

It Seems to Me by HEYWOOD BROWN

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 9.—Rain fell here in St. Paul the other day and that was an eight-column headline in all the local newspapers. Not until one leaves New York and moves into the farm belt does he become weather conscious. Once some years ago when I was promoting a show I used to pray for thunderstorms on matinee days so that transients could not go to the ball game or to the races.

But even then the climate never made very much difference. As a rule the storm-bound visitor decided to stay in his hotel, took a good book rather than venture forth to listen to my monologue and the even more attractive features which "shoot the works" had to offer. Generally speaking neither rain nor snow nor sleet nor cyclones cut much into the life of the New Yorker.

He makes his appointed rounds about the same as usual. There are better chances in the metropolis which aridity never has touched. The habitué often is quite ignorant as to whether the great outdoors is providing drought or deluge. In fact I have seen some of the city dwellers who did not know whether or not it was night or day, last Monday or next Friday.

Heywood Brown Heat No Joke

BUT St. Paul lives more clearly within the palms of providence and the blistering heat which has afflicted the middle west was no joke hereabouts. Farmers literally watched their labor of many weeks score before their eyes. Cattle staggered in the benefit pastures and lay down to die.

Here is a community which knows every modern improvement. It can light homes with electricity and make water freeze into cubes. All the comforts and conveniences which science and research have to offer are at the command of the citizens of St. Paul and the farms which surround the city. But in one respect this modern civilization stands shoulder to shoulder with Abraham and Isaac and the kings of Egypt. It must look to the skies for its safety and salvation. The Minnesota farmer is no better off than the Indian, whom he supplanted, in his dependence upon those dieties who govern rain.

In fact the ramifications of the weather are possibly even more complex and complicated than in the ancient days. Roy B. Olsen, the present Governor, stands a better chance of re-election because of the support which has come to him through the gentle dew from heaven. No sensible voter should rebuke a mayor, a Governor or a President simply because of lack of rainfall, but pluralities out here follow the weather report. Extreme international radicalism has been set back at least twelve months on account of local showers.

Rain Saves New Deal

THE farmer who has been burned out by the sun will be as patient as Job in his relations to the Diet. Church membership diminishes very little during droughts, but they are bad reports for Republicans, Democrats and even Farmer-Labor officials holding office. The Literary Digest immediately should issue a new poll for this particular section of the wheat belt. Rain has come in time to preserve the overwhelming popularity of President Roosevelt. One more dry week and the new deal would have been distinctly in Dutch in Minnesota.

Occasionally the tourist gets a chance to see the New York papers and from their perusal he gathers that certain statesmen are using the drought as an argument against the wheat curtailment program of the Roosevelt administration. I have noted the fact that in any disaster victims likely are to lash out against the men in power, but there is not much logic in assailing Wallace or Tugwell on the ground that lands hereabouts lay idle during a year which promises to be well below the grain average.

If the farmer had planted more the only result would be that he would have lost more. He is not indignant over the fact that he failed to bend his back in certain meadows which have since become bakes-ovens.

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Today's Science BY DAVID DIETZ

A RECORD of weather and life, season by season, back through the years to prehistoric times, is to be found in the rings of the giant trees of western America. It is a record that takes man back to the history of America, back to the days of the earliest Indians, back to the glacial age.

Once science completely comprehends this record, many puzzles, not only concerning the weather itself but concerning the solar or cosmic forces which influence the weather, will be solved.

The pioneer in this study of three rings is Dr. A. E. Douglass, professor of astronomy of the University of Arizona. It was my good fortune, some years ago on a trip through Arizona, to spend several days with him, visiting the Steward observatory of which Dr. Douglass is the director, and going over his work on tree rings.

Within the last few years, the Carnegie Institution of Washington has become greatly interested in the whole subject of cycles in nature. The institution has financed a number of studies, both of tree rings and of other phenomena in which the occurrence of cycles in nature can be studied.

If a cross-section of a tree is examined, a series of concentric rings can be found upon it. Each ring represents a year's growth. Dr. Douglass began to wonder, in the course of a drive through the Arizona forest, if by any chance the sunspot cycle influenced the annual growth of trees. If it did, the result should be found in the thickness of the tree rings.

