

### FORESTS PREVENT FLOODS IS BELIEF

#### MISSISSIPPI REGION NEED IS FAMOUS OLD GAME

##### Engineers Hold That Reforestation of Tracts Denuded of Timber Would Help Solve Problem

Engineering works of food control on the Mississippi should be supplemented by the improvement of surface conditions in the entire basin thru forestry, sodding, and terracing of steep plow lands so as to hold back rainfall and reduce soil erosion, according to a popular bulletin on "Forests and Floods" just issued by the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. The report, written by Ward Shepard, Forest Inspector, advocates that the land surface drained by the river system be put in the best possible condition to absorb rain water while it is spread harmlessly over the surface and before it attains mass and speed in stream channels. Vigorous, dense vegetation, especially forest and grass, is one of the principal means of maintaining good surface conditions.

**Forests Impaired**

"Forests and other vegetative cover," says the report, "have been seriously impaired over large areas of the Mississippi Basin. The effect of the destruction of vegetation and humus seems insignificant on this or that acre, this or that farm, this or that stretch of woodland. But when we sum up the aggregate volume of erosion and run-off in an immense catchment basin, like that of the Mississippi, and compare this volume with the size of the stream channel that must carry the load of water and soil, we gain a new conception of the importance of surface conditions. Floods in large rivers begin as little drops of water and little grains of sand on millions of acres. Every tree, every bush, every fallen leaf, every blade of grass, every contour furrow, every ounce of porous topsoil that impedes the progress of these drops of water and grains of sand toward the main channel relieves the lower river of some of its load."

**Retards Erosion**

While recognizing that levees, diversion channels, and other engineering works to cope with water concentrated in great masses in river channels are the primary means of flood control, the Forest Service asserts that the beneficial effects of forest cover in retarding run-off and erosion have been established by authoritative observation and experiment in many parts of the world. In order to get the maximum benefits of forest cover in the Mississippi Basin, it is essential, according to the report, that public ownership of forests, especially in the mountains, be extended; that co-operation in forest protection between the Federal Government, the States, and private owners be increased; and that Government and States give more assistance to farmers and timberland owners in forest planting and management.

**Not Slow Process**

The improvement of forests as a means of flood control does not require 50 or 100 years, as is frequently asserted. "On the contrary," say the Government foresters, "protection against fire will rapidly mend most of our depleted forests. Nature, if given half a chance, is prolific and energetic in restoring thinned out and even denuded woodlands."

Copies of the publication—Circular 19-C, Forest and Floods—can be obtained without cost by writing to the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

#### NO BLAME ATTACHED IN FATAL ACCIDENT

After hearing the testimony into the accident which resulted in the death of Sam Massini, Highland policeman, while he was driving on the S curve north of Waukegan on the night of January 27, the coroner's jury following an inquest held in Waukegan Monday afternoon returned a verdict in which it withheld blame for the death.

In the good old days the groundhog could go back in his hole and sleep for six weeks, but he can't sleep much now if his hole is located anywhere near our dance halls and automobile roads.

### GLAMORS OF CHESS FOR ITS DEVOTEES

#### PLAYED BY KINGS, QUEENS AND STATESMEN FOR CENTURIES AND STILL POPULAR; IS SERIOUS MATTER

Do you remember how, in her adventurous trip into Looking-Glass Land, the beloved and immortal Alice, of Wonderland fame, became involved in a mighty game of Chess? The game didn't seem to be played in a particularly systematic or scientific way, but Alice's progress from one end of the great Chess-board to the other and her ultimate promotion from an humble pawn to a queenhood was utterly fascinating!

Chess has been played by kings and statesmen and has supplied recreation for the world's intelligentsia for centuries. It is a game which requires great concentration and constant mental activity and the person who can boast that he has really mastered its technique is clever, indeed.

Games, such as bridge and mah jong provide amusement and an excuse for social gatherings for millions of ladies and gentlemen, but Chess is a game only for an exclusive little group of those who are studious and acute enough to probe deep into the profound study of its mysteries and intricacies.

**Serious Business**

There is no light laughter and babble of gossip over the Chess-board,—each of the players is engrossed in the consideration of an intricate plan of attack or is covetously watching the wanderings of an opponent's queen, ready to trip that harassed lady at her first fatal indiscretion. The picturesque pieces with which the game is played conjure up an atmosphere of glamour and romance by their very names,—a king flanked by a warlike queen and a belligerent bishop, and knights ready to ride forth from the shadow of a nearby castle,—and that lowly peasant fighting man, the pawn! The Chess set has afforded scope for artistic elaboration since time immemorial. Exquisite possession of such a set makes a very proud man of the true lover of the game. The average devotee of the historic game plays contentedly with a modest set of carved wood or gutta-percha. During the last few years, pyralin has come into vogue as the medium from which the most arrogant of Chess men are fashioned. One of the handsomest sets that can be obtained is hand-carved of this material.

### PLAN MORAL RATING BUREAU IN CHICAGO

#### FOR HONEST INFORMATION

To Collect and Disseminate Credit Facts Without Modification Object of Shippers

A so-called "moral rating bureau" is to be established by the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' Association, E. S. Briggs of Chicago, manager and secretary, reported at its tenth annual business meeting in Chicago.

The plan purposes, he said, "to collect, disseminate, and exchange information regarding the credits, business ethics and practices of any engaged in the industry, for the purpose of safeguarding members of the association by lawful and proper means against losses due to fraudulent, illegal, unfair or unethical practices, representations, or actions of any engaged in this industry."

The association proposes to encourage commercial arbitration to settle disputes affecting association members. Mr. Briggs asked any members who had become involved in situations where improper business practices were employed to advise the association so that its new bureau could help to correct the situation.

