

were, on the whole, almost equally hopeless concerning Alfonso's effort to perpetuate his régime.

"We have freedom in name only," protests the *Tierra*, in streamer head-lines, printing below pictures of the captains Galan and Hernandez, executed for leading the Jaca revolt in December.

"WE will make good use of this period of free speech because it can not last long," caustically remarks the *Heraldo*. The *Heraldo's* protest is supported by the Madrid bureau of the United Press, which cables:

"Altho it was announced that telegraphic censorship has ceased, a so-called 'State intervention' is maintained on outgoing telegrams. Officials read all messages, and in case of doubt whether an item should be transmitted, they send it to the civil governor's office, who decides. A United Press item filed at 5 P. M. Monday, altho published in an evening newspaper in Madrid, was held at the Governor's office without the sender's knowledge until after midnight, and finally was entirely censored."

## Five-Year Succor for the Sugar Industry

**M**OVING MOUNTAINS may yet turn out to be a simple trick—when they are composed of sugar. Simple task or prodigious, the world is watching an attempt to cut down its towering white peaks of excess sugar and move the mass into market in an orderly way that will not wreck prices.

First on the scene was Thomas L. Chadbourne, New York lawyer, representing Cuban and American interests. For years he had watched the crystalline peaks mount higher and higher, while prices dropt and business turned "sour" for sugar dealers everywhere.

Then he had an idea. "There's gold in them thar hills." And he set to work to convince sugar producers around the globe that an export agreement would eliminate the huge surplus—now about 3,500,000 tons—and benefit the trade generally.

For months, we read, this tall, broad-shouldered, blue-eyed, ruddy-faced, sixty-year-old American struggled to put over his idea. In December, he got the delegates of the various countries together at Brussels. Success seemed certain. Then Germany balked. But now an agreement has been reached, and the papers tell us that the pact is scheduled to be signed at Cannes, France, the first week in March.

Thus the nations are awaiting the outcome of a world experiment in economics. If it works in the case of sugar, say some observers, it may also settle the problem of other surpluses.

When Mr. Chadbourne faced the delegates at Brussels, he omitted honeyed phrases, the dispatches tell us, and there was no sugar coating on the pill he administered in warning them that the capitalistic system itself was on trial. As quoted by the Associated Press, he said:

"The sugar industry is not alone in suffering from the selfish greed of its constituent parts—greed which has so far overreached itself as to leave Cuba with 1,500,000 tons of excess sugar, Java with 500,000, and Europe with 1,200,000 tons.

"All industries have transgressed good economic laws, and as a result there is enormous overproduction in practically all of the world's commodities.



Underwood

### Has Faith to Move Mountains

Of surplus sugar into market—  
Thomas L. Chadbourne.

"And what has that resulted in?"

"In an unemployment situation unthought of a year ago, unheard of for generations, if ever before.

"What I meant when I said we were trying a bigger case than sugar is that the capitalistic system is on trial. If you think people who are running the industries of the world can, by reason of this kind of greed, bring about such depressions as this, and then not promptly take steps to mend them—no matter what the sacrifice might be to individuals—you are mistaken."

"MR. CHADBOURNE then presented the Cuban-American proposal," we read further, "asking that all European sugar-exporting countries reduce their exportation 15 per cent. next year, and gradually cut down the excessive stocks on hand which are now choking the industry."

The upshot of the Brussels meeting, we are told, was that delegates representing the Cuban-American interests, Java, Hungary, Poland, Belgium, and Czecho-Slovakia accepted the five-year restriction plan, provided Germany reconsidered her refusal.

This she did, through a compromise effected by Mr. Chadbourne.

"In respect to the consuming but virtually non-exporting countries," we read in the *New York Journal of Commerce*, "Mr. Chadbourne said that he planned to have Great Britain, France, Jugo-Slavia, Argentine, Italy, and Japan enter the international group in order that there would be no inducement for them to attempt to violate the international sugar treaty by exporting.

"Mr. Chadbourne was of the opinion that no difficulty would be encountered in inducing Russia to enter the cartel, as negotiations are now pending with the Russians."

Cuba, which has been hard hit by the overproduction of sugar that followed the World War, is reported well pleased with the agreement.

