

## WILDERNESS IS WINNING BACK

Traditional New Englander Dying Out, According to Author

New York, (UP)—The traditional New Englander, typified by Calvin Coolidge, is dying out according to Ben Ames Williams, author and interpreter of Maine life.

Unlike the old western frontiersmen who have disappeared with the advance of modern civilization, the men of the far northeast are being pushed by nature herself from the land gained there, and the wilderness is repairing the damage done by man-made tools. One may drive mile after mile, said Williams, in an interview with the United Press, to see only deserted farms lapsing back into the forest stage, and stocked with moose and deer instead of the cattle that in former years grazed these pastures.

Perhaps no other writer in the country is able to speak so authoritatively on the subject as Ben Ames Williams. For years he has lived among New England people, in Massachusetts during the winter and in Maine in the summer. He has come to know the old-fashioned Yankees with all the vices and virtues of his section. He explained the decline in the population chiefly by the fact that the isolation by the district has led to inbreeding with its consequent physical deterioration. The ordinary marriage takes place after the couple have reached middle age and very few children are produced, he said.

Taking as an example a town in central Maine which in the latter part of the last century had a population of about 2,000, he said that today not more than 250 persons live there, of which 15 are children. This loss has not been caused by emigration but by death and the fact that there are practically no births. The last influx of new blood into this town occurred in 1812, when two British seamen deserted their ship and settled there. Their descendants still are considered newcomers.

Although best known to the reading public for his stories of Maine, Williams cannot be classed as a easterner. Born in Mississippi, reared in Ohio and educated at Dartmouth, his newspaper career took him to various parts of the country and gave him a breadth of view that makes sectionalism impossible for him. He dislikes the word "type" to be applied to any of his story characters. Every man is to him a human being, utterly different from all others. Henry Beeker, whose life is the subject of Williams' latest and finest novel, "Splendor," has been called by enthusiastic reviewers the "typical American." The author objects to this definition, however, saying that the Henry Beekers are as old as history and are confined to no country or class. Athens as well as Boston produced hundreds of kindly, plodding men who lived each day in the best way they knew, and attained neither success nor failure in a worldly sense.

Williams sees two forces at work in the life of the American business man—business interests and family or personal concerns. One must rank above the other in importance to the individual. Men recognized as eminent successes must subordinate their private affairs to the press or professional demands, he thinks. Henry Beeker chose his family as the most engrossing fact of his life and to him the newspaper for which he worked served merely as a background. By such a decision he closed the door to professional success and his compensation was in the form of homely happiness.

In this connection Williams finds fault with the modern educational system. He sees that whatever a man chooses as his main pursuit in life cannot be sufficient in itself. Outside diversions do not fill the need. Interest must come from within and the author thinks that here the college fails in their function which primarily is to prepare a man for life with himself.

**The Betrayal of the Rose.**  
A white rose had a sorrow—  
And a strange sorrow!  
For he sisters they had none,  
As they all sat around her  
Each on her faulid throne.  
A strange sorrow  
For one with no tomorrow,  
No yesterday, to call her own,  
But only today.

**A white rose had a sorrow—**  
And a sweet sorrow!  
She had looked in her breast  
Save that one outer petal,  
Less guarded than the rest  
(Oh, fond sorrow!)  
From the red rose did borrow  
Blushes, and the truth confessed  
In the red rose's way!  
—Edith Matilda Thomas.

**Q.** Does the government cost more in the United States than in other countries? **N. E. L.**  
**A.** According to a comparison published in 1922 the cost of government per capita in the United States was only \$38, as compared with \$95 in England. The cost in France was \$42, in Japan \$13, and in Italy \$11.

**And Turn To.**  
**From Tid-Bits.**  
First sailor: How do you like life on the navy? Quite a few turns.  
Second sailor: I should say so, for a fellow to get used to?  
I night you turn in, and just as you are about to turn over some-body turns and and shouts "turn out."

**Q.** Is it true that spider webs are used commercially? **S. A. R.**  
**A.** Strands of the web of spiders are used for cross lines in microscopes, range finders and other measuring instruments. The web is wound on a card like thread.