Moreover, if such influence did exist, then the rings of the gigantic and ancient trees would enable scientists to push the sunspot records back many centuries prior to the keeping of scientific records. There was also the possibility that sunspots did not affect the trees directly but acted through some intermediate climatic factor.

"If one carefully examines section of trees which lived together as neighbors, he will notice that the rings are not all of the same size, but that in many cases they vary a great deal in width from narrow to average and up to big," Dr. Walden S. Glock of the Carnegie Institution of Washington says. Dr. Glock is stationed at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

"A passing acquaintance will reveal this variation in width," he continues. "Permanent friendship, however, will establish such familiarity with the individual rings of a single specimen that the identical rings can be recognized in an adjacent tree. Therein lies not only the thrill of discovery, but also one of the secrets of reading tree rings."

EVERGREEN trees, such as pine, fir and pinon, are more easily studied, according to Dr. Glock. With the coming of spring, the tree awakens rather suddenly from its winter sleep. "Growth is rapid at first and the wood formed is light-colored and porous. As summer advances, growth gradually slackens. The light-colored wood merges into a band which is darker and denser. When winter shuts down, the tree 'closes shop,' so to speak, and all growth ceases so abruptly that a sharp line marks the outside boundary of the wood put down during the spring and summer.

"Therefore an analysis of the light-colored wood, or summer growth, and it is marked off by a sharp line at its beginning and one at its end."

From the Record

A COUPLE OF BOOMERANGS

THE plea of President Hoover in his campaign and radio messages for re-election was that he had kept the country on the gold standard and on a high tariff. These were the two things that had made it impossible for his administration to succeed.—Representative D. D. Glover (Dem., Ark.)

FIVE YEARS BEHIND THE TIMES

Depression Leaves Its Mark on the Army Air Corps

BY GEORGE DAWES

Times Special Writer

ABILITY of army commanders, congressional leaders and other experts to agree on what should be done to correct the admitted deficiency of the army air corps leaves the corps today without a definite policy or clear-cut plan for the future.

The only hope of ending the chaos and uncertainty and of putting the corps on a straight path is in the Baker board, now meeting in Washington seeking to find the trouble and define the remedy.

The general staff has demanded funds for a malleable hard-hitting headquarters force of 1,000 fighting planes. Air corps officers, speaking as individuals, have recommended a chain of underground, bombproof air bases, with swift planes patrolling the borders of the nation. President Roosevelt requested and obtained \$5,000,000 additional for the corps, probably because he realized its condition and need for help.

Investigation of the nation's problem by the Scripps-Howard newspaper disclosed this uncertainty and dispute. It disclosed also that the corps is five years behind its schedule, sharply deficient in fighting planes, personnel and training. Opinions of individual military men and civilians as well as ranking officers were sought in an effort to provide a broad picture of the situation as possible.

General Douglas MacArthur, chief of staff, told congress he wanted a force of 1,000 planes—this, of course, in addition to the present authorization of 1,300—because of the "relatively low proportion of planes that can fairly be classed as fighting ships, compared to the total number accumulated during the last five years."

The plan, he said, was based upon a study made by the "Drum Board," the five military members of which formed the nucleus for the present Baker board.

Those persons who ardently and steadily have campaigned for an air corps independent of army and navy control saw in the general staff plan a slight concession to their demands.

GENERAL MACARTHUR pointed out that one form of air defense—observation—is an inherent part of the ground forces. But back of these echelons, he said, should be a general headquarters force, under control of the commanding general in the field, equipped with the strictly fighting planes—attacks, pursuits and bombers.

The general visualized this tremendous reserve force as being prepared at a moment's notice to speed to any area or areas and there repel invaders.

"They are to be used just as you would use a slingshot," he said. "They are to be thrown at the point where they will be most damaging."

"For cohesion, co-ordination and to prevent their dissipation on minor missions, they are held together as a great general reserve under the commanding general in the field."