As for what effect this world movement may have on the American sugar-bowl, Mr.

Chadbourne says that a jump in the retail price is unlikely.

With this opinion the *New York Journal of Commerce* inclines to disagree, for "if Cuban producers obtain more for their product, the refiners and distributors will have to pass on the additional costs to the public in the form of higher retail prices."

**R**ESTRICTION of exportation will not solve the problem unless production is also curtailed, several papers point out. "If world crops are not greatly restricted," says *Barron's Weekly*, "the agreement will simply serve to build up huge stocks within sugar-producing countries." Furthermore—

"Experience has shown that in such cases—as with coffee in Brazil—the stocks which are theoretically 'off the market' are none the less factors in determining the relation between supply and demand."

Says the *New York World*:

"The success of this latest experiment in stabilization will depend on the moderation with which it is carried through, the consideration shown the consumer, and the mutual regard shown by the various groups of producers toward one another's rights and interests.

"A hard task lies ahead of those who are to make the plan effective, but it is by no means an impossible one. It may prove to be a road-breaking undertaking in international economic cooperation, or it may go the way of the British rubber-restriction scheme or the Brazilian effort at coffee valorization. But at any rate, it is something which the whole world will watch with interest."

## TOPICS IN BRIEF

IN Washington the motto of the veterans seems to be *nil nisi bonus*.—*Virginian-Pilot*.

INIMITABLE: Adjective, applied to any thing or body widely imitated.—*Detroit News*.

IT is wonderful to see the agility with which a lame duck can chase a new job.—*Detroit Free Press*.

WE sometimes wonder what Knute Rockne thinks of the teamwork shown by the Wickersham Eleven.—*The New Yorker*.

BRIAND says that Europe must unite or die, after which we will continue to watch her antics while she's doing neither.—*Weston Leader*.

BEFORE long, we suppose, some one will be saying that Niagara Falls isn't what it's cracked up to be.—*Miami News*.

"It is only too true that a girl's ideal is often shattered," says a writer. More often he's just broke.—*The Humorist (London)*.

CUBAN rioters, says a news item, are setting fire to sugar plantations. Razing cane, as it were.—*Ogden Standard-Examiner*.

NEWSPAPER circulations have jumped in Russia. But, of course, that's where newspapers really are Red.—*Wichita Beacon*.

APPARENTLY nothing makes the Senate madder than some one trying to keep it from spending a few million dollars.—*Ohio State Journal*.

SOME one should arrange a joint debate between the Wickersham Commission individually and the Wickersham Committee collectively.—*Wichita Eagle*.

"HUSBANDS should share the housework with their wives," says a woman's paper. We despise those selfish husbands who want to do it all themselves.—*Punch*.

IT's an ill wind that blows nobody any good. Think of all the money that must have been made lately by the manufacturers of red ink.—*San Diego Union*.

THIS custom of police combing the country unavailingly for criminals suggests that there must be something the matter with the comb.—*Wichita Eagle*.

NOW that the Red Cross has refused to accept the Senate's \$25,000,000 relief fund, we are eagerly awaiting the Senate's call for volunteers.—*San Diego Union*.

IT is reported that complaints are being heard in some cities because the soup kitchens are not giving curb service to automobiles.—*Nashville Southern Lumberman*.

"A HARVARD professor intends to create a miniature earthquake." If he ever tries anything like that in San Francisco, he will be arrested for arson.—*Toledo Blade*.

A LOT of people make noises because Raskob is financing the Democratic party, but not many of them have come forward with offers to relieve him of the job.—*Lynchburg News*.

THE groundhog created strikingly little interest this year. Too many others are wondering how they are going to get out of the hole to bother much about him.—*Nashville Banner*.

THE LITERARY DIGEST quotes an authority on how to open such unimportant things as bottles with tight caps, and says nothing about how to open a closed bank.—*Tampa Tribune*.

THE sale of apples to provide employment, the practise pursued on the streets of our leading cities, is an ancient idea. Mother Eve brought employment upon all of us when she "sold" that apple to Father Adam.—*Arkansas Gazette*.

