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THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT.
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16th District.

THE SPIRIT OF THOMAS J. MOONEY. Perhaps no person in the last quarter of a century has been the storm center of such a prolonged controversy as Thomas J. Mooney, labor leader of California. Oldsters will remember that in July of 1916, while a Preparedness Parade was being staged in San Francisco, a bomb was thrown which wrecked a building and caused several deaths. Feeling ran high. An immediate inquiry began. Certain persons were apprehended including Tom Mooney. On Feb. 9, 1917 Tom Mooney was convicted and sentenced to death. As a result of the intervention of President Wilson, the sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. Tom Mooney was thereupon taken to San Quentin Prison, and there he has languished ever since. Much has been said and written about the Mooney case. When President Hoover appointed the Wickersham Committee in 1929, it designated a sub-committee headed by Judge Kenyon of Iowa to study "lawlessness in law enforcement" with special emphasis upon the Mooney case, because it has been repeatedly contended that Mooney was convicted and sentenced as a result of perjured testimony. Findings in the Mooney case however were not included in the Wickersham report. Senators Cutting (now deceased) Walsh of Montana (deceased) and Costigan of Colorado were so stirred by the omission that they secured enactment of a bill to produce the suppressed report but the report was not printed. When Hoover's term expired, the report became available. It contains a forward written by Senator Wheeler of Montana. It is a strong document. A few weeks ago, the California General Assembly passed a bill granting Tom Mooney an unconditional pardon. The State Senate killed it. Tom Mooney therefore continues to languish in San Quentin. Meanwhile a Joint Resolution has been introduced in Congress memorializing the Governor of California to right the alleged injustice to Tom Mooney with a further request that the President intervene to secure a pardon for Mooney. Twenty years in prison but the spirit of Tom Mooney reaches out everywhere.

CHILDREN, CHICKS AND COD LIVER OIL. In the last few years, we have become cod-liver-oil-conscious. That is to say that we have been "sold" on the virtues of cod liver oil as a product which contains vitamins that build up physical resistance and promote well being. It is freely administered to children. Some like it and smack their lips. Others detest it and make a wry face. But the children can feel happy that of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons of cod liver oil consumed annually, 60% is used for stock feed and particularly for feed for baby chicks. Perhaps those fluffy little creatures don't like cod liver oil either but they have no choice when it's mixed with their feed; and if they made a "snoot", nobody would know it. Of this $4\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons, 90% is imported. This year consumption is expected to be 6 million gallons, which means that nearly $5\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons will come from other countries. The Food & Drug Administration requires that cod liver oil contain a certain vitamin content, especially Vitamin D. When many raisers of baby chicks who fed cod liver oil in feed experienced great mortality and great losses among baby chicks, they began to check back on the feed and asked the Food & Drug Administration to investigate imported oil. They found after inspecting about 700,000 gallons that more than one third of all imported oils were deficient in Vitamin D and that other fish oils had been substituted and sold for cod liver oil. Henceforth baby chicks as well as children will get a "break." Ample Vitamin D must be present or the oil cannot enter this country.

COURT WHEAT, COURT CHAFF. Scores of experts, scholars, savants, lawyers, economists, professors, laymen, scientists, Senators, Judges, editors, authors, labor leaders and others have come to testify for and against the President's proposal to enlarge the Supreme Court. Countless editorials and magazine articles have been written on the subject. The other waves have been trembling with high sounding speeches for and against. History has been combed for precedents. Irony, cynicisms, bitterness, hysteria, sarcasm, emotionalism, cold logic have been dished up to make the people court-conscious. We've been literally overwhelmed with the quantity of spoken and written literature on the Court. Separating the wheat from the chaff, the case made by those who favor enlargement of the Court is about as follows: (1) The Judges are too old (2) They are too slow (3) They are behind with their work (4) They are not alive to modern social and economic conditions (5) They are standing in the way of progress (6) The Court has been enlarged before (7) To change the Court by Constitutional amendment would be too slow (8) One Justice now holds the balance of power.

Substance of the argument of those opposing the plan is about as follows:
(1) It would make the Court a tool of the Executive (2) It would destroy our constitutional system of checks and balances (3) It would destroy the Constitution (4) It would imperil liberty (5) It would pave the way for dictatorship (6) It would be an invitation to the legislative branch to run wild (7) The Court is abreast of its work (8) The Judges are fully alive to modern conditions and problems (9) It takes age to give a Judge that mellowness and judicial temper that is deemed necessary to a proper discharge of judicial duty (10) Enlarging the Court is a serious matter which should be done only by direct action of the people speaking

thru a constitutional amendment (11) If changes are needed, such changes should be brought about by amending the Constitution and not by amending the Court.

