

SEEN and HEARD around the NATIONAL CAPITAL

By Carter Field

Washington.—Hearings on the proposed United Kingdom-United States reciprocal trade agreement are set to begin here March 14. Battle between business and the State department will grow hotter as the hearings go on. It will center around the old, old question of free trade or tariff restrictions.

This is the argument: "Is it better to protect farmers, manufacturers, and labor against competition of low-cost products from foreign countries, or let the low-priced goods in for the benefit of the public? Who is most important: producers or the public?"

Any economist can show that the American public pays annually many billions of dollars more for the goods it buys now than it would pay if prices were lowered by foreign goods brought in free of duty. But the same economist, if he were so minded, could show that free imports would soon drive agriculture, manufacturing and labor to bankruptcy. First would come general chaos, and next would come an American standard of living as low as the world average.

These opposing forces are vast and complicated. Every tariff student has a theory. But Secretary of State Cordell Hull happens to be for low tariffs, and he happens to have a reciprocal trade agreement act passed by congress, and the will of President Roosevelt to back him up. So his opinion is what counts right now. He has made 16 reciprocal agreements with other countries already, and he's going to make one with England.

This is the gist of the Hull policy: Nearly all war is caused by economic war. After the World war, the United States helped increase economic war by raising tariff walls around itself. It must now tear them down to promote trade and peace. This country and England together transact about one-fourth of all the world's business. An agreement between the two to increase that huge volume of business will have a marked effect on world trade and world peace. We cannot remain prosperous in a poverty-stricken world.

How the Plan Works

Here's how the "most-favored nation" plan works. The United States picks out the country that supplies the most of any given import. In the case of woolen goods, it's England. We cut our import duty on woolens in return for a cut by England on something we sell her, say lumber, wheat, or automobiles. Then the new lower tariffs apply to all other countries supplying less amounts of the same commodities or products. It makes business move fast, say the low-tariff men.

But American farmers and manufacturers and labor leaders howl with pain. While they struggle for volume and prices to keep going, the government opens the flood gate and foreign goods rush in to lower both. The government says we are opening up the foreign market in which you can sell more farm and factory products, with resulting benefits to labor. We'll have worldwide prosperity in place of precarious isolated prosperity. And we'll have peace instead of back-breaking taxes for armaments.

Reciprocal trade treaties are engineered by the State department, but the work of preparing statistics and holding hearings is done by the tariff commission and its reciprocity committee. The commission's shabby old building is humming. Bright young men from London lug bales of records from room to room. Woolen manufacturers arrive from New England to make sure their protests will be heard when hearings begin. Meanwhile off to England goes the astute Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy to make sure the foxy British don't trade us any wooden nickels.

Up to Broadcasters

Two obligations are now placed squarely on the shoulders of radio broadcasting, which has been anxiously waiting a definite statement of policy by the recently reorganized federal communications commission. The law was laid down by Frank R. McNinch, newly appointed chairman of the commission, in his address before the sixteenth annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters. Radio must steer clear of monopolistic practices, and it must provide good entertainment free of moral offense.

Mr. McNinch is an administration man, loaned to the communications commission by the federal power commission, where his attitude toward public utilities was well known. Radio men feared trouble when he came over to the communications commission. Many of them are therefore agreeably surprised to hear from him what sounded like stern but friendly advice. But if any of them are involved in even the beginnings of monopoly, they are tossing in their sleep to-night, because the chairman announced that he will soon begin an

investigation of chain broadcasting. What that will reveal only the guilty parties, if any, can foretell. Meanwhile they have plenty of time and fair warning to clean house.

That domain composed of ether-space and the natural phenomenon of wave lengths is a public property and resource, as Mr. McNinch sees it. That property is loaned to private industry, first to render a service to the public, and second to earn a reasonable profit. The franchise is granted with the understanding that it will be revoked unless the company serves and behaves as the government thinks it should.

Radio on the Spot

Railroads and power were mentioned by Mr. McNinch as having gotten into trouble with the public by combining for their own interest instead of for the best public interest. He said, in effect, that the trusts had depended on political pull and the use of propaganda to get by. But it didn't work in the long run. The radio industry is more intimately related to the public than any of the older utilities, and its behavior will be more quickly noticed. Mr. McNinch said that a member of the industry told him, "Radio could not survive an insull."

