

SEEN and HEARD around the NATIONAL CAPITAL

By Carter Field
FAMOUS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT



Washington.—Most New Dealers are predicting a revival of the wages and hours legislation bill sometime this winter or spring, and in a form in keeping with the Roosevelt objectives. But at the moment it is very difficult to see how this is going to be done.

The difficulties are not technical—actually the new bill would start out with an enormous advantage so far as parliamentary procedure is concerned. But the trouble is to find some formula for government control of wages and hours, or rather government banning of too small wages and too long hours, on which enough members of the house could agree to obtain a majority.

The majority which was apparent for the bill just a few weeks back, and which forced the bill out of the rules committee pigeonhole, was fictitious. It was a simple log-rolling proposition, under which a number of enthusiastic farm relief advocates traded their signatures to the discharge petition, plus the promise of their votes, in order to prevent a bloc movement of the Northern wages and hours advocates against their farm bill.

Just before the coalition was made it appeared that both bills were doomed. The Southern members, through their strength on the rules committee, had been able to pigeonhole the wage-hour bill at the preceding regular session. This was the surprise of the legislative year, but what really fooled every one was that this strength persisted. So it looked as though the bill would stay pigeonholed.

Weakness of the farm bill forced the coalition, and then it looked as though both bills were sure of passage, though neither was strong enough to stand alone.

There's the Rub

With that strange episode now history, the new picture is: How can the men who want a wages and hours bill agree on something strong enough to stand alone?

No compromise so far has been reached on any of the important difficulties. For example, who is to administer the law. William Green and his friends in the American Federation of Labor do not trust the idea of a board. They fear that President Roosevelt would appoint another group as friendly to C. I. O., as they think the national labor relations board is. Neither the A. F. of L. nor the C. I. O. is enthusiastic about entrusting administration to the Department of Labor.

But there enters another complication. Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins is distinctly unpopular on Capitol Hill. There are quite a few members of the house who would not vote for any bill, on final passage, which gave Secretary Perkins this added power. Particularly bitter in this group are a few Southerners who still resent an unfortunate remark the secretary made in her first year in office, to the broad general effect that a bigger market for shoes could be built up for Northern factories if so many people in the South would stop going barefoot!

But for eleven months, or until the congressional election of 1932, this wage-hour bill will continue to have a tremendous technical advantage. It has passed the senate. That passage holds until the present congress dies. Nothing changes between sessions. So it is not a question ever of beating a filibuster. It is merely a question of writing a bill which 218 members of the house and 49 senators would rather vote for than against.

The Case of "Jimmie"

There has been a lot of joshing about President Roosevelt's training up his elder son to take his place. "My Little Boy Jimmie," as the President introduced him back in 1932 from the rear platform of his campaign train, has steadily been moving into the public eye ever since. In that campaign Jimmy was used as a mouthpiece for a great many things which "Papa" did not want to say at the time. For example, he predicted the speediness with which beer would return if his father should be elected.

Then it was James who entangled his father with James M. Curley, then mayor of Boston and one of Jimmie's very good customers in the insurance business. It looked for several years as though this alliance of Curley and young Roosevelt were going to march down through the years. It appeared as though Curley would step from the governor's chair, when he got tired of that office, into the senate, and that James would become governor of the Bay state.

This idea of James Roosevelt's running for governor of Massachusetts still persists. It would be a logical stepping stone. Friends insist that Jimmie would like it very much. Meanwhile the objectionable alliance with Curley has been terminated. The split between the Roosevelts and Curley became, apparently, irreconcilable when the President, during a campaign swing through the Bay state in the closing days of the 1932 campaign, failed to mention Curley's name, though

Curley was on the Democratic ticket with the President, and was at the time governor of the state.

As to Curley

It is impossible ever to estimate the extent of the effect of any particular thing in politics. There are too many complications. But enthusiastic Roosevelt fans believe Curley would have been elected had the President supported him with anything like the ardor that Curley had shown for F. D. R. in 1932, or since. And naturally, while the Curley following does not go this far, it is extremely bitter over the "ingratitude."

