum on its decision and deliberations to the United States, which as a signer and as chief advocate of a pact for the prevention of war was naturally assumed to have an interest in preventing war. Shortly thereafter Mr. Stimson notified the League that he had received its communication and that we were "in wholehearted sympathy" with its attitude. The Council expressed appreciation of this friendly answer and added, correctly enough, that "it is by a continuance of common endeavor that a successful result is most likely to be achieved."

➤➤ WHEN THE THREAT of war in the Orient continued, Mr. Stimson, on October 9, notified the League that the American Government, "acting independently through its diplomatic representatives, will endeavor to reinforce what the League does and will make clear that it has a keen interest in the matter and is not oblivious to the obligations which the disputants have assumed to their fellow-signatories in the Pact of Paris . . . should a time arise when it would seem advisable to bring forward these obligations." This statement caused a great hullabaloo among American isolationists, who read sensational meanings into it that were not there. Declaring that he would "endeavor to reinforce what the League does," they said, Mr. Stimson pledged himself to reinforce whatever the League does. Of course he had done nothing of the kind. He had merely said that we would reinforce any League action which pleased us.

➤➤ BUT IF THE ISOLATIONISTS regretted this step, they fairly roared at the next one. It was taken when Mr. Stimson authorized Prentiss Gilbert, our Consul General at Geneva, to consult with the League Council on a possible application of the Kellogg pact, if invited to do so. Eventually Mr. Stimson felt obliged to make a public denial of their far-fetched statements that the United

States, by directing its representative to confer with the Council on one sharply limited aspect of the problem in Manchuria, had thereby entered the League. But, though these allegations troubled him, they did not stop him, and when, over the temporary but compromising objection of Japan, the League invited us to sit in on its deliberations, Mr. Stimson accepted, making it plain that we would take no part in

discussions on application of the League Covenant but simply in those on application of the Kellogg pact. The League Council thereupon decided to ask its members, which are signatories of the pact, as well as non-members like Russia and the United States, which are also signatories, to address individual but identical notes to China and Japan reminding them of their pledge in the pact to seek the settlement of all disputes by pacific means. Several nations had followed this course and the United States, approving it, was preparing to follow it at this writing.

➤➤ THAT IS THE WHOLE STORY, and it is decidedly not a story of our entrance into the League of Nations. We have committed ourselves to nothing further. We may act with the League again when another dispute arises between nations, or we may not—just as we choose. We may endorse and participate in further steps taken by the League in this present dispute—if further steps are necessary—or we may not—again, just as we choose. Senator Johnson of California is blubbing without cause when he says: "Into the League of Nations America is shoved despite our people. We have a new kind of government. The old cumbersome mode of the Constitution has been superseded by a dictatorship and an oligarchy."

➤➤ THIS IS OBVIOUSLY CHILDISH, and other protestations against Secretary Stimson's action are no less so. The basic job of the State Department was to prevent a war, a war which might eventually involve many countries outside the Orient—might eventually involve the United States itself—and which, even if it did not, would have serious effects on trade and on the recovery of business. Isolationists cannot, dare not, say that that is not a worthy objective. The most they can do is to object to one part of the course which Secretary Stimson followed to reach it. And that is carping, picayune criticism of the most disheartening kind. If we cannot go even so far as this to prevent war, then in the name of common sense let us admit that we regard wars as inevitable.

➤➤ IF THERE IS ANYTHING in the idea that war can be prevented by mobilizing public opinion and directing it against the prospective combatants, then the fact will soon appear. For that is what the League and the American State Department are trying to do; a great experiment is taking place before our eyes. Secretary Stimson can be assured that his critics do not represent the country as a whole. He can be assured that his primary objective—to prevent a war—has the overwhelming support of American public opinion.

THE EDITORS.