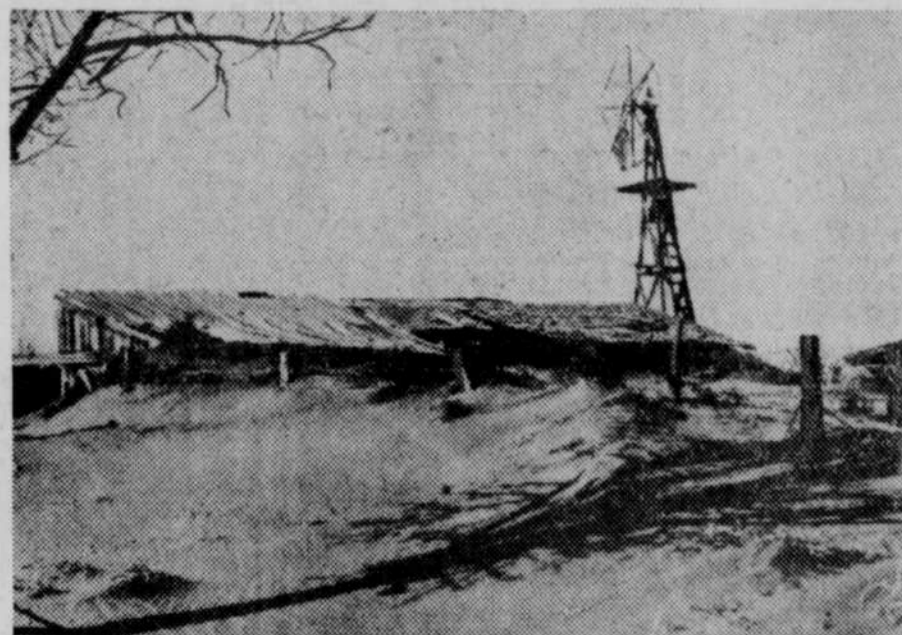


Ranch Is Buried in Devastating "Black Blizzard"

