

"What Shall the G. O. P. Do to Be Saved?"



Left to right, Senator William E. Borah of Idaho, Gov. Harry W. Nice of Maryland and William Allen White of Kansas, in earnest conversation concerning the best course to be adopted by the Republican party in preparation for the national campaign of 1936.

Odd Plants Rival Freaks in Animals

Poached-Egg Tree, Sausage Tree Oddities.

Washington.—Add another plant to the already large collection of botanical freaks. A Princeton professor recently found among his experimental plants a new variety of evening primrose. Its claim to distinction lies in the fact that its buds develop to full size but never open.

"Most interesting among peculiar plants are those which bear uncanny resemblance to something else," says the National Geographic society. "Lady-slippers, sunflowers, and Jack-in-the-pulpits are obvious examples to most nature lovers. Dozens of other resemblances are not so well known.

"Central Africa boasts among its many unusual sights a sausage-tree, from whose wide-spreading crown hang what appear to be boignna sausages. A good accompaniment to it would be the African 'poached-egg tree,' so-called because of its huge white flowers with golden centers. Australia presents as rivals a tree whose thick-based trunk tapers upward like a soda bottle; and the blackboy tree, which thrusts a spear-like shaft six feet above its shaggy crown of leaves. From a distance, a group of these might be savages on the warpath.

Sinister Lilies.

"In South Africa, one may shrink

from what seem to be huge red spiders lying on the ground. They turn out to be lilies. Equally sinister-looking are that region's blood-lilies, whose intense red blossoms and stalks are thrust up like the heads of dangerous snakes. Similarly, in hot desert canyons of the United States, wanderers have quickened their pace toward the curling smoke of a friendly campfire only to discover it the deceptive bluish-green branches of a smokebush. In New Zealand, some of the barren mountain sides appear dotted with sheep. Closer examination proves the large rounded gray masses to be Haastia plants, or 'vegetable sheep.'

"New Zealand claims possession of many remarkable plants, such as buttercups three inches across. Large as they are, they shrink into insignificance before the rafflesia. There is little to this East Indian parasitic plant except its flowers. But it is the largest single flower in the plant kingdom. It sometimes reaches three feet in diameter and weighs as much as 15 pounds.

"An equally weird plant is the welwitschia, from Africa. Aside from its cotyledons, or seed leaves, it develops only two leaves. But these continue to grow for dozens of years, stretching out on each side of the trunk like green ribbons several inches wide and over six feet long.

Tree That Catches Birds.

"Those who have had experience with poison-ivy do not need to be reminded of the venom lurking unsuspected in innocent-looking plants. From the strophanthin vine of the Tropics comes strophanthin, one of the most powerful poisons known. Natives of West Africa use it to tip their deadly arrows. Juice from

Four Million Cars Listed in Storage

Atlantic City.—Out of the 26,000,000 motor vehicles in the United States, between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 are in storage. But by the end of 1935 improving conditions will bring 1,500,000 of them back into service.

Edward P. Chalfant, of Detroit, president of the American Trade association executives, gave that forecast. He added that the end of 1935 also will see 2,500,000 new cars and trucks produced and sold, and 1,500,000 old autos junked.

oleander shrubs is so poisonous that even eating the harmless-looking pink or white blossoms may kill a person.

In the western United States grow powerful herbs, locoweeds, which have a weird effect on animals. Cattle, sheep, and horses that eat them soon lose their muscular co-ordination. They stagger drunkenly around and may eventually die. They lose all sense of proportion and act as if crazy, rearing up to jump over small sticks as if they were log barriers.

"A tree which grows in Sumatra has an effect on birds equally disastrous. Not poison, but a glue-like gum covering its fruits, is the cause. When small birds alight near the fruits, their wings become so glued together that they cannot fly and fall to the ground.

"There are many odd plants among those that man eats with impunity. In some sections of Ceylon, the large ivory-white blossoms of the agati tree are eaten as vegetables. Aristocrat among the plant products used in modern western cooking is vanilla, derived from an orchid. One of the strangest fruits encountered is the so-called miraculous fruit. After eating one, everything, even a lemon, tastes sweet. It causes this effect by temporarily paralyzing some of the papillae of the tongue."

