

SEEN and HEARD around the NATIONAL CAPITAL By Carter Field

Washington.—Where is this capital which is "on strike"? Where are the dollars which, if put to work, would, as President Roosevelt sees it, save the capitalistic system?

There is so much misinformation going around on this subject that a little fact, gleaned by questioning reserve board experts, bankers and other authorities, might be injected. First, it is not in banks. Money in bank is not "on strike." The bank can use it for commercial loans, or for buying bonds in some enterprise. It is not in government bonds. Selling these would merely mean that some one else would hold them, which would not change the situation at all.

Some of it is hoarded—currency and perhaps a little illegally held gold in safe deposit boxes, or buried. But this amount, so far as the total goes, is chicken feed.

Actually, this capital is potential, not actual. It does not exist, but it could be made to exist. The President thinks it should be made to exist. The folks who could make it exist are not willing to take the chances involved. That is the whole story, but hardly anybody seems to believe it!

Let us illustrate. A thinks there is an excellent opportunity to make some money by starting a factory to make soap-bubble-blowing machines. A has no ready cash, but he has good credit, is favorably known to his bankers, not only as a man who has always paid his debts on the nail, but as a good business executive. In short, a good risk.

So A has no difficulty borrowing \$500,000 to erect this factory and start operations. He also has the confidence of half a dozen friends who happen to have good credit, so they borrow another \$500,000 from banks and take a chance with A.

How It's Done

In any real transaction of this sort probably the loans would be made by several banks, but to simplify matters let us assume that one bank loaned the entire million dollars.

Actually the bank does not pay out a cent of currency. It merely enters up the loan on its books. It thereby increases its deposits—temporarily—one million dollars, and increases its loans by the same amount.

Let us assume further, to make the illustration simple, that the bank had already loaned up to the limit permitted by reserve requirements of the actual money on deposit, plus capital and surplus.

The banker would merely take the notes of A and his friends, plus perhaps a few others, over to the Federal Reserve bank. The reserve bank would hand him \$1,000,000 or whatever amount was covered by the notes in bright new currency. Or it would, more likely, merely enter on the books that this particular bank making the loans for the new factory had now so much on deposit.

So it might be that no new money would ever be printed, though that could be done if it were advisable for any reason.

So a million dollars would be put to work. A million dollars which did not exist before A and his friend called on the bankers. A million dollars which would never exist if A and his friends did not think there was a good chance for a profit if they built a new soap-bubble-blowing machine factory.

That's the money which is "on strike."

Court Vacancies

Three more Supreme court vacancies within a year will insure a minimum of five appointments to the high bench that President Roosevelt will have in his second term, as against none in his first four years. The three expected to follow Justice George Sutherland off the high tribunal are Justices Louis D. Brandeis, James Clark McReynolds and Pierce Butler.

Of these McReynolds and Butler are the last two of the real conservatives. Sutherland and Willis Van Devanter with these two having made up the conservative front on the court. So that there will be only four men on the court not appointed by Roosevelt, and one of these four an out and out liberal—Justice Benjamin N. Cardozo. The remaining three, Justices Harlan F. Stone, Owen J. Roberts and Chief Justice Charles E. Hughes, are all more or less "in and outers," so to speak, so far as cleavage between progressivism and reactionism is concerned.

Justice Brandeis is now past eighty-one. He has intended for some time to retire. Though regarded as the most liberal member of the high bench, he did not approve at all of the President's attempt to enlarge the court, and as a matter of fact supplied considerable of the ammunition used against the President in the senate battle on that issue.

Justices McReynolds and Butler

would have resigned some time back if they had not thought it their duty to remain. They distrusted the President's economic views, and did not wish to give him a chance to replace them with men who would go along with New Dealism.

Fight Is Over

But that fight is over. The President really defeated the conservatives on the Supreme court the day he proposed to add six new justices. Most lawyers agree that it was this pressure which resulted in the high court's sustaining the Wagner labor relations act. They think it was this pressure which guided the court into much more liberal decisions on other cases than would otherwise have been made. Many senators think it was this same pressure which resulted in Justice Van Devanter's resignation, which was timed most strategically with respect to the senate fight.

