But in Normandy the buckwheat

cake is unknown. Some mission-

ary from the North Woods should

teach its mixture, or make a pile

of "stacked griddles" such as old

Adirondack guides can cook. The

way buckwheat is used in Norman-

The call of Mont St. Michel is a

call to the heart. You may go

hither and you through France, see-

ing castles and monuments, flow-

ered lanes and bewitching rivers.

but always is felt the tug toward

Mont St. Michel, often called, less

formally, "the Mount" or "the

Unresisting, you at last find your-

self straight down the coast from

Cherbourg at the little town of Av-

ranches, from which the happy pil-

grim gets his first glimpse of the

Avranches is set on a sudden hill,

and to reach its gems of interest

the road sweeps upward on the

steeps. In so doing it passes a

library. That seems prosaic un-

til into one's mind flashes the

remembrance that it is here that

great treasures of the Mount have

found safe harbor after disturbing

conflicts. Here are parchments writ-

Here, too, is the work of the monk,

Abelard, whose love for Heloise is

even better remembered than his

treatise, "Sic et Non"-such is the

Up the hill is the Plate-forme, a

name which sounds dull enough un-

til, as one stops to survey it, its

history comes back from some

pigeonhole of the mind. What an

astounding chapter of history it

commemorates, this simple stone

platform ringed about with chains! It is all that is left of the great

cathedral which was taken down in

This spot, the Plate-forme, was

just before the cathedral door, and

it was here in 1172 that the King

of England, Henry II, knelt before

the prelates and emissaries of the

pope to atone for the murder of

Themas a Becket in Canterbury

Cathedral. The king, having been

excommunicated, was not allowed

to prostrate himself before the gor-

geous company from the Vatican

within the building, but had to re-

main outside until their absolution

was given him; and on his royal

The Sands of Mont St. Michel.

The time to see Mont St. Michel

is at any time when you find your-

self near. If a chance to see it is

given, even if it be midnight or

winter, the sight should not be

missed. But if a choice of times

can be made, then the time of high

tides is that time. And if there

is a moon, and one can spend the

night on the Rock, then sightsee-

From Avranches the view re-

solves itself into a map of the Bay

of Mont St. Michel and that great

space of sand from which the tide

recedes. For 22 miles, from Av-

ranches to Cancale on the Brittany

side, extend these tidal sands; and

in the middle of all this flatness,

as if floating in the sky like a mi-

rage, rises the granite rock of Mont

St. Michel. Two hundred and fifty

feet it towers, and man-made struc-

tures have increased its height to

The curious and seeking observ-

er can also note from afar the three

distinct tiers on the Rock. First

above the waters are the ramparts.

splendid in their medieval strength;

next, the band of clustered houses,

"clinging like limpets to a rock;"

and then the buttressed Merveille

and the crown of towers and tur-

rets resting on that marvel of ma-

And just as the Rock has three

tiers of architectural interest, the

three tiers represent three purposes

Pontorson, lying on the little river

Couesnon, is the place of departure

for the Mount. There one would

take to the sea, were it not for the

causeway of approach, built across

In olden times-it can be done

now if the traveler likes risk of

wetting-the only way to reach the

Rock was to walk or ride across the

exposed wet sand. Even kings and

bishops came that way, risking

tides and quicksands. Fancy Louis

XI snatching up his long gray robes

and picking his way among the salt

After centuries of wet feet and

floundering horses, energy was ex-

pended to bank high a causeway

and on this to run a little train

from Pontorson. And now motor

cars by hundreds and even air-

planes alight like butterflies on the

sands by the ramparts.

sand and water.

-fortress, prison, and abbey.

498 feet.

ing has reached its ultimate.

knees, which ached miserably.

1799 as it began to collapse.

ten in the twelve hundreds.

delight one takes in romance.

dy is to make of it a sort of bread,

soggy, putty-colored.

# SEEN HEARD around the NATIONAL CAPITAL By Carter Field

Washington.-It seems probable at the moment that title of the federal housing act-the section which provides for government guarantee of loans for repairs-will be allowed to die when it expires by limitation

There may be a sharp fight over it, and undoubtedly there will be a lot of outcry if this should come to pass, but the cold fact is the federal housing commission does not want it, though professing to be neutral. The further cold fact is that the house banking and currency committee, which will handle the legislation, does not want it.