Distinct American Type Seen Coming

Expert Sees Gradual Disappearance of Blond.

Minneapolis.—If gentlemen of the future will still prefer blonds they may have a difficult time to find them in the United States. So believes Prof. Albert E. Jenks, anthropologist of the University of Minnesota.

"Our first group of immigrants included British, Germans, and Scandinavians—all blond," says Professor Jenks. "Our later arrivals included the short and more heavily pigmented groups from southern Europe. These different groups have intermarried and the result will be a typical American race—fairly tall, dark haired, dark eyed, and darker skinned than the present average."

In time, doubtless, will evolve a distinct American type—a composite of several principal strains. Whether the eventual type will be as Professor Jenks predicts can be answered only by time. The history of other nations can be cited in support of the blending processes.

In the year 1776 the population of the United States was 2,500,000, mostly English, but with a smattering of other racial groups. In 1930 the population was 122,775,046. This growth was phenomenal, almost 50-fold in less than 200 years, with the biggest gain, 47,000,000, from 1900.

This meant immigration from countries other than the old contributors, and today, while the old solid, native American strains still predominate, the foreign groups are far from being a small minority. This is shown in the complexion of the nation's several thousand counties. Before 1870 they were almost 100 per cent homogeneous. Today they are only one-third homogeneous.

The 1930 census showed the larg-

est German groups in this order: German, Italian, English, Scottish, Welsh and North Irish, Polish, Canadian, Free State Irish, Swedish, Slavish, Norwegian, Austrian, and Hungarian.

Year by year intermarriage among groups grows, pointing toward an eventual American type.

Porcupine Choice Viand in Some Bay State Homes

Concord, N. H.—Fried porcupine is being boomed as a rival of chicken with depression-harassed epicureans.

Up to now a porcupine has been considered worth only 15 cents. But one jobless New Hampshire man, at least, has been earning money selling porcupine meat.

Railway officials at Milford report that a resident of that town has been making shipments of porcupine meat to Massachusetts points. The man, unnamed by the officials, has also been collecting the customary bounty of 15 cents for each porcupine nose sent in to the state fish and game department.

Bantam Hen Still Lays After 27 Years

Petersburg, Ind.—Bettie is becoming known as the bantam hen who refuses to retire. She lives with the Mr. and Mrs. John Tolers five miles southeast of here. Bettie has raised a family of 200 in her life or twenty-seven years.

Whether from a sense of maternal duty or because she suspects that idle hens soon leave the barnyard to become stew, Bettie begins the season of 1935 setting on ten eggs. She began that career when a year old.

SEEN and HEARD around the National Capital

By CARTER FIELD

Washington.—In Paris a new Ford sedan costs, delivered, just about \$1,700. Or about \$1,000 more than it does in most American cities. Or about two and one-half times the American price.

Which is of the essence when it comes to the problem of removing international trade barriers, as that problem is now being attacked, from two widely different angles and with much animosity between the advocates of the two plans, by Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Foreign Trade Adviser to the President, George N. Peek.

The amazing point about this price for Fords in Paris is that the French duty on automobiles has nothing to do with it! The Ford cars sold in Paris are not made in the United States, but in Strasbourg. Nor is the main element of the astonishing difference in cost due to high duties on the parts. It is almost exclusively due to the difference in cost of manufacture.

This difference in manufacturing costs results from the fact that the factory at Strasbourg, while as modern as Ford engineers can make it, does not have the quantity production element which makes most of the popular small cars so cheap in America. That one element, the writer is informed, accounts for about \$900 of the \$1,000 difference in price here and in Paris.

Wages are an inconsequential phase, or would be, if mass production could be utilized in Strasbourg. It is perfectly true that the labor cost of constructing a car in France is much higher than it is in America, but the workers are paid less than those in Dearborn. The difference is comparable to that of a man plowing with a tractor and one plowing with one horse. The man with the horse may be just as good a farmer, but he takes many times as long to plow an acre.

The same point applies to the difference between turning out twenty cars and turning out a thousand or two thousand a day.

Dealers' Profits

Even if there were no tariff—or far more important—no quota—in France against importation of American automobiles, of course, they could not be sold as cheaply in France as they are in the United States. The chief additional cost would be in dealers' profits. French dealers could not expect to sell as many, and therefore would have to make more on each car than dealers in American cities.