LONG live the groundhog! His extra session is under ground.—*Boston Transcript*.

"FALL in Cost of Living," reads a news item. I hope it breaks its neck.—*Passing Show (London)*.

THE Wickersham report seems to be about as full of opinions as THE LITERARY DIGEST.—*Macon News*.

GANDHI finally won. There isn't any way to bribe a man who feels dressed up in a nightshirt.—*Fond du Lac Commonwealth-Reporter*.

THERE seems to be some doubt among dry naturalists as to whether the Wickersham prodigy is a camel or chameleon.—*Virginian-Pilot*.

IN the case of the DO-X, the X apparently stands for uncertainty as to the date of the transatlantic hop.—*Wichita Eagle*.

THE world was created in seven days. You see, it wasn't necessary to get Senate confirmation.—*Bellingham (Wash.) Herald*.

DR. MILLIKAN is studying the disintegration of stars—in his laboratory, conveniently located near Hollywood.—*The New Yorker*.

"I NEVER have heard of a perfect man," says a prominent biologist. Brother, you should marry a widow.—*Denton (Tex.) Record-Chronicle*.

STILL, these fellows who dress to protect everything but their heads probably have a nice sense of values.—*St. Thomas (Ont.) Times-Journal*.

"I CONSIDER closed the incident, which, for my part, I have already forgotten."—Mussolini. A hit-and-run memory, at any rate.—*Virginian-Pilot*.

WE judge that Mrs. Willebrandt's grape-juice doesn't take much stock in the old Horace Greeley maxim—so much of it is coming East to work.—*Boston Herald*.

AS we understand it, General Butler, in playing the Duce from a weak hand, violated the Vanderbilt convention.—*Virginian-Pilot*.

WHAT we can't understand is why alienated affections are worth so darned much if they are so easily alienated.—*Springfield News-Sun*.

THE Wickersham Commission did a good job, at that. You couldn't expect more than eleven opinions from eleven men.—*New York Telegram*.

THESE big bankers who say stocks are too cheap could buy up all the bargains and make a killing, but they don't want any more money.—*Paterson News*.

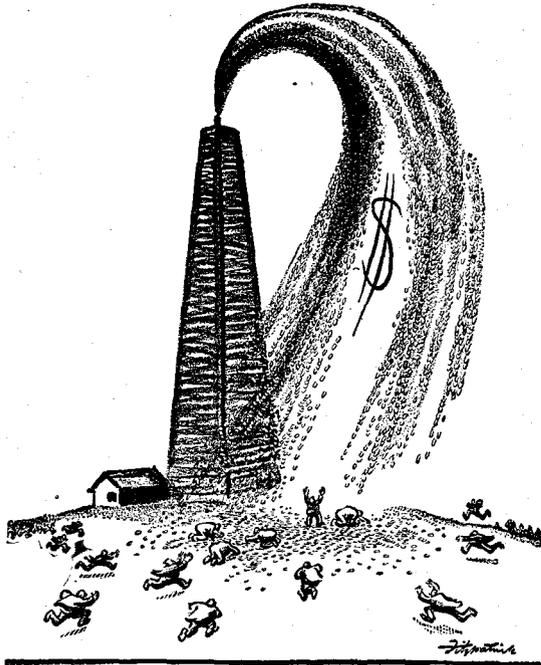
THE visiting Englishman who says Americans have a tired look should try listening to Prohibition for eleven years.—*Parkersburg (W. Va.) Sentinel*.

AND the cash bonus might do our veterans more good if they wouldn't have to spend the rest of their lives helping to pay taxes on it.—*San Diego Union*.

THE census reports that widows are twice as numerous as widowers. This seems to confirm the belief that women learn quicker than men.—*Publishers Syndicate*.

A COMMISSION which finds one thing and recommends another will probably be best appreciated by those Senators and Congressmen who vote one way and drink another.—*Judge*.

CONGRESS is always going off half-cocked and doing something without mature deliberation. Just look at the way they are rushing into action on the Muscle Shoals matter after only twelve years of study.—*Nashville Southern Lumberman*.



Popular Idea of the U. S. Treasury

—Fitzpatrick in the St. Louis "Post-Dispatch."