## Growth of Executive Power Held Chief Feature of Gradual Centralization Under Federal Government

By Rodney Dutcher, Washington NEA Service.

There always has been some conflicts, small or great, between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government, and argument has continued in recent years as to whether one or another should have more power or less so that the system might function more efficiently. The one thing generally agreed is that governmental power has become more and more concentrated in Washington.

In this presidential year it may be worth pointing out, that most of this added power has accrued to the executive branch—that is, to the president and his cabinet and other appointees. Congress always has had the power to do nearly anything for which two thirds majorities could be mustered and the judiciary has lately been attacked for abusing some of its prerogatives in isolated instances, but the executive power has grown consistently.

When the federal system first started there were four cabinet posts—State, War, Treasury and Justice. Those since added are Navy, Postoffice, Labor, Agriculture, Commerce and Interior. All these are operated by the president's appointees and responsible to him. Thus, their policies are his policies. There is no control of the executive branch except as may be exerted by a congress sufficiently hostile. Sometimes congress has been able to render the executive almost impotent, but not often. Sometimes he has ruled congress. The present congress has failed to follow President Coolidge's legislative desires, but has not been antagonistic toward him. It makes no real attempt to limit the executive power.

The State department may control private loans abroad, upset weak foreign governments in this hemisphere, refuse entry to foreigners whose views it doesn't like and cause intervention in Caribbean republics.

The Navy department can send marines to shoot and bomb Nicaraguans, Haitians, Chinese and others without consent of congress and can establish censorship as it did in Nicaragua.

The treasury department handles hundreds of millions in tax refunds with secrecy, delves into our private affairs by demanding income tax returns, regulates public morals through its prohibition and customs services and partially supervises health through the public health service.

The justice department maintains an espionage system which has in past times led to abuses and has other drastic powers used in recent years. The postoffice department can censor contents of mail and labels on envelopes, which it does. The commerce department took over control of radio and aviation.

The other departments have important and far-reaching regulatory and semi-regulatory powers. It's not that any of the departments have necessarily usurped authority, but executive power and its patronage system have grown with the nation, which constantly presented new opportunities or demands for its use.

The presidentially appointed and controlled commissions such as the Federal Trade, Tariff and Interstate Commerce commissions, along with the Federal Reserve board, must also be included in the citation. So should the fact that the supreme court's members are also presidentially appointed.

In time of war this government becomes a virtual dictatorship. As John Quincy Adams told the House in 1836, there are in the authority of congress and the executive, "two classes of power, altogether different in their nature and often incompatible with each other—the war power and the peace power.... The war power is limited only by the laws and usages of nations. This power is tremendous; it is strictly constitutional, but it breaks down every barrier so anxiously erected for the protection of liberty, property and life." The executive war power becomes transcendent; congress realizes that it can't make quick and secret decisions.

Lincoln, seizing the war power, had to fight the supreme court and later, congress. His most far-reaching exercise of power was his Proclamation of Emancipation, admittedly a war measure. When he attempted to reorganize the states of the confederacy, he had to fight congress, which accused him of usurpation. He might have won had he lived, but congress took it out on Johnson, who nearly lost his job. Just as big men like Borah, Reed, Lodge and Johnson blocked Wilson's attempt to enter us in the League of Nations, so big men of the 60s like Senator Thaddeus Stephens and W. P. Fessenden fought Lincoln and licked Johnson.

## COMING STARS of the MOVIES

June Marlowe



**JUNE MARLOWE** is the only Hollywood starlet in the movies. She's lived in the Film City since she was a baby, the family moving there from St. Cloud, Nevada. She went from high school to the "locations." She worked hard for three years, and then came her big chance as one of the lovely ladies with whom John Barrymore made life so interesting in "Don Juan." June was quickly featured after that, then was chosen as a Wampas baby star, and steadily progressed in leading roles. Stardom in her own right is just around the corner for her. Our heroine is five feet five, has very dark blue eyes and brown hair with a touch of reddish gold. It's not bobbed. She weighs 113 pounds.