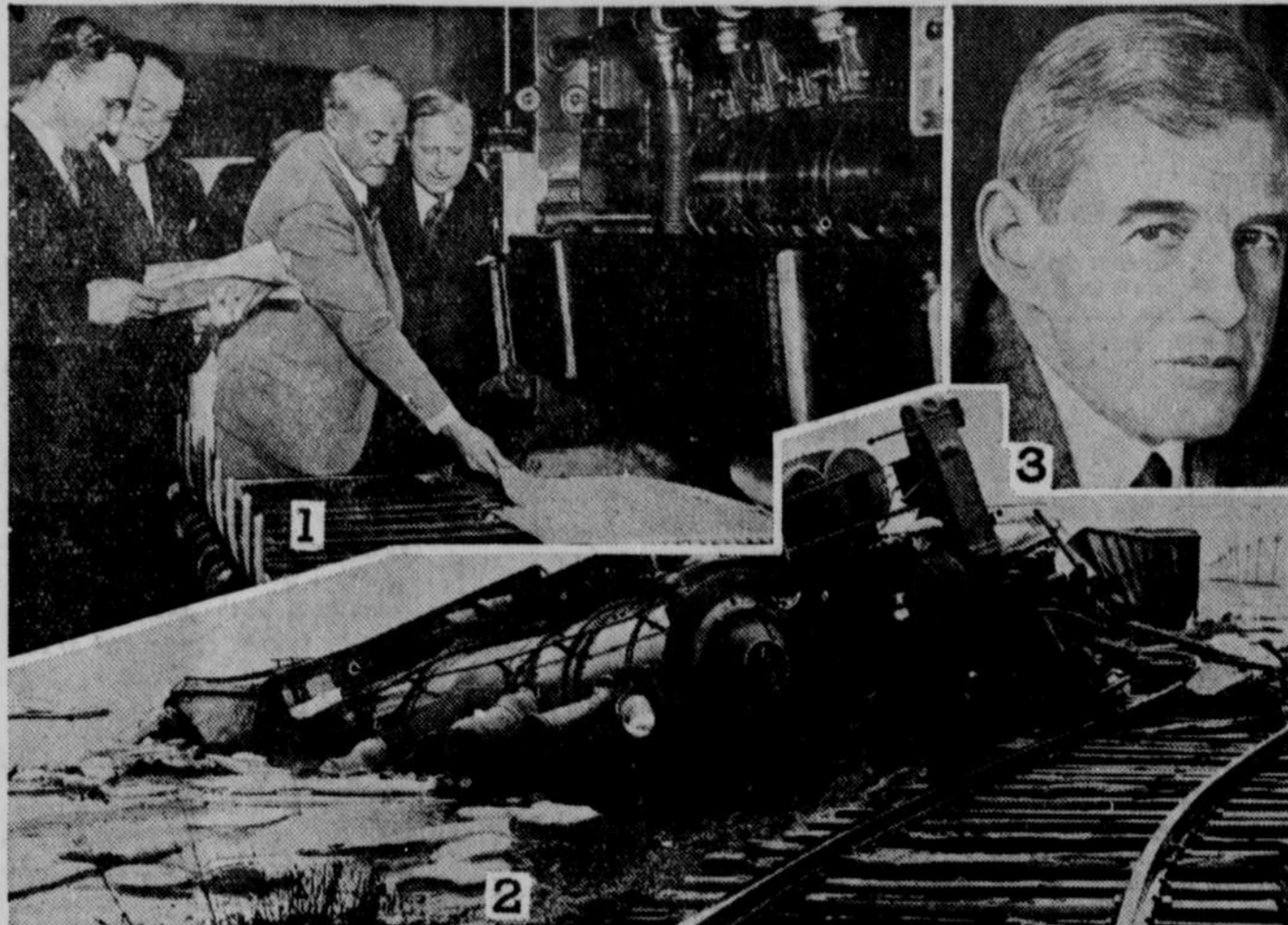


Dust Storms Are Scourge to Southwest Farms

Parts of Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico have been scourged by recent "black blizzards" similar to those devastating dust storms of 1935, which laid waste many farming sections of the Southwest. The picture shows accumulation of soil about the outbuildings of a ranch near Dalhart, Texas.

Moss of the Pineapple Family
Spanish moss, which festoons southern trees so picturesquely, is not technically moss at all, but a member of the pineapple family.

Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—First issue of the Federal Register, the government's new daily newspaper, coming off the press at Washington. 2—Locomotive derailed and upset at Sussex, N. J., when track was undermined during the serious floods in the East. 3—Chief Justice Alfred A. Wheat of the District of Columbia Supreme court who ruled against the seizure of telegrams by the senate lobby committee.

Party Line

By A. PORTER S. SWEET
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WNU Service.

HENRY PAULDING lifted the receiver from the boarding house phone. Instead of the expected, "Number, please," a searing voice sizzled into his ear.

"This line's busy. Hang up."
Even though the voice was extremely provoking, he showed no loss of temper except for a grunt of disgust.

"Line busy, Hank?" his friend Otis Pedroe asked from the depths of an easy chair in the living room.
"Yes. Don't these party lines burn you up sometimes? Some old mix just snarled at me enough to take my ear off. She could have been decently pleasant at least."

"Party lines are a nuisance, but sometimes it's a lucky thing we have them."

"How's that? They're just a nuisance to me."

"Sit down while you're waiting, and I'll tell you about an experience I had with one. It'll only take a minute."

Hank perched himself on the edge of the table, lit a cigarette and flipped the match in the general direction of the fireplace.

"Go on. She probably won't finish for an hour."

"I was living in a railroad town when it happened, had lived there long enough to know most everybody in town. Among the men I had two friends in particular, we'll call one John and the other Bert. Neither name is right but they'll do. John, an engineer, was a dark giant of a man. Honest, conscientious, dependable, but quiet. Almost shy and retiring. Bert, the switchman, was in many ways the opposite. Blond, much smaller and livelier; usually the life of the party, when three of us were together. We were together almost constantly until Mary came to town. We all fell in love with her, but, with a mug like mine, it soon dawned on me that I didn't have a chance. So I sat on the side lines and watched.

"At first it was all Bert. His quick wit, cheerfulness and good manners got him off to a flying start. But John was a stickler; more than that even. He kept trying to work his way into Mary's favor and Bert began to lose out. He seemed to stay away more and more. Mary thought he was losing interest. It wasn't until after the whole thing came out that we found out why. John had been beating him up every time he had a date with Mary. Doing a thorough, systematic job of it, only he confined his efforts to the parts of the body that wouldn't show. Never once was Bert's face marked. Nor was Bert a quitter or squealer. He'd lay off as sick until he was well enough to be out and then have another date—and another beating. John kept him in bed so much he didn't have a chance.