Which is very interesting, because Jimmie brought Curley into his father's campaign in 1932, sat in with Curley on Massachusetts patronage—to the great indignation of the two Democratic senators, David I. Walsh and Marcus A. Coolidge—and then is generally suspected of being the cause, though he had not intended to be, of the split! For there are many who think that the prime reason for bringing Jimmie to Washington was not to train him up for the presidency later on, helpful as this training might be, but to get him out of the trouble his father feared he was getting into in Massachusetts. And part of this trouble was his association with Curley. It was suspected by some of the President's advisers that Curley had made it appear too easy to Jimmie to capitalize political friendships in writing insurance. Especially, as for some reason there is less attempt to camouflage that sort of thing in Massachusetts than in some other states.

But there is little doubt as to what is going on right now. The President is putting more and more power into Jimmie's hands.

Farley vs. LaGuardia

Friends of James A. Farley are telling the big politician that he can easily be elected governor of New York in November even if the Republicans should nominate Fiorello H. LaGuardia. Incidentally their arguments are rather interesting in view of the thumping majority that LaGuardia piled up in the recent New York mayoralty election.

Time is one of the important elements. They insist that when the gubernatorial election is held LaGuardia will still have three more years to serve as mayor under the term to which he was elected last month. Yet the term he may be seeking as governor would be for only two years.

So many of the New York City voters who thought he made a good mayor in his last term, and who voted for him to have four more years rather than to turn the city over to the Democratic bosses, will think it would be poor strategy for them to help send him to Albany.

It is also contended that scores of thousands of New Yorkers who thought LaGuardia should be continued as mayor would oppose the idea of the mayor becoming President of the United States. On this point the illustration of Alfred E. Smith is used. Smith was elected governor in 1918, was beaten in the Harding landslide of 1920, came back in 1922, weathered the Coolidge 1924 Republican landslide comfortably, and was re-elected triumphantly in 1926. Yet more than 100,000 New Yorkers who had voted for him for governor at his lowest ebbs, and several times that number who had voted for him in his good years, refused to vote for him for President. It should be borne in mind here that in 1922 Smith was at the flood-tide of his strength.

Other Angles

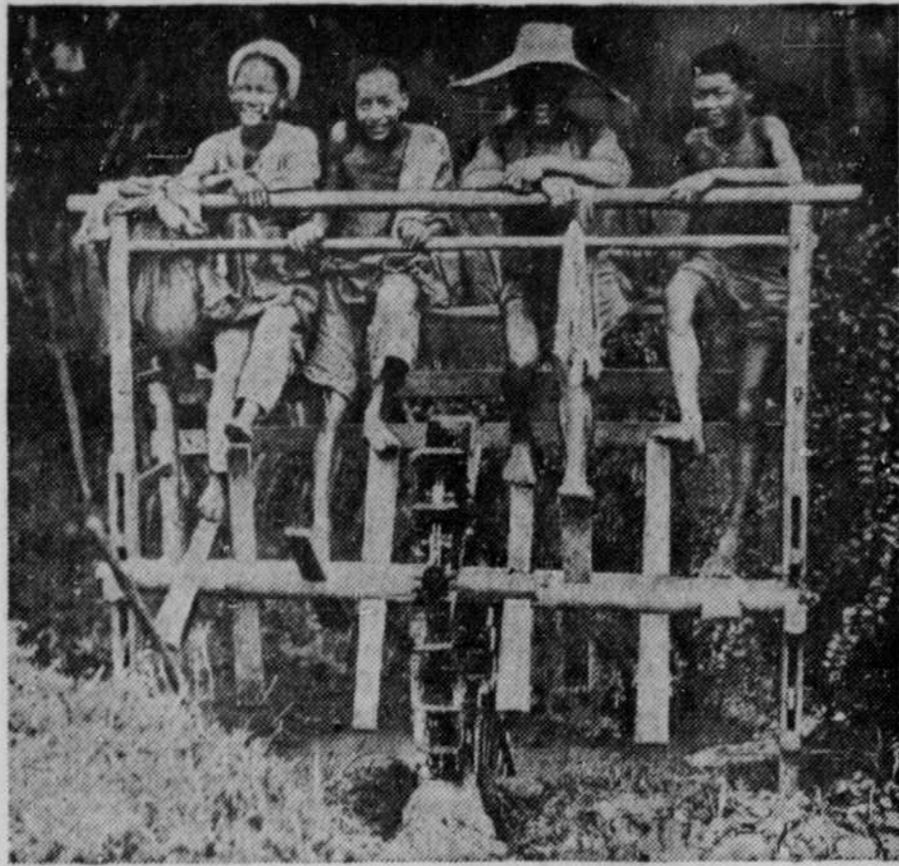
Which would seem ample proof that plenty of people will vote for a good public servant for some offices, but will not necessarily support the same man for President.