**Cannot Be Passed Along.**  
From Commerce and Finance.

Who pays the corporation income tax? It is an old and important question. The National Industrial Conference board recently set out to answer it and the answer is now ready.

The federal corporation income tax cannot be shifted to the consumer; the burden in the case of all corporations exposed to fully effective competition lies on the investor or shareholder, who pays the tax directly or indirectly in that the tax reduces profits and therefore tends to reduce dividends or surplus. These are among the conclusions of the board, after an exhaustive research investigation undertaken at the request of the joint congressional committee on internal revenue taxation, a preliminary summary of which is being submitted to the committee this week.

**Fiction Farm Setting.**  
From Wallace's Farmer.  
Reviewers on New York papers are telling us that Fannie Hurst's new book, "A President is Born" (Harpers) is a fine study of corn belt farm life. We would call it an amazing study. Its heroine is supposed to be a wonderful farm manager. The book describes her broad acres, her silos, barns and outbuildings as being many and entirely up-to-date. She has enough help so that it takes some time to make out the weekly (why weekly?) payroll. But the size of the farm, it appears, is only 60 acres, and a mysterious conspiracy to hand over what the farm

## INCLINATION.

By Johnson

For general improvement, a man should read whatever his immediate inclination prompts him to; though, to be sure, if a man has a science to learn, he must regularly and resolutely advance. What we read with inclination, makes a stronger impression. If we read without inclination, half the mind is employed in fixing the attention, so there is but half to be employed on what we read. If a man begins to read in the middle of a book an feels an inclination to go to the beginning. He may, perhaps, not feel again the inclination.

increasing volume of production per unit of capital although in this manner the margin of profit on sales is decreased. It is evident from the fact regarding the sales, profits and capital in industry and in trade that sales at a price close to the cost of production, and thus free of a profit tax, are the dominant element in determining prices in a competitive market. The likelihood of an indirect shifting of the corporation income tax through eventually higher prices resulting from reduced production caused by diversion of capital from industries where profits have been highly variable or uncertain, is unsupported by evidence. The study of capital investment in various industries discloses no diminution of reinvestment of earnings or decline in the flow of new capital into industries where the rate of return on capital was slightly less or the variability of profits greater than the average.

## Nicaraguan Costs.

From the Baltimore Sun.  
Many time during the course of our present intervention in Nicaragua we have been officially assured that the expense of military operations there is negligible. It costs no more, the argument has run, to keep the marines on foreign soil than it does to maintain them in barracks at home. On this point, Washington has been insistent, apparently feeling that Americans will not both much about the ethics of our violation of Nicaragua sovereignty so long as it is clear that state department bungling is not hurting our pocketbooks.

With mobilization of another 1,000 troops, the pretense that Mr. Kellogg's private war is inexpensive has had to be dropped. Secretary Wilbur admits that the reserve fund of his department has been drained by costs already incurred and says that "undoubtedly" an emergency appropriation will have to be asked from congress. On the amount needed as on the amount already spent, he is silent. One of the most shameful aspects of this sordid chapter in American history is the consciously false propaganda in which our government appears to have indulged in order to keep the truth about the Nicaraguan situation concealed from public knowledge. It is admitted that the official statements of casualties inflicted upon Sandino's followers have been grossly exaggerated. And now that the heavy expense of occupation can no longer be concealed, it is revealed that the navy bureau of information has misinformed the country in intimating that normal appropriations would cover costs.

Plain talk should never be plain to the point of coarseness. Lots of novices don't know this.

**Great Stuff.**  
From Punch.  
Theater Manager—Good house \$2.10. There's nothing like real crook stuff to send up box office receipts. What have we taken to-night?  
Cashier—Can't say. Someone's just come in and lifted the safe.



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**Would Try Later**  
Jack—Now, I'll show you how to shift gears.  
Mac—Maybe it would be best for me to leave them where they are until I can drive better.

**Willing to Aid**  
Lawyer—Do I understand that you want to divorce your wife?  
Client—No, that isn't it at all; I just want to help my father-in-law divorce his.

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A man who is popular with himself is at least fairly happy.

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