General MacArthur said this force "could be used as a great deciding factor in combat, and for rapid reinforcement at distant threatened points, such as the outposts in Panama or Hawaii."

ONLY once did he indicate that the United States might conceivably be forced in self-defense into a punitive role and that was when he said:

"They (the 1,000 planes) could be used in independent missions of destruction aimed at the vital arteries of a nation, or they might of necessity be divided up and used in detail."

General MacArthur's arguments for a strong air force were probably as vigorous as ever came from a veteran army officer trained in warfare on the land. He spoke, too, after long consultation with the members of the general staff, dominated by men experienced in the older forms of military service.

Planes are changing so rapidly in performance today, General MacArthur said, that within the next ten years "you will probably see such a marked improvement that one type will do the work that is now divided among the various types."

He traced the development of aircraft, predicted much larger and swifter planes, and said they might follow the form of growth that transformed the small naval man-of-war of decades ago into the great sea fighter of today.

THE general, in brief, gave every evidence of being thoroughly "air-minded."

The air corps now has only two wings—one on the Pacific coast, the other on the Atlantic coast, and it should have five wings,

largely composed of swift pursuits and deadly, load-carrying bombers, he declared.

"As time goes on—as I say, we are treading untrodden paths—you might require a force very much larger," he said. "But, you might find, if the types coalesce, that such a force might be unwieldy."

The trend throughout the world, he said, has been toward greater stress on military air forces.

"All air forces, in spite of the incessant talk of disarmament and the efforts made at Geneva to curtail them, are increasing," he continued. "Of course, weapons



Newton D. Baker (left), chairman of the board investigating army air corps; General Douglas MacArthur (upper right) and Brigadier General William Mitchell.

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He took notice of the public wonderment when he deplored the lack of understanding as to the duties of the army and navy among the various interested groups because, he said, "it has resulted in friction and in contention and the growth of an idea in civilian circles that neither the army nor the navy knew exactly what they were driving at."

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Fair Enough by WESTBROOK PEGLER

WASHINGTON, June 9. — The sordid cry of "politics" has been raised again in the house of representatives at a time when the citizens had come to believe that the statesmen, at last, had renounced personal ambition and partisanship to pull together and save American civilization once more.

Would you believe that in such a solemn hour as the present, when the Democratic statesmen are straining to put the citizens back to work, there could arise in the halls of the sacred heritage on Capitol Hill, a Republican, calling himself an American, to accuse the Democrats of buying votes with public money?

But what other meaning could you read into an amendment to the census bill, offered by Fred Britten, of Illinois, demanding that all of the 104,000 persons who would be hired to take the census, be compelled to wear an official badge, bearing the shameful legend: "I am a Democratic political worker, doing political work for the Democratic party, on the government payroll?"

The right-minded element rejected Mr. Britten's evil suggestion with contemptuous scorn and the bill was voted through triumphantly by the conscientious statesmen of the majority.

Mr. Britten then went out into the hall to rock on his heels as the old pugilists do on prize fight nights in the lobby of Madison Square Garden. There seems to be something alike about pugilism and statesmanship for after a gladiator has had a few years in the ring he rocks and when a man has spent any time in the halls of the sacred heritage, he rocks, too.

Three Rockers

YOU may notice them rocking any time on the marble flags outside the chamber. Your correspondent noticed a gentleman calling for Congressman Sirovich of New York, a public servant who is also a physician and a playwright, but, by some oversight or, perhaps, due to the pressure of other business, never took up well-digging or auctioneering.

The caller was smoking something which seemed to be a spruce log and his vest pocket, where he kept his reserve supply looked like the bat bag of a major league ball club. Mr. Sirovich put an arm over the gentleman's shoulder and vice versa, and they stood there rocking gently until Mr. Blanton of Texas happened along and joined them, when they rocked three-handed.

"Mr. Sirovich is all right," Mr. Blanton said amiably to Mr. Sirovich's friend, "except that he is overeducated."

"Yes, quite so," Mr. Sirovich returned with a mischievous leer at his friend, "I always say Mr. Blanton and you represent the two extremes. Ha-ha-ha."