There is another angle, involving Tammany, which is not so well understood in the country as it is in New York City. Tammany, at the recent mayoralty election, was sulking. It had been beaten in the primary. Control of the Democratic party in New York city had been taken over by the outlying bosses, those of Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx. Many Tammany leaders were sore—were not at all displeased with seeing the men who had ousted them from control take a licking from LaGuardia.

Farley is a master compromiser and pacifier. His friends do not doubt that the full strength of all the Democratic organizations in the greater city would be thrown behind him in a gubernatorial race. Also, Farley has never relaxed his grip on the upstate New York Democratic organization. He built that organization in the period from 1928 on. It could be depended on to do its utmost for him.

But there are a good many upstate Republican leaders who would not want to aid LaGuardia in his presidential ambitions. They would not be averse to see Farley polishing him off, and thus clearing the way to the nomination of "their kind" of Republican.

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Pumping Water for Irrigation in Inner China.

Four Great Chinese Cities On the Yangtze and Han Rivers

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

OF THE four Chinese cities to which the government of the republic moved due to the pressure of the Sino-Japanese conflict, Hankow stands out as the city of most importance. Because of its excellent communications with Canton and Hong Kong, many of the important government activities were moved to this inland port.

Hankow lies about 600 miles up the Yangtze. The city proper sprawls over a wide area of the north bank of the river where the Han pours its muddy torrent. Across the Han lies Hanyang, and across the mile-wide Yangtze, Wuchang. The latter city is older than Hankow for it was flourishing when Hankow was a mere fishing hamlet. Both Hanyang and Wuchang are now a part of "Greater Hankow" with more than a million and a half inhabitants.

Hankow's harbor seethes with activity. Ungainly junks move about the water manned by expert rivermen, nearly as easily as modern giants of the sea in our busy seaports. They range from craft with rotten hulks and gaping holes above the water line to huge high-pooped craft, adorned with brightly painted carvings and plates that make them look like floating circus wagons.

Small matting-covered sampans dart here and there by the musclepower of perspiring coolies whose families fill the air along the shore with the singsong chatter of the Orient. It is estimated that 25,000 native boats ply in and out of Hankow and its sister cities. Meanwhile modern steamboats from lower Yangtze points come and go on schedule.

The Hankow Bund Looks Occidental.

The Hankow Bund, stretching along the Yangtze for two miles, is disconcerting to the traveler seeking purely Chinese panoramas. Trees shade the wide boulevard while the landward side is flanked by modern banks and business buildings that are not unlike those of New York, London, Paris and Berlin.

Beyond the Bund, upstream, the roofs of concrete warehouses form a portion of the city's skyline. Here hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of cotton, silk, tea, wood oil, beans and many other products of a vast area of China served by the Yangtze and Han usually are stored, awaiting shipment.