There was some little regret about this afterward among the conservatives. Afterward it was apparent that this particular sacrifice was unnecessary—that the opponents of the President would have won anyway. That, of course, is a matter of opinion, but once Hugo L. Black became a justice there was no longer much doubt about how the court would go in cases sharply drawing the conservative versus liberal line.

So the conception of patriotic duty which had caused Sutherland, Butler and McReynolds to remain on the bench, long after their personal inclinations were to resign, gradually faded. With Sutherland's passing and another New Dealer to succeed him, the duty of Butler and McReynolds to remain vanished.

Hence their retirements will come during 1938, probably at the end of the present term, in June, and Roosevelt will have the full responsibility for the Supreme court as well as the administrative part of the government. He will have named an actual majority.

South for Farley

If the governorship of New York this fall could be decided by a vote of the senators in the states from the Mason and Dixon's line to the Rio Grande, James A. Farley would be the next occupant of the executive mansion at Albany. Until the recent White House intimation that Robert H. Jackson was the White House choice for the Albany job the southern senators had not worried much about New York politics. In fact, they thought it was all settled. They thought the postmaster general had the inside track.

When they thought about it at all they wondered if Jim would be very belligerent in fighting for delegates—after he had been governor for a couple of years—and whether this belligerence would take the form of fighting for delegates for himself or whether he would still be taking orders from F. D. R.

But with the Jackson development it is not just idle wondering. The southern conservative bloc is very much concerned indeed. It does not want Jackson as governor of New York. Not that it cares very much who is governor of the Empire state, or what happens at Albany, but it does care very much for whom the New York delegation may vote for the presidential nomination, and it most emphatically does not want this big bloc of delegates casting its votes for any New Dealer, while all of the New Dealers—with any possibility of obtaining the nomination—the one the southerners are strongest against is Bob Jackson.

There is nothing personal in this. Most of them rather like Jackson. But what they really want is a conservative. They have admitted, in private conversations, that they did not think they could possibly defeat F. D. R. himself should he choose a third term. But they did think, up until this Jackson development, that they could defeat any other New Dealer.

Don't Want Jackson

If Farley should step supinely aside and let Jackson win the nomination, with the probability that he would gradually annex the Democratic organization in the Empire state, they are not so sure. The South has a lot of votes in a Democratic convention, but not enough to insure victory if New York is committed against them ahead of time. Especially as the Democratic organization in Pennsylvania is in such strong New Deal hands. And especially since the Kelly-Nash machine in Illinois is so friendly to the White House.

What were they thinking about at Philadelphia in 1936, many of the Southerners are now asking themselves, when they permitted the two-thirds rule to be abrogated?

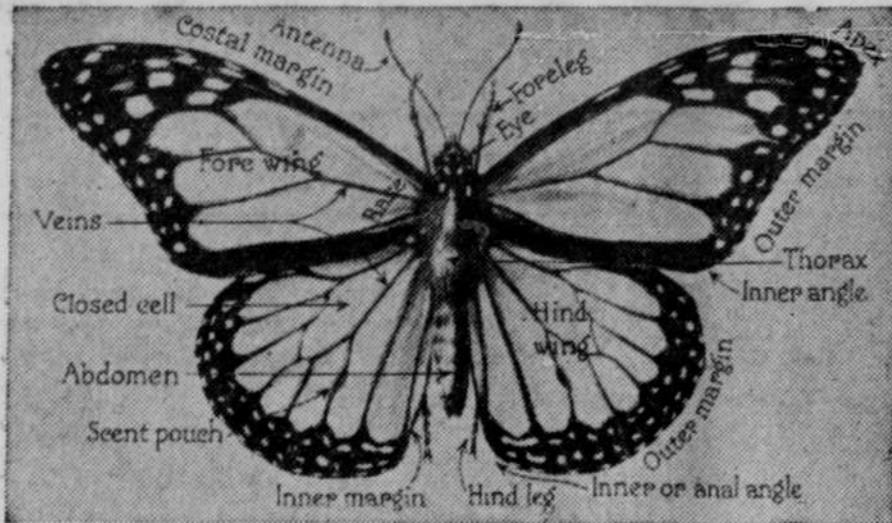
So, while wild horses could not drag it from them, what the southern conservatives would really like to see, if Roosevelt should succeed in having Jackson nominated for governor of New York by the Democratic state convention, would be a Republican victory.