The element of freight would be very small. As evidenced by the fact that \$100 is just about the top price for hauling a car from any American Atlantic port to any European port. This is the price charged by the deluxe Italian liners from New York to Naples. It is much less on slower boats to the North sea ports.

Actually, adding about \$20 for freight would be liberal.

The point of the whole case is that if international trade barriers could be removed, the people of the various countries of the world could enjoy a much higher standard of living than is at present the case. Yet fear on every hand is that instead of tending toward lowering these barriers the whole trend in the world is for raising them.

As for example, the sharp limitation of imports of American automobiles, machinery, and other items, by Italy and Poland. Just last month!

German visitors to Washington in the last few weeks have talked gloomily about the prospects of each nation becoming self-contained.

"It means black bread for our people," one of them said, "but we can do it. What makes us dependent is that it seems so unnecessary."

Teeth Extracted

A back-stair compromise has been reached on the public utility holding company bill, which has so modified its original drastic provisions that in all probability the White House will apply pressure in order to "put the teeth back in." Present prospects are that this effort, which is expected from President Roosevelt and the New Dealers, will fall. There is no discounting the flood of protests from utility stockholders which has poured in on individual senators and members of the house. It has turned the tide, not to the point where the national legislators would openly defy the White House, but to a status where they are not willing to jump through the hoops at the executive command.

One of the important phases of the new compromise is that it will exempt from its provision all holding companies whose interests are confined to operating companies inside one state. This does not sound important, but it lets a lot of rather big fish through the net.

Another modification is even more important. It exempts from the provisions of the proposed law holding companies whose operations are chiefly in one state, but extends for short distances beyond its borders. This would affect such important holdings as Consolidated Gas of New York, Public Service

of New Jersey, and People's Gas of Chicago.

Still another compromise provision would exempt holding companies that are interested exclusively in operating companies outside the United States. Such as American and Foreign Power. So that first and last a considerable number of big holding companies, with a considerable army of stockholders will be let out. Which, of course pacifies their stockholders, thus reducing the amount of opposition that the final form of the bill might bring down on the devoted heads of senators and members of the house who vote its final passage.

"May" and "Shall"

In the under-cover negotiations which led to this compromise some of the gentlemen interested in saving as many utility holding companies as possible nearly lost their battle after they thought they had it won. The first draft of text that emerged stated these exemptions in language which used the word "may." That is, it gave the securities commission the right to exempt these companies if in its discretion it saw fit to do so. One of those most concerned hit the ceiling when he read that "may." He got very busy, indeed, and the draft now reads "shall." Meaning that such companies "shall" be exempted instead of "may" be exempted.

Still another modification does leave discretion with the securities commission. This is to extend from five years to seven years the length of time in which companies still retained under the death sentence may be allowed in which to wind up their affairs and liquidate.

Which in a way is the most interesting of all the changes. For the argument used to give this additional discretion would not be appreciated at the White House at all. It was that enough leeway should be provided in the holding company act to permit a reversal of policy by the administration "following the Roosevelt second term!"

And the fact that the argument got somewhere—that it has been accepted by some very important senators and members of the house—would seem to indicate that some perfectly good Democrats are no longer taking all the proposed brain trust legislation as having been divinely inspired.

More Taxes Certain

More taxes are certain, despite all the propaganda by the administration one way, and by the bonus advocates the other. The taxes would be needed even if there were no bonus legislation at all. But there is going to be bonus legislation. Arguments by bonus lobbyists that to override the veto means the soldiers will get nothing are just so much drivel. If the bonus veto is generally expected, some bonus measure will be passed later, which President Roosevelt can and will sign.

This will probably be something not very far from the Harrison compromise, though the Harrison plan always hoped that the eventual cost to the treasury could be held to \$1,200,000,000 which the Harrison plan exceeds by at least \$100,000,000.

Every one agrees that the present so-called nuisance taxes, which expire in June, must be continued. The only one allowed to drop was that of 2 cents on each check, which expired last January.

Probability is that the most certain of all proposed new taxes to be adopted before adjournment of the present session of congress is an increase in the inheritance taxes.