Beyond the warehouses begin the foreign concessions. The British concession, oldest of all, was established in 1861 when Hankow was opened to foreign trade. Then, in order, came the Russian, the French and the old German concessions, each marked by wide streets and modern residences and shops. There are several electric light and power stations in the city.

A native city in the background also seethes with commercial activity to the tune of noises that strain the visitor's eardrums. Some of the narrow lanes are paved with flagstone while others are mere ruts. Nevertheless, they are the playgrounds of thousands of children, and the busy streets of a city which has been called the "Hub of the Universe."

To the foreigner, the pedestrians in their loose-fitting clothing resemble pajama-clad citizens on parade, but the wearers are by no means ready to retire. Business in Hankow is almost a religion, and nearly every man seen on the street has to do with the enormous amount of commerce that flows through and past the port.

If a traveler knows the advertising code in Hankow, he can locate any type of business by reading the shapes and colors of the shop signs which project over the narrow thoroughfares. For instance, gold platers use salmon-colored boards with bright green characters. Druggists' boards are gilded. Black, gold, red, and green are the predominant colors. On each sign is a motto and when a store changes hands,

the sign is valued somewhat the same as American "good will."

Important governmental departments also were moved to Changsha and Chungking.

Fireworks of Changsha.

Changsha is a city of fireworks, literally and figuratively. The Fourth of July firecrackers used by the American small boy before the "Safe and Sane Fourth" was so widely enforced were imported heavily from Changsha.

It is the capital of the hilly province of Hunan, important because it contains enormous coal fields, many unworked, and because in it, to the north of Changsha, is the huge lake, Tung-ting hu, which acts as a reservoir for the Yangtze floods.

Among Changsha's most interesting sights are the wheelbarrows that climb stairs. Some distance ahead of the regulation wheel there is another smaller one. In climbing over flagstone steps or bridges, the handles of the wheelbarrow are lowered until the auxiliary wheel rises above the next higher step. Then the wheelbarrow, which often carries 300 or 400 pounds, see-saws from wheel to wheel until the next level stretch of the flagstones is attained.

Changsha is closely linked with New Haven, Conn., for there is, just outside the rapidly disappearing wall, in which the inhabitants once took great pride, one of the best known mission schools in China, which is Yale's contribution to the education of the Chinese.

A large part of Hunan is an unworked field of anthracite and bituminous coal and at Pinghsiang, which is connected with Changsha by railroad, there is one of the mines which furnishes fuel for the great iron works at Hanyang.

With about 500,000 inhabitants, Changsha rules a province of 22 million and is one of the cleanest cities in China. Many of the streets are long and straight and at one time the city itself was divided between two magistracies. The bazaars are full of life and interest, some of the candies being famous for miles around.

Chungking a Busy Port.

Chungking is a busy river port lying about 1,500 miles upstream from the mouth of the Yangtze river. It is the chief port and point of entry for the rich province of Szechwan, said to contain the natural resources of an empire.

The far-reaching trade of Szechwan is conducted entirely by river craft from Chungking, whose population of half a million is crowded into a small triangle formed by the junction of the Kialing river with the Yangtze.

Fields at the back of the city, making the third side of the triangle, have gradually become entirely filled with graves of countless generations. This has resulted in hopelessly enclosing the great port of Chungking upon its rocky promontory between the two rivers, and making its expansion impossible, ancestral graves having heretofore been considered inviolable.

Through the centuries the city has increased in population, but without expansion of territory, until overcrowding has almost passed belief. The city being built on a rock, there is no possibility of proper drainage, so that Chungking ranks high in odors, even among Chinese communities.

Many Valuable Exports.