But while warning of monopoly, which would consist of certain types of chain broadcasting, of management contracts, and of pressure methods in dealing with local stations, the chairman at the same time condoned and even praised the national hookups that produce the fine programs. It is only through the commercial support of huge audiences that the world's best talent can be brought into millions of homes. Regarding advertising sales talks on the air, Mr. McNinch warned broadcasters that the public will revolt against too much talk or bad taste. Some legitimate products and services, he said, simply cannot be talked about on the air. These matters the industry must govern.

The Mae West broadcast was only an incident, but doubtless it did influence the big radio boss in his conclusions on radio ethics. He made it very clear that all creeds, religions, races, ideals and ages must be respected. This is in accord with the democratic rights of minorities. Radio men say that this constitutes a drastic limitation on what may be said and discussed over the air. But none of them argue it is unfair. In the field of music and the other arts of sound there is no limit.

Japanese Boycott

While the boycott on Japanese silk still makes news, latest figures from the Department of Commerce show that it has had very little effect. Actual imports of raw silk from Japan are only 2 per cent below normal. But the organized protest against invasion of China, chiefly evident in women's refusal to buy silk stockings, has brought about some serious consequences.

The State department, of course, is deeply concerned. This country buys about 56 per cent of Nippon's total raw silk production. Our silk bill, therefore is an important item in Japan's war chest. If the boycott should become fully effective, Japan would be no little provoked. That, plus a possible clash with Japanese salmon poachers off Alaska, plus another incident like the Panay sinking in the Orient, might cause real trouble. Conversely, too, another incident might put the boycott under way in earnest.

But there would be little the State department could do about it. Any protests from Japan would have to be answered with a shrug. For a boycott is simply a form of free speech and free press. Any action by the government to the contrary would be a departure from the democratic principle. The Mikado would get the same answer that Hitler got when he complained about Mayor LaGuardia's utterances.

American silk manufacturers are being seriously damaged by the boycott. Fear that another incident will intensify feeling so that women will really decide to do without silk has caused store managers to issue hold orders on stockings and other silk goods. Silk mills and raw silk importers are getting stuck with supplies on hand. It is estimated that \$25,000,000 of American capital invested in silk and allied industry has been frozen.

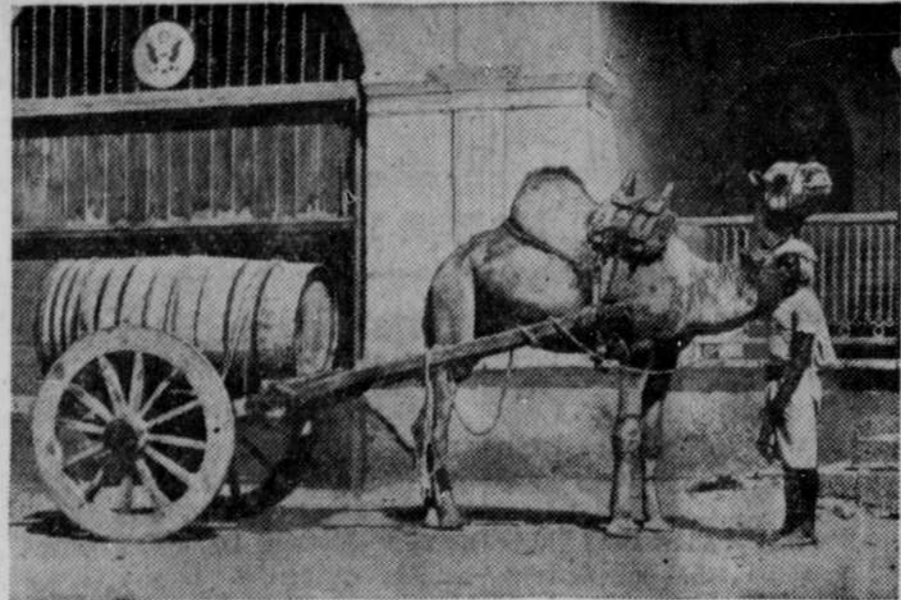
Jobs in Jeopardy

The jobs of more than 200,000 people engaged in the throwing and weaving of silk and in the manufacture and distribution of silk products are jeopardized. When the boycott first started the public supposed that finished stockings and other silk goods came directly from Japan. People did not know that American labor and industry produced the goods from Japanese raw material. This misunderstanding had the instant and remarkable effect of uniting silk capital and labor in a common front to tell the country the facts. William Green himself, president of the American Federation of Labor, had a voice in the telling.