In the house it is very difficult for members to work up enough steam and enough votes to override a committee. It is very different in the senate, where a few outraged solons can force a vote on almost anything, no matter what the committee may have reported.

But in the house a committee can smother a bill with comparative safety, unless there is very strong sentiment for it and a clear majority of the house members want the measure passed. Which is a rather difficult situation to bring about, especially when the government bureau or agency involved is against that particular thing, as in

Even when a committee reports a bill, it is very difficult for members wishing to amend it to bring about a test. A senator can propose any amendment he wishes to any pending legislation, and force a vote. He may not be able to force a roll-call vote, but at least he can force a voice vote, and, if there is doubt about the rejoinders, and he can muster a fair number to raise their hands, he can force a rollcall.

But in the house the committee in charge, acting with the rules committee, can pick and choose among the amendments on which they will. permit votes.

#### The Logic of It

The logic of the federal housing administration, in desiring to allow this function of insuring repair loans to die, is rather interesting, especially as it is slightly contradictory. One reason is that the housing ministration believes there has been such an improvement in building construction that there is an actual shortage of skilled workers in many places. To put undue emphasis on repairs therefore, it holds, would endanger the supply of skilled workers for more important construction, and actually retard business recovery.

The other reason is that the banks have learned by experience now that these repair loans are safe and sound, and that therefore it is no longer necessary for the government to guarantee them.

In short, it contends on one hand that the insuring of these repair loans is not necessary—that just as many will be made by the banks if they are not insured by the government-and on the other hand that these loans, if encouraged by the government, will lead to so much repair work that there will not be skilled workers enough for the big construction jobs!

You pay your money and take your choice, but attaches of the housing administration argue valiantly for both points.

Meanwhile many concerns interested in providing repair materials, and there are lots of them, are very much interested in having the power extended. They seem to think that this government insurance, if continued, would result in more repair jobs than would the idea that banks would make just as many repair loans if government insurance were withdrawn.

All of which would result in considerably more conversation on Capitol Hill if President Roosevelt's Supreme court proposal were not overshadowing everything else.

## Get Weird Queries

Some of the weirdest queries that Washington newspaper correspondents get from their papers result from Wall Street tips. New York's downtown financial district certainly is tops in a lot of things. Shrewd Washington observers know it is seldom indeed that a real news development is not known in some sections of Wall street before it is known to half the officials concerned here. There is money to be made in Wall Street, with the proper information, if it can be obtained just a little in advance of the other

fellow. And very frequently it is! When a lot of money can be made out of a thing, it becomes too hot to handle as a rule, as was evidenced by the attempts to enforce prohibition, and as is evidenced by the difficulty of suppressing poolrooms, and as is evidenced by racing generally. Racing and Wall Street add to the "hot money" angle the love of most humans for

gambling. All of which results in Wall Street so frequently being in the position of having bought and paid for advance inside information. But it also inevitably leads to something else.

There are plenty of people in Wall Street who are not declared in on these news sources-but who like to pretend to be. Also there are gentry who have very poor or very prejudiced sources of Warhington information.

It is these last two classes that produce so much misinformationwhose flat predictions and alleged quotations of what "the President said to Mr. Blank" cause so much grief when the poor Washington correspondent gets a telegram relayed from his paper's Wall Street correspondent through the telegraph news desk.

#### Causes Big Laugh

All of which is apropos of the "inside" information in Wall Street a few days back that the real reason the steel industry came to terms with John L. Lewis: that certain big interests were said now to be certain that Lewis had been "sufficiently deflated!"

This suggestion was received in Washington with whoops of merriment. Even labor news experts who have a personal affection for William Green and who personally dislike John L. Lewis-and others who believe strongly in the craft union and hate the C. I. O. idea-all agree that Lewis won an amazing victory in his conflict with General Motors, and has made amazing progress

There is scarcely a disinterested observer here who does not believe that the C. I. O. now has its head well under two big tents, entrance to which was highly dubious just a few months ago-steel and motors. General Electric was not much of the last few years that General Electric was very much in favor of what has since become the C. I. O. plan-that what it feared was jurisdictional disputes between various craft unions, which would tie up its plants regardless of its own labor policy.

And there are few in Washington who do not believe that it is only a question of time until both those industries are closed shops. It may take two years-it may take five years-Henry Ford may never come in-but few here doubt that such movement as there is from now on will be in that direction.