However, enormous wealth is hidden away behind Chungking's rather dismal exterior. The products of an empire have passed through her gates for centuries, rare and valuable goods destined for the markets of the world. These include some of the most sought-after products of modern commerce, so valuable as to be worth transporting 1,500 miles to the mouth of the Yangtze and thence half round the earth. Among Chungking's exports are musk from the glands of Tibetan antelopes, widely used in perfume making, and wood oil, pressed from the seeds of the fruit of a tree, valuable in the manufacture of varnish. Chungking's hog bristles are famous among brush manufacturers the world over and she exports an insect wax used in the preparation of medicines.

What Irvin S. Cobb Thinks about

Magazine Solicitors.

HOUSTON, TEX.—What has become of all the struggling collegians, ranging in age up to fifty-five, who used to solicit magazine subscriptions so they could spend another semester at dear old Bushwah?

We counted that day lost whose low descending sun didn't find us signing on the dotted line. And sometimes we got the wrong magazines and sometimes we didn't get any magazines at all and once in awhile we got the magazines we'd ordered and then didn't like them.



Irvin S. Cobb

But our consolation was that we'd aided all those earnest undergraduates to complete the education for which they panted as the hart panteth after the waterbrook.

Can it be that the gallant army packed the campuses until vast numbers got crushed in the jam? Or is it that many of them are getting too old to travel around? Lately there has been an unaccountable falling-off in the business. We are bearing up bravely, since now we have more time in which to lead our own lives.

P. S.—I have on hand a complete file for 1935 of the Northwestern Bee Raiser which I would like to trade for a ukulele. . . .

Matriarchy's Approach.

SOME inspired philosopher—and not a woman either—declares that within a century women will dominate every imaginable field of human endeavor.

What do you mean, within a century? If the prophet will leave out the ancient science of growing chin-whiskers and the knack of making a sleeping car washroom look like a hurrab's nest I'm saying that women are already away out in front everywhere.

Since Henry the Eighth, the two greatest kings England had were both queens—Elizabeth and Victoria. Men thought up war and improved the art of war and now are hoping to perfect it to the point of exterminating the species, but 'twas in the midst of bloody warfare that Florence Nightingale laid the foundations and Clara Barton built the structure of mercy by method and life-saving by skill and tenderness and sanitation.

Take this country at the present moment: for energy, for readiness of speech, for range of interest, for versatility in making publicity and, incidentally, acquiring it, for endurance under strain, what man amongst us is to be compared with the first lady of the language, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt?

Banishing Sectionalism.

ON ONE stretch of road down here—and it is not a main-traveled highway and this not exactly the tourist season—I saw cars bearing license tags of nine separate states, ranging from New Hampshire and Florida to Utah and Oregon, besides one from Hawaii and one from Puerto Rico. And next summer Texas cars will be boring into every corner of this Union and the folks riding in them will be getting acquainted with their fellow-countrymen and finding out that, when you know the other fellow, he's not so different, after all.

Like most evil things, sectionalism and parochial prejudices and with Vermont neighbor to Virginia and the Dakotas talking it over with the Carolinas, there's seed being sown which inevitably must sprout a finer yield of Americanism than any our land ever produced—if only we keep the tares of communism and the chaff of snobbery out of the crop, only make patriotic service a thing of elbow-grease and not of lip-movements.

What price, then, the wearers of the black shirts and the white sheets; the parlor pinks, the yellow internationalists and the red flag wavers?

Freedom of the Press.

DICTATORS invariably cancel freedom of the press and curb freedom of education. Otherwise, they fail.

Although he uttered the words over 250 years ago, Governor Berkeley of Virginia spoke for all the breed of political tyrants when he said: "I thank God there are no free schools, nor printing, for learning has brought disobedience and heresy into the world, and printing has divulged them."