INTERNATIONAL SCRAPS AND SCRAP IRON. "Rags and old iron, rags and old iron," sang the old man with a broken down wagon, back in the days of our youth as he drove down the alley with a scrawny horse and bartered with boys for rags, iron, paper, rubber and what not. But who would ever suspect that it had anything to do with world peace, national defense and other problems that furrow the brows of statesmen. But here's the story. Exports of scrap iron and scrap steel for 1937 are expected to total 3,000,000 tons. This would be equal to the total amount exported for the eleven years from 1925 to 1933 inclusive. For the last three years, 85% of all scrap iron and steel shipped out of our country went to England, Japan, and Italy. In those same three years, 57% of the total went to Japan. In the last three years, the scrap metal shipped to those three countries was the equivalent of 10 million tons of iron ore. Every ton of scrap metal shipped to foreign lands is but depleting one of our own exhaustible natural resources, curtailing our own supply and imperiling our own defensive requirements for the future. Obviously, foreign nations are now using our scrap metal in the mad armament race going on. Our scrap helps build Japanese guns, British cannon, Italian warships. If we should ever be drawn into another war, there is the grimly ironical possibility that bodies of American soldiers will be mangled and lacerated with shell and shrapnel made from the scrap iron that came from our own industries. What a small and integrated world it is.

DUMP IT IN THE LAKE. A generation ago, the convenient way to get rid of refuse was to haul it out and dump it into a lake or stream. They were the catch-alls of civilization. The wash water used to wash coal after it had been reduced to egg, nut, stove, or some other commercial size went into the streams and deposited black culm in the bed of the stream. Waste from paper mills and a host of other industries was piped into some convenient stream or river. Sewage from large cities, in its raw state went into our streams. We somehow believed that it was carried down to the sea without injury to anyone or anything. But gradually we've become pollution conscious. For a generation, chemists, engineers and doctors have made a specialized study of pollution and have produced a vast body of lore on the subject. Today, we see the menacing hand of pollution and realize that we must destroy pollution before it destroys us. It is reaching out to destroy fish, ruin some of the finest bathing beaches in the country and is becoming a menace of public health. Congress has enacted an anti-pollution bill under which studies are to be made by both the Federal and State Governments and under which cities which discharge sewage into navigable streams and their tributaries are eligible for loans and grants with which to build treatment plants. Industries which discharge industrial waste into streams would be eligible for loans. Even without this legislation, the National Resources Committee has already submitted comprehensive plans to the President dealing with pollution together with specific recommendations for its abatement. There may come a day when the purity of our streams and lakes will be restored. But what a frightful cost is involved in undoing that which has been so blindly and indiscriminately done for many generations.

LIKE TOPSY, AGRICULTURE JUST GROWED. One hundred years ago, the Commissioner of Patents of the U.S. received some seeds from Europe which he distributed to our farmers. He had no authority to do so, but did. It was the first exercise of an agricultural function by the Government. In 1839, Congress gave him \$1000 with which to distribute more seeds and collect farm statistics. In 1842 the Patent Commissioner made his first survey of crop prospects and first summary of agricultural statistics. In 1849, both the Patent Office and the Agricultural Division became a part of the Interior Department from which it may be inferred that agriculture did not rate so high in the esteem of the statesmen. But on May 15, 1862, Abraham Lincoln signed a bill creating the Department of Agriculture. The purpose of the Department as set forth in this legislation was to "acquire and diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with agriculture in its most general and comprehensive sense of the word and to procure, propagate and distribute among the people new and valuable seeds and plants." Isaac Newton of Pa. became the first Commissioner of Agriculture. In 1876, the National Grange held a convention in Chicago and there passed a resolution suggesting that Agriculture was worthy of a place in the Cabinet. It took thirteen years of effort to accomplish it and on Feb. 9, 1889, Agriculture was properly recognized and a Secretary of Agriculture was made a part of the official executive family. First appropriation for agriculture in 1839 was but \$1000. Total amount carried in the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1938 for all purposes is 927 million. Up to 1851 only one person looked after agricultural matters. Payroll as of June 30, 1936 was 42,980 persons. First home of agriculture was a modest building in Washington costing only \$140,000. Today it occupies 10 acres of its own new buildings in the nation's capital and leases a half million square feet of privately owned space. In addition, it occupies hundreds of thousands of square feet of space in other sections of the country. Agriculture has come into its own.