These fit in with the New Deal philosophy. It must be remembered that the Roosevelt ideal contemplates a nation of little fellows—no outstanding giants. Every man with enough to buy an automobile. But none with enough to buy a yacht—unless it's a sailboat. This is revealed in the intense desire to hold down profits—to hold down bigness—to protect the little fellow against the big. Which is true despite the frequent allegation that NRA was in the interest of the big fellows, and against the little man.

Fly in Ointment

Another phase of New Deal policy right down this same alley was the securities act—and the stock exchange regulation bill. The idea was not only to hold profits on ordinary business down to a low percentage, but to prevent speculative profits of any kind.

Analyzed critically, it is easy to see that this would tend to prevent anyone not now rich from becoming so. But there was one fly in the ointment. Strict supervision of new security issues and curtailment of speculation, all tended in the direction of preserving existing fortunes.

They could snipe at them with heavy taxation, particularly on incomes, and on the corporation from which the income was derived. But a fortune invested in government bonds, for example, would be impervious to both.

Hence the popularity with New Dealers of inheritance taxes. Critics comment that most of the New Dealers are young, and not worried about death duties. But the undeniable fact is that the New Dealers do want to do something about some of the very large fortunes now in existence.

Copyright—WNU Service.



Giant Cinnamon Trees Were Felled to Make a Jungle Home.

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

RANCH life in the wilds of Ecuador was the dream of an adventurous American couple. Together they have created a delightful home in the middle of an equatorial jungle. The Hacienda Rio Negro is located on the eastern slopes of the Andes, about two degrees south of the equator, at an altitude of some 5,000 feet, on the north side of the Pastaza valley.

The site itself is a tropical paradise. A broad, beautifully wooded valley rises in range after range of hills on each side of the falling Pastaza in a series of tablelands.

The most delightful feature of this equatorial Eden is the fact that there are no mosquitoes, and all noxious insects seem to be reduced to a minimum.

The nearest town, post office, and general supply depot is Banos, where white-walled, red-roofed houses cling with a stolid, and several times misplaced, trust to the base of the Black Giant, Tungurahua, a beautifully shaped volcano.

Leaving the lava-swept base of Tungurahua at Banos and the semi-aridness of the Andean cradle, one progresses down the valley of the Pastaza, past the Falls of Agoyan, higher than Niagara, and finds oneself getting gradually deeper and deeper into the jungle fringe.

At last, descending from El Mirador, where one sees a large section of the Pastaza river valley spread out, partly occupied by the hacienda, one emerges from the gorgeously orchid-lined trails into open pastures.

Years before, an Ecuadorian had partially cleared some of the land and had built a four-roomed house in what he proudly called the "American style." The heavy tile roof had fallen in; the rotten timbers which supported it, sagging with fatigue, had finally given up the struggle. A bamboo shack attached to one end of the house was alive with cockroaches. A feeble attempt by the former owner to patch the interstices with mud plaster merely served to make a cozy home for more of the objectionable insects.

During the first few days of their adventure, the new owners lived as well as they could in this tumble-down structure, choosing the driest corner of the four rooms for their camp beds.

Keep in Touch by Radio.

Everything had to be done with what resources were at hand. Immediate purchases were impossible, for there were no convenient shops. Consequently they learned to improvise, even when it was a question of creating such things as a forge, blower, an efficient water heater and pressure tank, a water wheel to run the dynamo to charge the radio battery, a power-transmission belt, dressing for the belt, or kitchen drainboards out of the roofing zinc. The whole hacienda, with its house and furnishings, may be put down as one large improvisation.

Radio links the jungle clearing with a remote world. During one small political uprising in Guayaquil they heard the news broadcast from New York before the newspapers in the mountains had published it.

The natives regarded the set with superstitious awe; but were more impressed by being able to hear programs from the mountain cities of Robamba and Quito than they were by European or North American programs.

Fortunately the special osier fiber known as mimbre was found growing near the ranch. It was readily adapted to the making of wicker furniture. In an incredibly short time strongly built, comfortable chairs, a chaise longue, and a table were fashioned by a native cabinet maker.