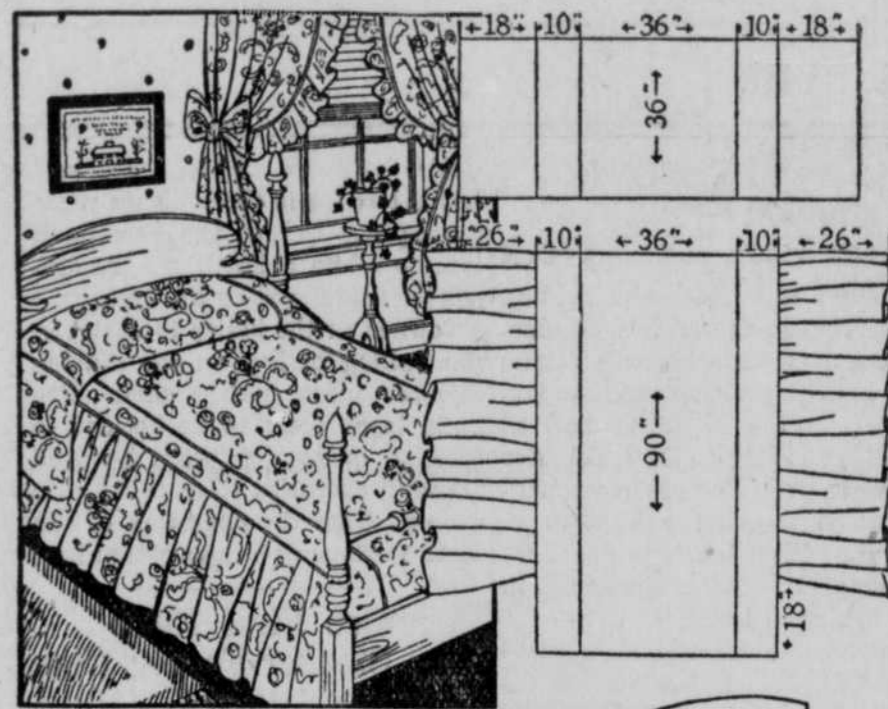
Foulness in drama or literature, like a skunk penned under a barrel, eventually destroys itself by just naturally choking to death on its own smell.

Control of the newest medium of publicity, the radio, is easy. But information put in type keeps on traveling. No people ever stayed free once the press—and the school-teacher—had been muzzled.

IRVIN S. COBB
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HOW TO SEW

by Ruth Wyeth Spears



Making a Chintz Bed Spread With Corded Seams.

WOULD you like to make a chintz bedspread to match your curtains? Of course, such a spread must have seams in it, for most chintzes are only 36 inches wide, while the average double bed is about 54 inches wide. But seams need not detract from the beauty of the spread.

Eleven and a half yards of 36-inch-wide chintz will make this spread and pillow cover for a

double bed. In the diagrams at the right I have given the dimensions for cutting these for a 54-inch-wide bed. It is best to cut the center portions first; then cut the 18-inch side sections for the pillow cover; then the 10-inch strips for pillow cover and spread. This leaves a long 26-inch-wide strip for the side ruffles of the spread.

Cable cord for the corded seams may be purchased at notion counters. Prepared bias trimming may be used for the cord covering. Baste the covering over the cord, as shown here at A; then place the covered cord in the seam, as shown, and stitch as at B, using the cording foot of your machine.

Every Homemaker should have a copy of Mrs. Spears' new book, SEWING. Forty-eight pages of making step-by-step directions for making slipcovers and dressing tables; restoring and upholstering chairs, couches; making curtains for every type of room and purpose. Making lampshades, rugs, ottomans and other useful articles for the home. Readers wishing a copy should send name and address, enclosing 25 cents, to Mrs. Spears, 210 South Desplaines St., Chicago, Illinois.

"Quotations"

It is some commendation we have avoided to characterize any person without long experience.—Swift.

A wise man sees as much as he ought, not as much as he can.—Montaigne.

Love is but another name for that inscrutable presence by which the soul is connected with humanity.—W. C. Simms.

Delay is cowardice and doubt despair.—Whitehead.

The generous heart should scorn a pleasure which gives others pain.—Thompson.

Either I will find a way, or I will make one.—Sir Philip Sidney.

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