But this, they admit frankly to their friends, is an idle dream. "Who," they inquire, "could the Republicans possibly nominate for governor who would have a chance against the organization built by Jim Farley in the Empire state?"

Which is interesting as applied to the national picture. For any child can take the electoral vote table and figure out that while the Democrats can win a national election easily without New York, the state's electoral vote is an absolute essential to the Republicans.

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BUTTERFLIES THAT MIGRATE



Anatomy of the Monarch Butterfly.

Monarch and the Painted Lady Are Best Known of These Travelers

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

MANY people believe that all butterflies live but a few days, and that they keep quite close to the locality where they hatch. This is true of most species, but there are others which live for weeks, sometimes for months, and instead of fluttering around they may set off in a definite direction and fly some hundreds, or even thousands of miles from their birthplace before settling down to lay their eggs.

This habit of changing location, or migration, has been known to occur in birds and locusts since ancient times, and has been suspected for about a century in the butterflies and moths. The cotton worm moth of the southern United States was one of the first in North America to come under suspicion. Today the habit is also known among some dragonflies and beetles, particularly the ladybirds, and more rarely in other groups of insects.

The butterflies may migrate singly or in large numbers. Flights estimated to contain more than a thousand million individuals have been recorded. The sight of one of these butterfly movements, the insects passing for hours and even days, steadily pressing on in one direction, is an event in the life of any naturalist.

By piecing together scattered and complete information, much as one might try to fit together a jigsaw puzzle of which most of the pieces have been lost, we begin in a few cases to have some idea of the extent of the movements; of where the butterflies start, what route they take, and where they come to rest.

Monarch Has Journeyed Far.

By far the best known of the migrants is the Monarch or Milkweed butterfly. This magnificent insect has its headquarters in North America and has spread, chiefly in historic times, to the Cape Verde islands and Madeira in the Atlantic, and to most of the islands of the Pacific. It is said to have reached New Zealand about 1840 and appeared in Australia about 1870. In both of those countries it is now established.

In the past sixty years nearly a hundred individuals have been seen in Great Britain and a much smaller number in France and Portugal. Nearly all these were observed in the autumn. The food plant, milkweed, does not exist wild in Europe, so the butterfly has never become established there. It is not yet known for certain whether the European specimens have flown across the Atlantic, assisted by the prevailing westerly winds, or have been carried across in ships.

In North America this butterfly is found during the summer throughout the United States and Canada as far north as Hudson bay and, in the West, occasionally as far as Alaska. In the early autumn, the butterflies congregate into bands and fly southward, starting from Canada about the end of August and reaching the Gulf states about the beginning of November. On the West Coast they do not go so far south and may winter in the neighborhood of San Francisco.

Having reached the end of their southward flight, the butterflies settle on trees, still keeping to their large bands, and spend the winter in a state of semi-hibernation. They flutter around a little on fine warm days and in cold weather creep closer to the shelter of the trees.

The same group of trees may be used year after year by hibernating Monarchs, although the same individuals never return south a second time. One of the localities on Point Pinos on Monterey bay, Calif., is a show place for visitors.

Return South in Great Swarms.

In the spring the bands begin to break up, and the butterflies fly northward individually, pausing here and there to lay eggs as they go. They start about March, reach the level of West Virginia about April, and Canada at the end of May or early June. The return flight starts after about three generations in the middle states, two in the north, and after a single generation in Canada.

So far as it is known, no Monarchs are normally found in Canada and the northern United States

during the winter, although individuals have been seen in Toronto as late as the beginning of November.

The southward-flying swarms are often very conspicuous, as they may consist of tens of thousands of butterflies flying up to three hundred feet or more in the air, and when they settle for the night they may actually seem to change the color of the vegetation by their numbers. Hamilton, writing of a swarm in New Jersey in 1885, said: "The multitudes of this butterfly that assembled here in September are past belief. 'Millions' is but feebly expressive. 'Miles of them' is no exaggeration."