Of course the anti-boycott drive appeared to many suspicious persons, to be in collusion with the Japanese. The textile industry is centered in New York city, and because Japan happens to have a Chamber of Commerce in that city, some critics were inspired to talk treason. But labor and employers succeeded in making their cause clear, and undoubtedly their efforts were mainly responsible for modifying the boycott.

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ADEN AND ITS TANKS



"Running Water" in Aden.

Aridity and Beautiful Colors Characterize City on the Red Sea

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

A HUNDRED miles east of Bab el Mandeb, the Arab "Gate of Tears" which guards the southern exit of the Red sea, the extinct Aden volcano rises to a height of nearly 1,800 feet above the Arabian coast. It is a trade center, not only of southern Arabia, but also of Somaliland and Ethiopia.

On this desert rock-fortress, midway between Egypt and India, live the Europeans and the Indians who are garrisoning Aden, with a floating civil population of Hindus, Parsis, Arabs, Greek merchants and Palestine Jews.

The sun-saturated barren rock seems to suck the life and moisture from human bodies. In 20 square miles of brown precipices and patches of sandy plain grow only a few trees, no grass, and one important flower, the Aden lily, found in remote rock crevices.

The modern town of Aden, centered around Steamer point, is connected with the old town by the five-mile Ma'ala road. The old town lies huddled inside the crater where the rim is broken down toward the sea, and overlooks the old harbor.

There, it is said, in the 1830s, the cutter from a British cruiser literally hung onto the little stone jetty with grappling irons, and a young naval officer, landing, sword in hand, at the head of his party, drove the Arabs into the mountains.

Water From the Tanks Is Sold. Behind the town, in a gorge of the crater, arranged like a row of masonry cups, each emptying into the next lower one, is the chain of reservoirs known as the Aden tanks. They may have been built about 600 A. D., or earlier, and some were restored after 1856 by the British. Undoubtedly they were made to store the two showers or so of rain which visit Aden about every other year (the annual average is only about three inches). When the rain comes, the water is sold by auction to Arabs and others, who carry it away in tins, goatskins, or water carts.

Supplies of water, independent of these tanks, are obtained by boiling sea water and condensing the steam. This is the drinking water used by most of the white population.

The Arabs believe that each time the tanks become full there must be three deaths by drowning.

If Aden is arid, it has the compensation of being in a beautifully painted setting, for by daylight the more-than-Mediterranean blue of the water lies in violent contrast with the Vandyke browns, umbers, grays and ochres of the walls of rock, which make a perfect background for the bright dress of a crowd of Eastern people.

On a lava slope a hundred feet above the sea, you may watch incomparable sunsets beyond the serrated ashen-gray ridges of Little Aden (Jebel Hshan), an old, broken-down cone which was once a twin to the Aden volcano (Jebel Shamshan). It now shelters in its flat sandy coves an Arab fishing village.

As you watch, some large Arab dhow with a high poop, looking like a caravel of the Spanish Armada, steals out from the inner harbor to the sound of its sweeps, to pick up the evening breeze on its way south. Later, a little group of Somali sailors, brown figures clothed in white, is seen squatting round the evening meal, a bowl of millet.

In the Cooler Evening. Later still, the afterglow springs up from behind the line of crags, over nearly coal-black, and then brilliant rainbow rays, bars of lemon yellow, green, and pink, cut the zenith from west to east. A bright planet begins to show itself.