At this all three rocked violently.

As Mr. Britten left the chamber to do his rocking after the defeat of his sinister undoing, he observed your correspondent and called, "come on over here while I rock a while."

He's Not Ashamed

IT was an embarrassing situation. Your correspondent did not wish to be seen in the company of the Republican who had tried to thwart a noble work, but then, after all, a physician could not refuse to treat him if he were ill and a journalist could not refuse to hear his sordid story.

"Aren't you a little ashamed of the way you have been acting in this matter, with American civilization at stake and the Democratic party struggling to put 104,000 citizens back to work?" your correspondent began.

"No!" the Republican cried angrily, "it is a very dastardly betrayal of the solemn trust which this great republic of ours has reposed in them. Election day is Nov. 6 and this census is supposed to get around 104,000 census takers and pay them \$7,500,000 to go around finding out how many people are out of work. It has taken them until just now to sort out the figures of the last census, taken in 1930, so the results of this one will not be ready until the next election."

"And, anyway," Mr. Britten said with an evil, un-American sneer, "it was tough enough for most of our Republicans to get elected last time, so how do you think it is going to be this fall if they go around promising census jobs to their precinct workers at \$4 or \$5 a day. How many votes do you think precinct workers can turn up for the Democratic ticket if you promise him \$4 or \$5 a day going around asking housewives how many kids they've got and what church they go to?"

A Campaign Fund

"DO you mean to imply that American citizens would debase their franchise in the solemn referendum for material gain?" Your correspondent exclaimed. "This great free people, remembering the sacrifice of Valley Forge, are going to resent that."

"Well, I know Democrats," Mr. Britten said with a snarl. "I have been around them all my life and I know what they will do. Here goes \$7,500,000 of public money for nothing but a campaign fund and I am telling you it was tough enough for our Republicans to get elected last time. Why do they have to take a census to find out how many people are unemployed? We know there is a hell of a lot. By the time they get the figures it may be two million more or two million less. Probably more, under these Democrats."

"Has the bill passed the senate yet?"

"No, it goes to the senate from here. They will knock it dead in the senate and they won't get their \$7,500,000 campaign fund after all."

"Well, then," your correspondent asked brightly, "what are you squawking about?"

"As your correspondent, noticing a curious motion, discovered that he was rocking away in unison with the statesmen all around and about the marble hall."

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Your Health

BY DR. MORRIS FISHER

BEFORE use of insulin was begun, children who developed diabetes almost invariably died at an exceedingly young age.

It is for children particularly that insulin has been a wonderful discovery. It has completely transformed a hopeless prospect into a most hopeful outlook.

Today most of the children with diabetes live. It is possible for physicians who specialize in diabetes to point to children who have had that malady for ten or more years and who are now in an excellent state of health.

Unfortunately, a considerable number of persons dread the idea of regular injections of insulin or any other substance.

They fail to realize that the insulin which is given to the child takes the place of a substance which is missing from its body because of the lack of secretion of certain portions of the pancreas.

The pancreas is a gland lying near the stomach and liver; from it comes a secretion which controls use of sugar by the body.

BECAUSE some children have reactions after the use of insulin, there develops a sort of dread of using it.

However, these reactions are fully understood and can easily be avoided. In many instances they represent acidosis, or the accumulation of acid in the body, which really is the result of insufficient insulin.

It is understood, of course, that the person with diabetes, either child or adult, must avoid overeating and particularly overeating of starchy foods and sugar.

It is also necessary to have regular examinations of the excretions, to determine the extent to which sugar is being passed out of the body.

ROUNDING UP THEATERS WITH WALTER D. HICKMAN

HOLLYWOOD must have gotten in to its head that most people will be senseless when they go to see summer movies.

I was convinced of that after seeing Guy Lombardo, Gracie Allen, George Burns and others in "Many Happy Returns."

Since Gracie Allen has become box office, the Hollywood powers probably figured that more Gracie is in a picture the bigger the box office.

They certainly did not consider that there could be too much Gracie and her dumb remarks in any one movie.