And the answer to it all is very simple. Most of the business executives want to make money-now. Few of them are interested in fighting for a principle if such fighting will cost them a lot of money, and provide a motive for both government and labor sharpshooting at every detail of their business and private affairs. Especially if they can be sure of passing any addi- a public fountain. That is a matter tional cost, with a bit of extra profit, | that always interests. How can they along to the consumer.

#### Big Surprise

One of the biggest surprises of the session of congress to date was the ease with which the neutrality bill was slipped through the senate. Everyone had expected that there would be a long drawn out debate. There were present all the elements to make for this. There were at least three clearly defined lines of

There was the group following Senators Gerald P. Nye and Bennet C. Clark, who wanted to go very much further than the bill as it was finally approved by the senate did go. There was a group typified by Senators William E. Borah and Hiram W. Johnson who did not want to surrender the old "freedom of the seas" doctrine, (one of the few points on which these two gentle-

men agree with Woodrow Wilson). There was even a small group which was and is convinced that all this neutrality precaution is bad in the long run, then tending to surrender the munition-making business to other nations and thereby to leave our own country comparatively unprepared when war does break out, while at the same time increasing the preparedness of some possible enemy.

There was a group not quite as extreme, which feared that such restrictions as are embodied in the Pittman bill, which passed the senate, would tend to nake nations now buying cotton and other commodities heavily from the United States uneasy-would tend to make them look elsewhere for sources of these commodities.

## The Cotton Question

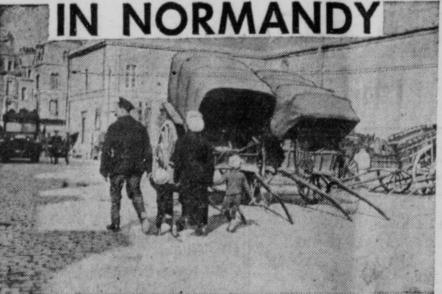
The cotton illustration is particularly pertinent because Brazil has been rapidly building up her production of cotton ever since the United States government began holding the world price of cotton up, so that Brazil could be sure of a good price for this staple.

There were some in the senate who believe that cotton is absolutely an essential war supply, not only because of its use for explosives but for other reasons. At the time Runciman was in Washington some of this group favored absolutely banning exports of cotton to belligerents.

As the bill passed the senate, the President is given discretion as to putting cotton, or any other commodity, on such an embargoed list. He is not given discretion to embargo products to one belligerent and not the other.

As the senate bill stands, however, the President can very easily aid one belligerent and hinder the other by his selection of the commodities to be embargoed. This may rise to plague some future

President. @ Bell Syndicate.-WNU Service



A Norman Family Takes a Stroll in Cherbourg.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service. TILLIAM THE CONQUER-OR, cider, omelets, Mont St. Michel-these are features of Normandy that come to mind with the name of that old province of France. You accent, thus unconsciously, history, art, and refreshment.

Cherbourg, the port where Normandy seems to thrust its nose impudently upward-what does it mean to the ocean traveler? So much weariness of the flesh in connection with embarking and debarking that one is glad to be off. But things are to be seen there, and Cherbourg is a gentle introduction to the heady sights farther on.

It is here that one becomes aware of the value of the fishing industries a surprise. It has been printed in as a social center. The chatter, these dispatches several times in both shrill and thunderous, that goes with the business is by no means the least of the interest.

It is not perfunctory, this fish selling by the men of the boats and their wives. Emotion turns the card in many a sale, for if Jean, the seller, takes offense at the low offer of a retailer, he growls a refusal to trade; and if Ginette displays her wares with enticing good nature, she laughingly reaps a big handful of coins for the deep pocket concealed in her ample wool skirt.

And of course there is the exchange of local gossip. Where a few white-capped women gather the talk runs highest, for the woman who retains the bonnet of her ancestors is usually one who prefers word-of-mouth to newsprint or radio. It is a pity the caps are passing. The faces, ruddy and perhaps too irregular, look better when topped with picturesqueness than when frankly unadorned.

In Cherbourg, too, one comes upon the sight of women washing at work in cold water? What a boon it would be to these hard-working women if a little hot water were supplied! If you have ever watched them at work you have seen grim courage.