In the stillness, a large fish a mile away leaps a dozen feet into the air, probably trying to rid itself of parasites, and comes down upon the water with a resounding smack. From the men pulling at the oars of the creeping vessel comes the rowing chorus, "Yahudi, wa'lah" (By Allah, a Jew!). A cool puff of air arises, the water begins to ripple into little waves, the Somali crew gets up and goes leaning forward to the bow, and the big triangular lateen sail rises and spreads, cutting the sky, to

creakings of cordage and sharp cries and the chorus of many voices: "In the name of God, in the name of God."

Then due south, keeping the mountain peaks on the starboard side, the boat itself becomes a coal-black dot against the pale yellow of the west, and silence again reigns.

On the flat plain beside the five-mile Ma'ala road, which runs from Steamer point to the crater is the little village of Somalipura, where Arab and Somali sailors squat on the sand and mend their lateen sails.

Pleasant-looking fellows, these, and, standing about in groups are more civilized wealthy Arabs in long, bright silk jubbahs and embroidered waistcoats. They are holding an impromptu stock exchange over a hill of mother-of-pearl shell from Perim island or bags of rice from India, ready for trans-shipment to Africa.

Parsi Towers of Silence. Away among the gorges, about a thousand feet below the peak of Jebel Shamshan, as the volcano is called (from Ash Shams, the sun), are built the Towers of Silence, to which the funerals of the Parsi inhabitants of Aden wind up a long and desolate flight of steps.

Around the summit of the mountain kites constantly wheel in the air over the settlement during the daylight hours with their complaining scream, "cheel, cheel."

The most solemn and impressive aspect of the jagged crest of Shamshan is seen when, with your bed on the flat roof of some small hotel in the Steamer point, you lie awake in the hour before dawn, with the black, threatening mass of the mountain obliterating part of the circle of stars.

Then suddenly is raised a long chant, dominating, intoned, rising and falling like the howl of a lost wolf dog, echoing and diminishing among the distant gorges. It is the voice of the muezzin, so often quoted.

Outside the fortress gates, on a strip of sand which connects the volcano with the mainland of Arabia, are encamped a troop of smart, black-whiskered Indian cavalry. They drill in khaki, with lance, sword, or carbine on small Arab horses, or go on escort or orderly duty on fast little Arabian dromedaries.

Where this strip of sand meets the mainland is the flat-roofed Arab town of Sheikh 'Othman, Aden's overflow, the abode of Arabs and Somalis who for any reason cannot live in the fortress.

Its resthouse has a small "Garden of Allah" where the ripple of irrigation channels and the voice of the bulbul can be heard in the evenings.

Among the Arabs. From that town you can step through a postern gate of the garden right out into the wilderness, where tribes of dark-skinned Arabs gain a precarious livelihood by cultivating durra and lentils around a few brackish wells close to the town, or, farther out, by living a Bedouin life, doing transport work in connection with the fortress.

You may see many an Arab passing on some mysterious errand, leading a camel by a string.

When, in the past, the interior tribes of Arabs have had to be reasoned with by civilized forces, or held in check by the caravan routes, or at times of tribal fights, there would steal out of the fortress a string of camels with little field guns on their backs. The booming voice of the guns could be heard from somewhere in the far deserts by dwellers on the rock who were sitting down for early tea and toast.

Outside, and also within the precincts of the fortress, one is always astonished at the presence of this little white civilized colony, this pinpoint of Western civilization, lying cheek by jowl with hundreds of miles of unmitigated wildness.

They are picturesque enough—the desiccated southern Arabian deserts stretching away from the rock, and in the distance the forbidding brown foothills which buttress the fertile alps of Yemen.

Among its social elements there are petty feudal chiefs. They hold small, rough, blockhoused villages, like miniature Rhine castles, overlooking dry gorges through which trickle thin streams that become torrents when in flood.

Functional Heart Disease

By DR. JAMES W. BARTON
© Bell Syndicate.—WNU Service.

WHEN a patient consults a physician complaining of shortness of breath, palpitation of the heart, and pain over heart or breast-bone, naturally patient and physician may both suspect heart disease. If, also, there is early fatigue, general weakness, dizziness and profuse sweating, real or organic heart disease must surely be present.

That many of the above symptoms may be



Dr. Barton (or other organ) is

perfectly sound in its structure nevertheless something is interfering with the way it does its work. In true or organic disease there is something wrong with the structure of the organ—valve not closing properly, fibrous tissue taking place of elastic tissue, or other condition.