"After the wedding John's jealousy came out into the open. No longer did he need to hide it, and it was terrible to see. One night at a dance (I was with a girl friend of Mary's) he beat up a fellow, something awful. Thought the poor guy was trying to flirt with Mary. She was such a pretty little thing that the lad hadn't been able to keep his eyes off her as she was dancing. John was like a madman. I tried to interfere and received a haymaker that put me out of the picture. After that Mary wouldn't go out to dances with him. They kept more and more to themselves.

"At the time the thing happened that I'm going to tell you about, we had been having one awful time with the weather. It rained every day for a week. Not just a drizzle, but a good hard rain. The rivers and creeks were swollen, the flats were flooded and there were wash-outs galore. Unexpected delays were the order of the day on the railroad, with more and more trouble expected.

"I came home from the shops and before taking a bath or changing my clothes went to the phone just as you did now. As I lifted the receiver I heard a woman's voice—Mary's voice, say: 'Is that you, Bert?'

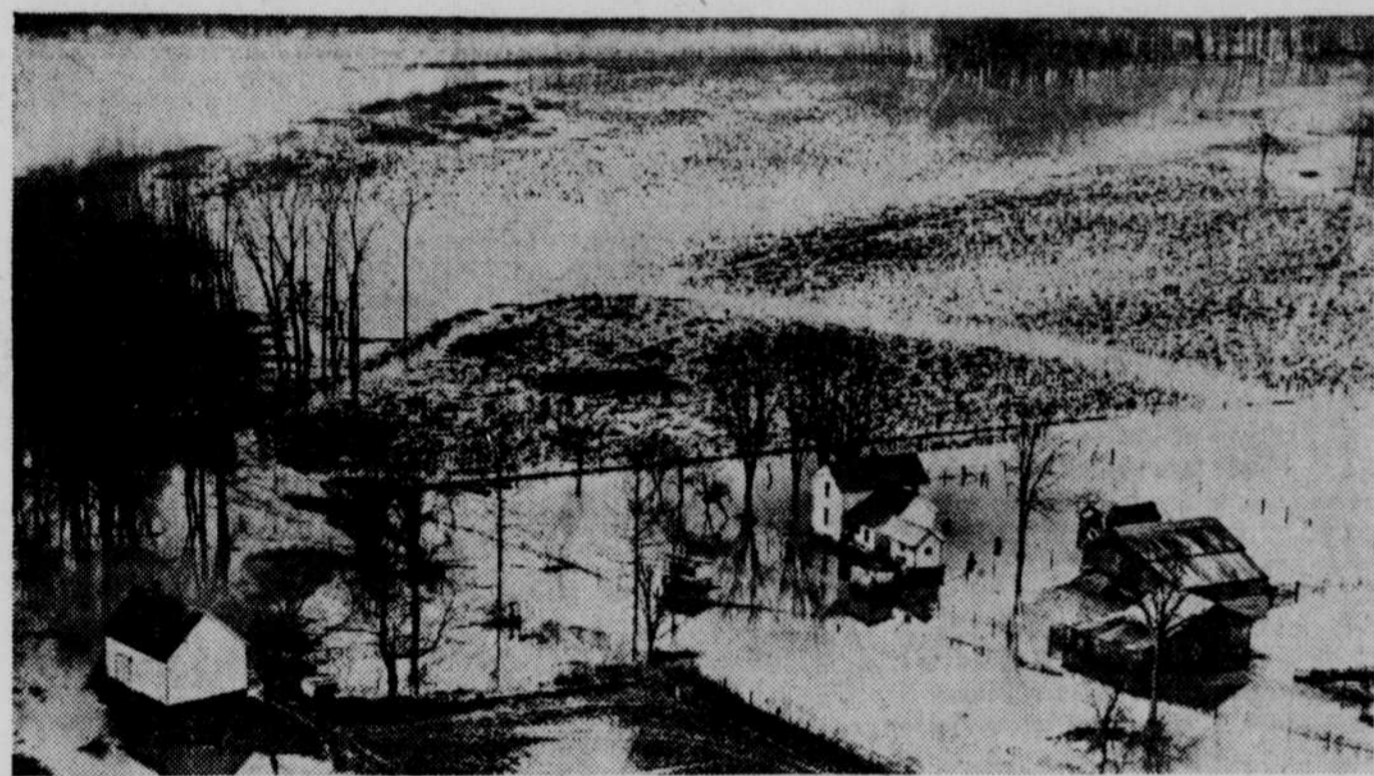
"You know me well enough, Hank, to know that I'm no eavesdropper, but I was so dumfounded that I continued to listen instead of hanging up. I'd just passed John on my way home. He was in working clothes and headed for the yards. He hadn't stopped to talk for he was in a hurry. As I continued to listen I heard Bert say: 'Yes.' Then Mary's voice again: 'It's all right for you to come over now.'