## In Apple Blossom Time.

In the very first miles out of Cherbourg the charm of Normandy begins to assert itself. Suppose it be May, what is the enchantment? The apple trees. They are everywhere, like the maids dressed in sprigged muslins.

The country is full of 'ittle hills, so that each farm has its slopes and its brooks, among which stand the blooming trees. And all this loveliness produces the cider which is the wine of the Norman country and one of its big products.

The farmhouses themselves are approached by these saucy trees which flaunt sprays of pink against the old gray stones. You get an impression that all farmhouses are near cousins of old castles. Their size is often prodigious to American eyes, accustomed as we are to the wooden farmhouse. The wide sweep of well-cut gray stone walls has a dignity of other days.

A round tower, which seems to be set on some part of the building, rises from the ground, a separate entity, yet an indispensable part of the whole. It may be intensely agrarian in its intent, in its interior uses, but it vividly suggests the old story of the castle tower in which a fair damsel was confined in cautious protection, a protection naughtily defeated by the maiden's letting down her hair as a ladder to a waiting lover.

Even the livestock of the Norman country is conspicuously different from the accustomed. The gait of the immense Percherons sets a pace for the work of the farmer, who is ever shouting to them a strange sound, "Hue!" delivered with reproach or scorn. Magnificent animals they are, but never to be hurried, whether at the plow or along the roads.

As a farmer can go no faster than his horse, his life is regulated by the Percheron. Will he some day exchange this placid power for a hurrying Ford or Citroen?

A light horse built for speed, perhaps five miles an hour, is used for the high-wheeled hooded carts which take folks to market on a market day. Sometimes real beauty hides in these excluding hoods. At Honfleur one sees it often.

## Buckwheat, But No Cakes.

The Norman fields are red and white with buckwheat. It is an important crop, but raised for local sustenance. To Americans, the word "buckwheat" means just one thing-griddlecakes, light and brown, eaten with a bit of savory sausage or drenched with melting butter and sweetened with that divine essence of the woods, maple

# It's a Party Sure Enough!



yourself? It looks so elab-

orate; I'd be afraid to cut into chiffon like that for fear I'd ruin it." "Be yourself, Rose. It doesn't |

dress than yours. The pattern ex- Grandma made for me. It's red plains everything. You can't go and it has blue bands around it. wrong. I get a double kick out of I'm going to wear it to school making a party frock-I feel im- tomorrow. portant sewing it and elegant wearbelong to The-Sew-Your-Own!" Mother Made Daughter's Dress.

"Joanie, dear, aren't you beginning this party business pretty

"No, Auntie Rose, of course not. take a bit more skill to make my I've another one just like it that "Well, I see where I've got to

ing it. I couldn't begin to have get some silks and crepe, pluck so many party clothes if I didn't up my nerve, and have clothes like other people. I wanted to join the Jolly Twelve but I just felt I didn't have anything to wear. Now I've decided to join The Sewing Circle and make a

real fashion debut, come Spring!" Pattern 1237 is for sizes 34 to 46. Size 36 requires 4% yards of 35 inch material plus five-eighths

of a yard contrasting. Pattern 1241 is cut in sizes 14 to 20 (32 to 44 bust). Size 16 requires 4% yards of 39 inch material, and 11/2 yards of ribbon for the belt together with 3 yards of machine made trimming.

Pattern 1852 comes in sizes 2 to 8 years. Size 4 requires 21/8 yards of 35 or 39 inch material. To trim as pictured 6 yards of ribbon are required.

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Send your order to The Sewing Circle Pattern Dept., Room 1020, 211 W. Wacker Dr., Chicago, Ill. Patterns 15 cents (in coins) each. @ Bell Syndicate.-WNU Service.

#### Law Is Action

Remember you have not a sinew whose law of strength is not action; not a faculty of body, mind, or soul, whose law of improvement is not energy.-E. B. Hall.



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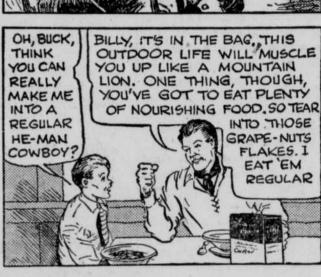










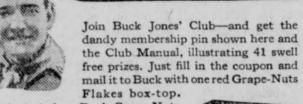


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