Its Cause Not Known.

The cause of functional heart disease is not definitely known. It is sometimes called "irritable heart" and "soldier's heart." The factors that predispose or bring on the condition more easily are heredity or constitutional weakness, lack of food or wrong kind of food, overwork, recovering from various infectious fevers, focal infections (teeth, tonsils, sinuses), and early tuberculosis.

It may be caused by financial anxiety, family worries, emotional conflicts, physical and mental stress. Dr. W. E. Nesbit, San Antonio, in the Texas Journal of Medicine, tells us that the prognosis (chances) as to life are good, but many of these cases do not seem to improve despite treatment.

"Treatment consists in assuring the patient that no organic disease has been found. The cause and the way the ailment produces symptoms should be explained, and a healthful daily program regarding rest and food should be worked out. A mild sedative (quieting medicine) may be prescribed, but drugs to slow down or stimulate the heart should not be used."

This, of course, is sound advice because it is not the heart, but the mind of the individual (worried, anxious, upset) that is causing the heart symptoms.

Rules and Reducing Diets.

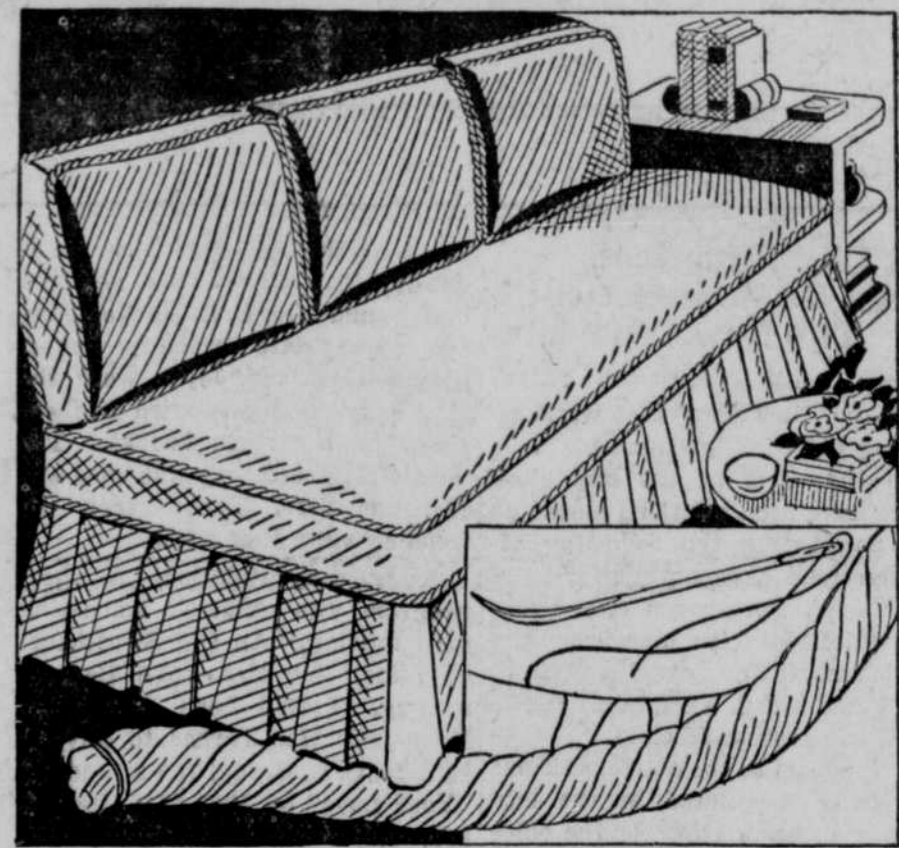
There was a time, when, if an individual who was overweight consulted his physician about reducing his weight, he was told simply to eat less food. This was good advice because less food eaten means a gradual reduction in weight. But you can readily see that if the patient reduced only his green vegetables—cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, celery—it would make little if any difference to his weight, but if he reduced his starch and fat foods the loss of weight from week to week would be quite noticeable.