"I was more than surprised. I was astonished. Never for an instant had I suspected an affair between Bert and Mary. I thought of what John would do, should he find out. I heard Bert ask: 'Where's John?' and her answer came: 'He's gone to take out train four.'

"For once in my life I thought and acted quickly. Before Bert could answer or hang up, I spoke slowly into the transmitter: 'I wouldn't go if I were you, Bert. Train four has just been reported two hours late.'

"I heard Mary gasp, 'My Gawd.' The click of the receiver cut off the rest. In a dry rasping sort of a voice Bert said, 'Thanks.' And I was left alone on the party line."

Where Are the Famed Banks of the Wabash?



View taken from an airplane as it flew for many miles along the Wabash river near the Indiana-Illinois state line. Farm lands, houses and barns were almost completely submerged by the destructive spring floods.

Is Effective in Fight Against Bombing Planes

Although not a large weapon, the gun shown here with Maj. William R. Baldwin, is regarded as one of the most powerful firearms yet devised. Now being tested by army and navy experts, the gun, of 30



caliber, has a speed of 150 rounds a minute, can fire a shell up to 30,000 feet and is so constructed that the recoil is so slight that a glass of water may be balanced on the barrel during fire.

Will Be Married This Spring



Dwight F. Davis, secretary of war in President Coolidge's cabinet, former governor general of the Philippines, and donor of the famous Davis cup of the tennis world, and Mrs. Charles H. Sabin, prominent anti-Prohibition crusader in the days before repeal, are to be married in New York this spring. Mrs. Sabin, a social leader, has been married twice before.

New York, Capetown Time
When it is noon in New York it is 7 p. m. in Capetown, and Cape-

town is about as far south of the equator as Atlanta, U. S. A., is north of it.

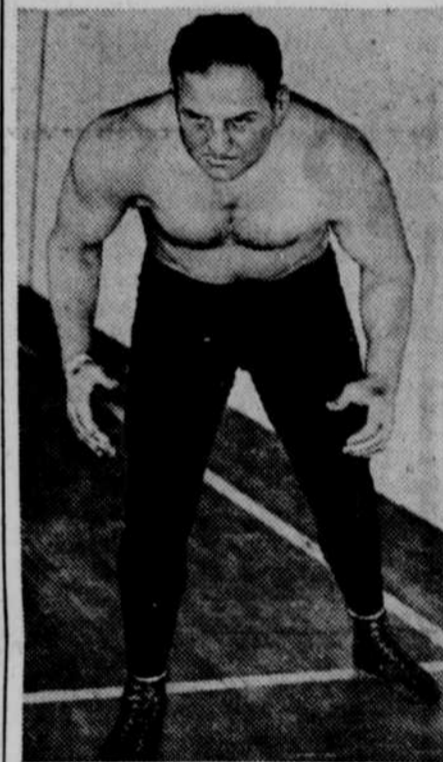
Governor and Daughter Go Riding



When the cares of his office are not too exacting, Gov. Alfred M. Landon of Kansas turns to the saddle for relaxation. In this snapshot the state executive, who is also one of the outstanding figures among those who are being considered for the Republican Presidential nomination, is sharing his saddle with his young daughter, Nancy Josephine Landon, aged three.

Dick Shikat Regains Title as Wrestler Champ

By his recent victory over Danno O'Mahoney of Ireland, Dick Shikat regained his title of champion



heavyweight wrestler of the world. He formerly was champion of Germany.

HE'S A NATIONALIST



Pedro Alzibu Campos, a graduate of Harvard university and prominent San Juan lawyer, is head of the nationalist party which is fostering a movement to sever connections between Puerto Rico and the United States.

Kansan Is Landon Organizer



John Hamilton.

Will Seek Delegates for G. O. P. Convention

John Hamilton of Kansas resigned from the headquarters staff of the Republican national committee in order to become national organizer for Gov. Alf M. Landon of Kansas, candidate for the Republican nomination for President.