Eilzey, in 1888, describing a flight that he saw in Maryland, wrote: "The whole heaven was swarming with butterflies. There were an innumerable multitude of them at all heights, from say 100 feet to a height beyond the range of vision except by the aid of a glass. They were flying due southwest in the face of a stiff breeze."

Shannon, in 1916, suggested that this butterfly used definite flight routes on its way south, but the small number of records still available makes it doubtful if his conclusion is justified.

Painted Lady Also Travels.

Another of the world's greatest migrant butterflies, more widely distributed but less completely understood than the Monarch, is the Painted Lady.

In North America this butterfly is practically never seen in the winter in any stage (although actually one was recorded in Colorado on January 1, 1935!). In the spring in some years countless millions of Painted Ladies pour into southern California and probably also into Arizona, New Mexico or beyond.

One such flight, seen by a scientist in April, 1924, was at least 40 miles wide and was passing for three days at a speed of about six miles an hour. The scientist estimated about 300 butterflies per acre, or a total of about three thousand million in the whole flight.

There are records of similar great invasions in 1901, 1914, 1920, 1924, 1926, and 1931, but in other years scarcely any butterflies are seen.

The Painted Ladies spread northward and eastward over the United States and southern Canada, and in 1931 they were so abundant in some of the North Central and Northeastern states that farmers rejoiced at the wholesale destruction of their thistles and asked the Department of Agriculture if these valuable insects could not be encouraged! They are not everywhere so popular, however.

We have to admit that nothing is yet known about what happens to the offspring of these immigrants, except that they disappear. The most natural explanation would be that they return to the South in the autumn, as do the Monarchs, but there is little evidence to support this belief.

Originate in North Africa.

The Painted Lady makes even more definite flights in Europe and North Africa. Swarms appear to originate somewhere just south or north of the North African desert belt in the early spring. They come into the coastal areas of North Africa from the south about April, cross the Mediterranean (sometimes in hundreds of thousands), and pass more or less northward through Europe. They reach England about the end of May or the beginning of June, and occasionally carry on as far as Iceland, where they have been recorded about six times in the last sixty years.

Farther east they spread northward through the Caucasus and on into Russia, where they have been recorded almost as far north as the Arctic circle.

Except in the extreme north, the immigrants lay eggs which hatch and grow to be adults, and there are some records of autumn flights which are evidently composed of the offspring of the spring migrants; but, as in North America, the evidence is insufficient at present to prove a return to the south. If such a return flight does take place, it is probable that the insects move individually (as in the spring flight of the Monarch) and not gregariously.

The only known record of the start of a flight is an observation made many years ago in the Sudan, when a naturalist in March, 1869, saw thousands of chrysalides of the Painted Lady hatch simultaneously and the resulting butterflies fly off in a mass.

ASK ME ANOTHER ?

A Quiz With Answers Offering Information on Various Subjects

1. What is meant by the Great Divide?
2. What king was known as the "Father of His Country"?
3. Who said, "Better read one man than ten books"?
4. Can the President of the United States declare war?
5. What is a posthumous child?
6. Of what ancestry was Cleopatra?
7. Is Jerusalem a walled city?
8. What statesman has the most places in the United States named for him?
9. What is the pledge of the National 4-H club?
10. What is meant by a scale model of an airplane?

have been replaced. It is possible to walk along the top of the wall.

8. Andrew Jackson and Benjamin Franklin have the largest number of towns and counties named in their honor.

9. My hands to larger service, My health to better living, My head to clearer thinking, My heart to greater loyalty, for My club, my community, my country.

10. It is a small airplane made exactly like a regular plane but on a small scale. For example, if the large plane has twelve-foot wings each foot may scale down to one inch, consequently the scale model would have a twelve-inch wing.

Answers

1. It is a colloquial term for the Continental divide, which separates streams which flow to the opposite side of the continent.
2. Alfred the Great of England.
3. The quotation is from "Chatterfield's Letters to His Son."
4. The President cannot declare war. Congress alone has that power.
5. One born after the death of the father.
6. She was of Greek ancestry.
7. It is still a walled city. The missing stones in the old wall

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