As there are some general rules about reducing that should be more generally known the American Medical association has issued a booklet on weight reducing, some of the general suggestions of which are:

1. No attempted change in weight, either addition or reduction of weight, should be attempted without consulting a physician.
2. Diet alone should not be used but a reasonable amount of exercise.
3. Each person must be put on an individual diet, but, generally speaking, weight loss will be achieved by a decrease of from 800 to 1,200 calories from the previous diet. This means that as the average overweight woman eats about 2,400 calories daily, she must cut down one-third (800 calories).
4. A person on the first week of a reducing diet may show a loss of 3 or 4 pounds, but the amount of decrease should establish itself in about two weeks to not more than 2 pounds per week.
5. In order to be free from too sharp a change, a person should plan a lowered food intake over a period of months (no 18 or 30 day reducing diet).
6. Vitamins should be included: vitamin A from whole milk, cream, butter, eggs; and vitamin B and C from fruits and vegetables.
7. There should be sufficient bulk (from coarse foods—cabbage, cauliflower, corn, peas, celery, raw fruits, fruits with seeds) to cause a daily bowel movement.
8. Bread, potatoes, and other starchy foods—sugar, pastry—should be greatly reduced.
9. Butter, cream, fat meats, nuts, egg yolks should be reduced.
10. Excess of jams and jellies should be avoided.

HOW to SEW

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS



Trim Your Couch Cover in Contrasting Cord

IF SPRING is not in the air yet it soon will be. It is the season when every room in the house seems to need a lift. If your couch or daybed looks as though it has had a hard winter now is the time to give it a thought.

The couch of the type shown here may be made to fit into almost any decorating scheme if it has a smart and appropriate cover. The one shown here is ideal for a room with modern furniture or for one that follows no particular period. It would also give an interesting accent in a Colonial or provincial room. The cushions match the couch cover. A roughly woven navy blue cotton material is used and the seamlines are outlined with heavy cream colored cable cord. If you would like a gayer color scheme, use red cord with navy blue. Cream or yellow cord with brown material also makes an attractive cover.

A curved candlewick tufting needle such as is shown here at the lower right is good to use for sewing the cord in place. Thread about size 8 or 10 to match the cord should be used. The needle shown is really a medium size version of an upholsterer's needle which is another piece of sewing equipment that you will find useful if you like to renovate old furniture.

So often mystifying technical details stand in the way of making things that would add beauty and comfort to your home. It is with this in mind that Mrs. Spears wrote and illustrated her book, SEWING, for the Home Decorator. With clear sketches and text it explains the simplest and most professional methods of making new slipcovers, correctly styled curtains, difficult dressing tables, pleasingly proportioned lamp

shades and dozens of other things that will give your rooms new charm and freshness. This book will save you many dollars. Readers wishing a copy may address Mrs. Spears, 210 So. Desplains St., Chicago, Ill., enclosing 25 cents (coins preferred) and a copy of the book will be sent post-paid, by return mail.

Famous Food Expert

To Conduct Feature

BEGINNING with this issue this paper is pleased to announce a new series of articles which we believe to be the most original and up to date food department in the country.

We wanted to offer a food department that was live—interesting—different. We wanted to get away from the usual "recipe column." We believe the women of this community are primarily interested in food in its relation to health, in its effect on growing children. Information of this sort has usually been too scientific to be understood by the average person, but in this series it is presented in clear, understandable language and applied so that it will fit the average household.

C. Houston Goudiss, famous author, lecturer, and radio personality, will conduct this department each week. Many housewives will want to make scrapbooks of these articles. Don't miss a single issue.

FEEL MISERABLE?

Des Moines, Iowa — Mrs. Mary Ann Parker, 1503 Capitol Ave., says: "I felt so miserable from nervousness and headaches associated with functional disturbances and had hardly any strength. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription helped to strengthen me wonderfully and I had very little difficulty after its use." Buy it in liquid or tablets from your druggist today. See how much calmer and stronger you feel.

Martial Virtues

Vigilance in watching opportunity, tact and daring in seizing upon opportunity; force and persistence in crowding opportunity to its utmost of possible achievement—these are the martial virtues which must command success.

CONSTIPATED?
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