That is the trouble of "Many Happy Returns." To stretch her painless face and her alleged wise cracks over a full length feature, is just too much.

There was just enough of Gracie and Burns in "We're Not Dressing." Bing Crosby was in that cast, which did big business in the cast and with Gracie before the camera nearly two-thirds of the time.

"Many Happy Returns" opened to even bigger business at the Circle yesterday than "We're Not Dressing." This week will decide whether it is Crosby drawing them in or the nutty team of Burns and Allen.

Gracie's gestures and remarks become tiresome in "Many Happy Returns." She has too many nutty things to do and at times she is carried away by the thought of what she is always supposed to

look dumb and say even more dumb things.

Miss Allen is not versatile enough to carry a leading role in any feature length movie. She is always the same to me and too much of the same thing is too much for any picture.

The relief comes when probably the director got enough of Gracie and ordered Guy Lombardo and his band to play how many people are out of work.

The world's worst actors and should stick tightly close to his orchestra. That is my opinion, you know.

The story is supposed to be a travesty on how to break into the movies. The same idea has been done before on the screen many times but never in as nutty a fashion as this time.

To me this is just another picture and at times not even that. Be your own judge as usual.

Now at the Circle.

EVER BRANNON Maurice will present her piano pupils in recital in the Marion Music Company auditorium Wednesday night.

The students who will take part are Betty and Austin Boyd, Melvina Kelch, Edith and Elizabeth McCullough, Denton Ward, Sylvia and Charles McClellan, Emily Kornblum, Gertrude White and Marie Kyle.

Mrs. Everett Kinney, Mrs. Becha Smith and Minnie Allen, vocalists, will also be heard on the program.

PRESIDENT NAMED BY HONORARY AT BUTLER

Harrison Miller Elected to Lead Blue Key for 1934-35.

Harrison Miller, Ft. Wayne, a junior at Butler university, has been elected president of Blue Key, ranking upperclassmen's honorary on the Fairview campus. He will serve during the 1934-35 school year.

Others elected by the fraternity are William Thomas, vice-president; Ralph Mecum, recording secretary and treasurer; Ashton Gorton, corresponding secretary, and Cecil Ray, alumni secretary.

Robert Chambers, a junior, has been pledged to the fraternity.

DEMOCRATS ARE FLAYED

People Must Look to G. O. P., Says Schortemeier.

Failure of Democrats and the national administration to bring confidence back to the people was charged yesterday by Frederick E. Schortemeier, former secretary of state, at a meeting of the Lawrence Township Republican Club at Ft. Benjamin Harrison.

"The people must look to the Republican party for sound policies and return to common sense in government," he declared.

\$25,000 SUIT IS FILED

Butler Professor Sued for Alleged Auto Crash Injuries.

Suit demanding \$25,000 damages against Toyozo Nakarai, 4225 Guilford avenue, Butler university professor, was filed in superior court yesterday by Mary Myrtle Hounshell. The suit alleges the plaintiff suffered fractured ribs and head injuries when an automobile in which she was riding collided with a car driven by Mr. Nakarai at Twenty-eighth and Meridian streets May 22.

EVERETT KALB HEADS BUTLER MEN'S UNION

Former Treasurer of Group Is Designated in Election.

The Butler university men's union will be headed next year by Everett Kalb as the result of an election held by the organization. He will be aided in administering the affairs of the organization by Howard Campbell, vice-president; Harry Maxam, treasurer; and Corliss Maxam, secretary.

Mr. Kalb served as treasurer of the union this year. He is a member of Phi Delta Theta and Utes Club.

TRAIN WRECK AVERTED

Austrian Terrorists Blow Up Two Bridges, Miss Express.

LONDON, June 9.—Terrorists blew up two Austrian railway bridges today, but failed to wreck the Vienna-Paris express, the Exchange-Telegram reported. Prompt work by a signalman halted the express within a few yards of a dynamited bridge at Redizip, it was reported.

SIDE GLANCES

By George Clark



"I'm not sure this is the one I want. Lay it aside while I look at a few more."

BUT there is little co-ordination between these machines. A stack of contracts will come