His report showed that during 1927 "no cases were reported of parties refusing to abide by the arbitration committee's decision." He announced that steps have been taken by the association to "secure, if possible, the amendment of the Federal Arbitration Act, Jan. 1, 1926, so as to include within its operation amounts under \$3,000, thus making it available to the small-

### FARM BOY SOON TO BE LOUISIANA GOVERNOR

#### YOUTH'S CLIMB TO OFFICE

#### Romantic Story of Rise of Huey Pearce Long to Highest Position in Gift of State Told

The romantic story of a youth's uphill climb from a farm boy working for 35 cents per day to the governorship of Louisiana, through perseverance and hard work, reaches a climax when Huey Pearce Long is inaugurated chief, executive on May 21, says the Christian Science Monitor.

Mr. Long won the right to residence in the Governor's mansion in a three-cornered race which was definitely settled when Riley J. Wilson, member of the National House of Representatives, withdrew from the Democratic primary. This made a second, or run-off primary election unnecessary. In Louisiana success in the Democratic primary is equivalent to victory in a regular election.

Many supporters of Governor O. H. Simpson allied themselves to Mr. Long after the latter's plurality was shown to be so large in the count of ballots.

**Only 34 Years Old**

When he assumes office Mr. Long will be but 34 years of age. His earliest recollection of a job was that of setting out sweet potato plants, at the age of seven. He earned money

for business transactions. The matter is still pending.

Five district arbitration committees were established during the past year bringing the total number up to 18, located throughout the United States. Six states now have comprehensive arbitration laws, the secretary's report commented.

to attend a country school by working in the summer as a cotton picker and farm laborer at 35 cents a day. At Winnfield High School, he, continuing his farm work to make expenses for his education, took part in debating. He was a star mile runner, a member of the relay team and a substitute on the football and basketball teams.

At 15 he was a printer's "devil" on the Winnfield Southern Sentinel. At 16 he was a baking power salesman. Miss Rose McConnell of Shreveport, was a winner of a "bride loaf cake" contest he conducted. Three years later they were married in Memphis.

**Walks 18 Miles to School**

In 1912, Mr. Long walked 18 miles from Oklahoma City to Norman to study law at the University of Oklahoma where he sold groceries for a living. In 1914, after his marriage, he started the three years law course at Tulane university, which he finished in seven months.

After three years' law practice he was elected a member of the Louisiana Public Service Commission, on which body he served continually to the present time. Important cases he won as chairman of the board include that against the Cumberland Telephone Company, which went to the United States Supreme Court and which resulted in the return of \$467,000 to the people of Louisiana. Mr. Long had oil pipe lines decreed com-

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not carriers and won an equalization of rates for grain to New Orleans over the contention of Galveston and Houston.

Into the Governor's Mansion with him and Mrs. Long will go their children, Rose, Russell and Palmer.

Tom Mix is said to have accumulated a fortune of \$5,000,000 in the past ten years. And as we have seen him ride 5,000,000 miles in the movies during that time he must get paid at the rate of about a dollar a mile.

Ten years ago the costumes the girls now wear on the streets were used on the bathing beaches. In view of the increasing traffic problem it is to be hoped that ten years hence the street costumes will not be patterned after the present feminine bathing suits.

What the French really seem to want to do is to outlaw aggressive war, but of course everybody knows that every war ever waged has been purely a "defensive struggle" on both sides.

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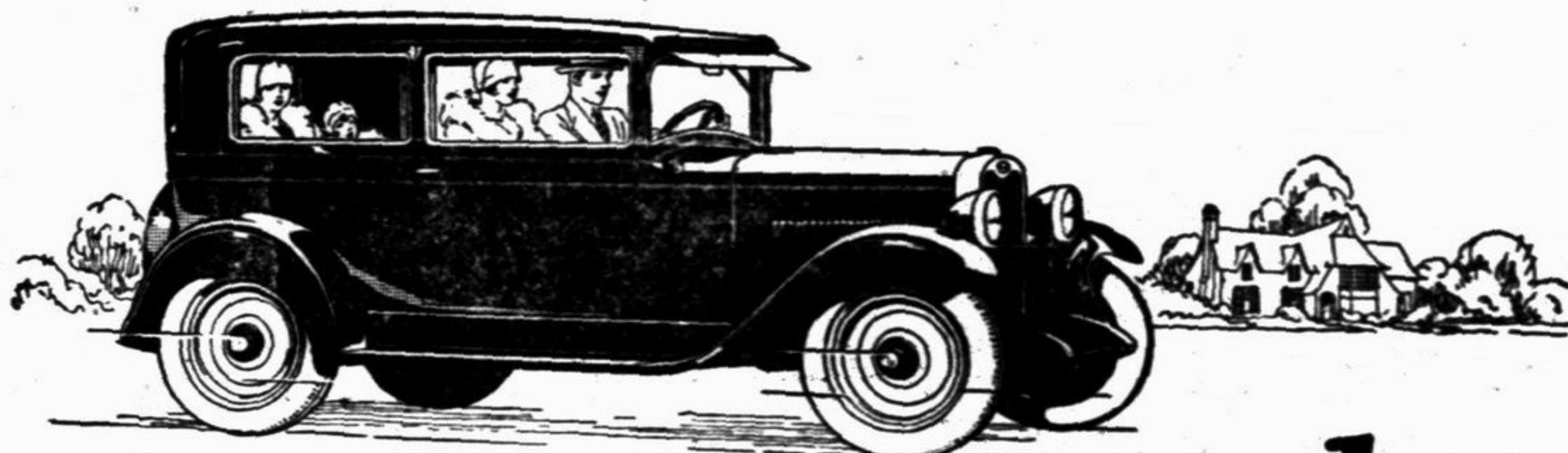
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