Passing Indians brought sacks of kapok, which made soft cushions for the chairs, mattresses for the beds, and pack blankets for the mules. The scarlike shawls, woven by the Indian women of the mountain region are used as cushion covers and curtains. These shawls, hand-woven of white cotton with a geometric design in indigo last indefinitely and can be washed as often as necessary.

There is no glass in the house

windows. Heavy shutters of wood can be closed when the rains beat down too heavily. The temperature is so constantly mild that no further protection is needed. By dint of much hard work, a complete water system was finally installed. A flume of hardwood and bamboo brings water from a stream on the hillside back of the house to a pressure and settling tank, also built of wood. From this tank the water is piped into the house.

An efficient system for heating the water was made from two 50-gallon drums. The bathroom is lighted by candles set in sconces made of hollow bamboo stems.

Making Their Garden.

One of the first things the young pioneers did on arriving at their new ranch was to look for land which had good drainage and which was not too far from the house, to clear for land for the planting of a vegetable garden. They found a shelf of good land overlooking the river and set men to chop down trees, clear away brush, and free it as far as possible of roots. Carrots, beets, beans, spinach and radishes thrive, but lettuce and cabbage grows very tall—into small trees, in fact—and develops disappointingly small heads. Tomatoes flourish. Even stray seeds dropped around the kitchen door grow into strong, healthy plants. The small pepper, aji, so popular in Ecuador, grows equally well.

Papaya trees give delicious melons for the breakfast table. Bananas, of course, were planted immediately. Orange and tangerine trees grow nearby; also lemon and lime trees.

There is also the naranjilla, which is an orange-colored fruit covered with a prickly, hairy coat. The inside of this fruit is a greenish-yellow color and is filled with tiny seeds. One species is tasteless, but the juice of the other, when ripe, has a delicate, distinctive aroma and flavor, which may be indicated vaguely by the sense of taste by mentioning a combination of orange, pineapple, and strawberry. It makes a refreshing hot-weather drink, and also a delicious pie similar to a lemon meringue.

Perishable foods are kept by means of a homemade, water-cooled balsawood refrigerator. The mountain stream which is diverted over this refrigerator box keeps butter hard and vegetables fresh and crisp.

All the Comforts of Home.

In this wilderness two modern Crusoes have achieved the comforts of the white man's civilization. Their dinner is served on a hand-rubbed mahogany table. China is native-made and hand-decorated in a single design which resembles that of Italian pottery. The shawls are effective as curtains and stand out brightly against the soft, satiny gleam of the cinnamon-board walls.

Against the dark wall of the living room, the paintings of a Quito artist emphasize the rich, bold tones of native scenes and native faces. Between the book shelves which flank one end of that room is a built-in divan designed by one of New York's foremost stage designers. It is upholstered in the downy kapok of the woods and covered with the weaves of nimble native fingers. A wide veranda incloses the front and sides of the house, and another of generous proportions outlines the U between the rear wings.

Outside, in the "working" grounds, is a blacksmith shop, with an improvised forge and blower, to which the stubborn little pack mules and the riding horses are led for shoeing. Across the driveway is a peon shack, made of split bamboo and covered with thatch. Near the big gate is a corral built on the western style, by using whole bamboo poles instead of pine timbers.

The big gate which leads to the hacienda house from the Pastaza trail was an achievement in hand labor. To the top of the huge lignum-vitae posts, 15 feet high and 20 inches square, the men hauled up on runners a cross-beam weighing 1,700 pounds. Sheer manpower, lacking the assistance of machinery, tugged and sweated that massive lintel into place all one afternoon. There it is now, etched in the moonlight, proclaiming to the jungle and the trail the results of two years' effort.

A LA "LITTLE WOMEN"

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



It's chic to be quaint. Which applies to the "Little Women" fashions that are registering so smartly in the season's style parade. The important thing about this new vogue is that one must look the part, even to the hair-dress. "Bangs" is the answer, curled primly to top a smooth brow, with hair brushed slick back over the ears as here pictured. You can see how readily this hairdress blends into the scheme of things, a fact which impressed the delighted audience which attended a recent style revue held under the auspices of the wholesale market council, where the charming gingham-check-silk dress here shown with its big sleeves and wide organdie ruffles proved one of the big sensations of this style event. The idea of coiffing hair to the tune of the costume was staged in other fascinating numbers.