Flag Before Business

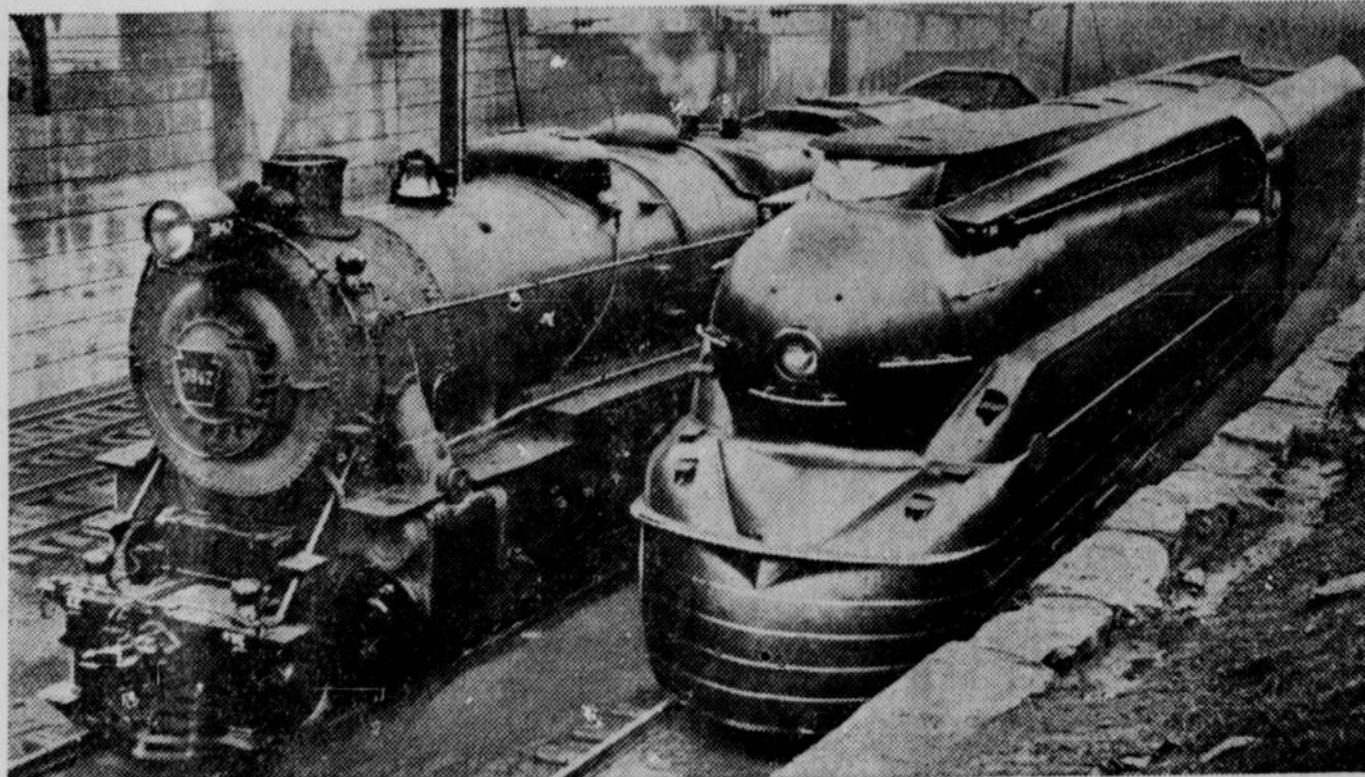
Oak Bluffs, Mass.—The regular town meeting held here recently was delayed several minutes because somebody forgot to display the American flag. On opening the meeting, Stephen Rae, official of the local Legion, said no meeting could be held until the flag was on hand.

King Edward May Marry One of These Girls



Edward VIII, bachelor king of Great Britain, has intimated that he may marry, and there is much speculation as to where his choice may fall. His majesty is shown above surrounded by five princesses who are considered eligible. They are: 1—Catherine of Greece; 2—Eugenia of Greece; 3—Irene of Greece; 4—Eudoxie of Bulgaria; 5—Juliana of Holland.

Newest Locomotive Compared With the Old Type



The newest streamlined steam engine of the Pennsylvania railroad is shown here with the old standard heavy-duty engine. The new locomotive, said to be "the most highly perfected and advanced engine design yet produced by aerodynamic science for the reduction of wind resistance," is reputed to show a reduction of one-third in wind resistance at a mile-a-minute speed.