

GENERAL PERSHING ON DISARMAMENT

Says U. S. Defenses Already Cut to Limit; U. S. Least Armed Nation in World

In spite of all the pacifist propaganda to the effect that Uncle Sam must disarm as an example to the rest of the world, there are many sane minds among us who still remember the advice of Washington and who have learned from the stories of history what usually happens to the nation unprepared and disunited. Among these we can list, of course, Gen. John J. Pershing, who led the American forces in the World War and who knows whereof he speaks. General Pershing as every one knows, is not a militaristic jingo but a cool-headed patriotic American.

"People say we should disarm," the leader of the American armies in the World War is quoted as saying. "America already is disarmed. Good men and good women tell us that we should throw away our armaments. We have very little to throw away."

Declaring no one hates war more than he does, he says:

"I pray fervently that there will be no more war. With all my soul I hate it. I have seen it in all its horrors. The great war was called a war to end war. Yet, in these dozen years, think how many disastrous wars have been fought and how many others seem to be in the process of making.

"We know that we will not provoke war. But what is there in history which authorizes us to conclude that some one else will not provoke one some of these days? It is not a question of whether or not we believe in war. It is a question whether we shall defend this wonderful country of ours if some other nation which does believe in war should attack us."

The fact is that the United States is now the least armed nation in the world, taking into consideration its size, population and wealth. Our army though efficient and capable of rapid expansion in time of necessity, is little more than a national police force in size. Second and third rate countries in Europe have greater armies than we. Now if our ardent pacifists really want disarmament why do they not confine their efforts to Europe where their influence is needed. From their actions and their wild words we are led to believe that what they most desire is not to disarm the world but to embarrass Uncle Sam.

Fewer Accidents in Aviation During 1930

Flying is getting safer.

Assistant secretary of Commerce Young told the house appropriations committee that during the first half of 1929 there was a fatal accident for each 1,022,000 miles flown. During the first half of the 1930 the ratio was one to 2,800,000 miles.

During the first half of 1930, he said \$2,109,000 passengers were carried on scheduled services as compared to 5,000 in a similar period in 1926.

Mural Painting of Primeval Forest Is Field Museum Feature

A truly primeval forest, with its strange and diverse flora which flourished in Devonian time, according to scientific estimates some 350,000,000 years ago, is the subject of a new large mural painting which has just been installed on the walls of Ernest R. Graham hall at Field Museum of Natural History.

The painting is the latest addition to the series of 28 pictures recreating the world from the beginning of time to the dawn of history, which are being presented to the museum by Ernest R. Graham. Charles R. Knight

of New York is the artist. To date 23 of the paintings have been completed and placed on exhibition.

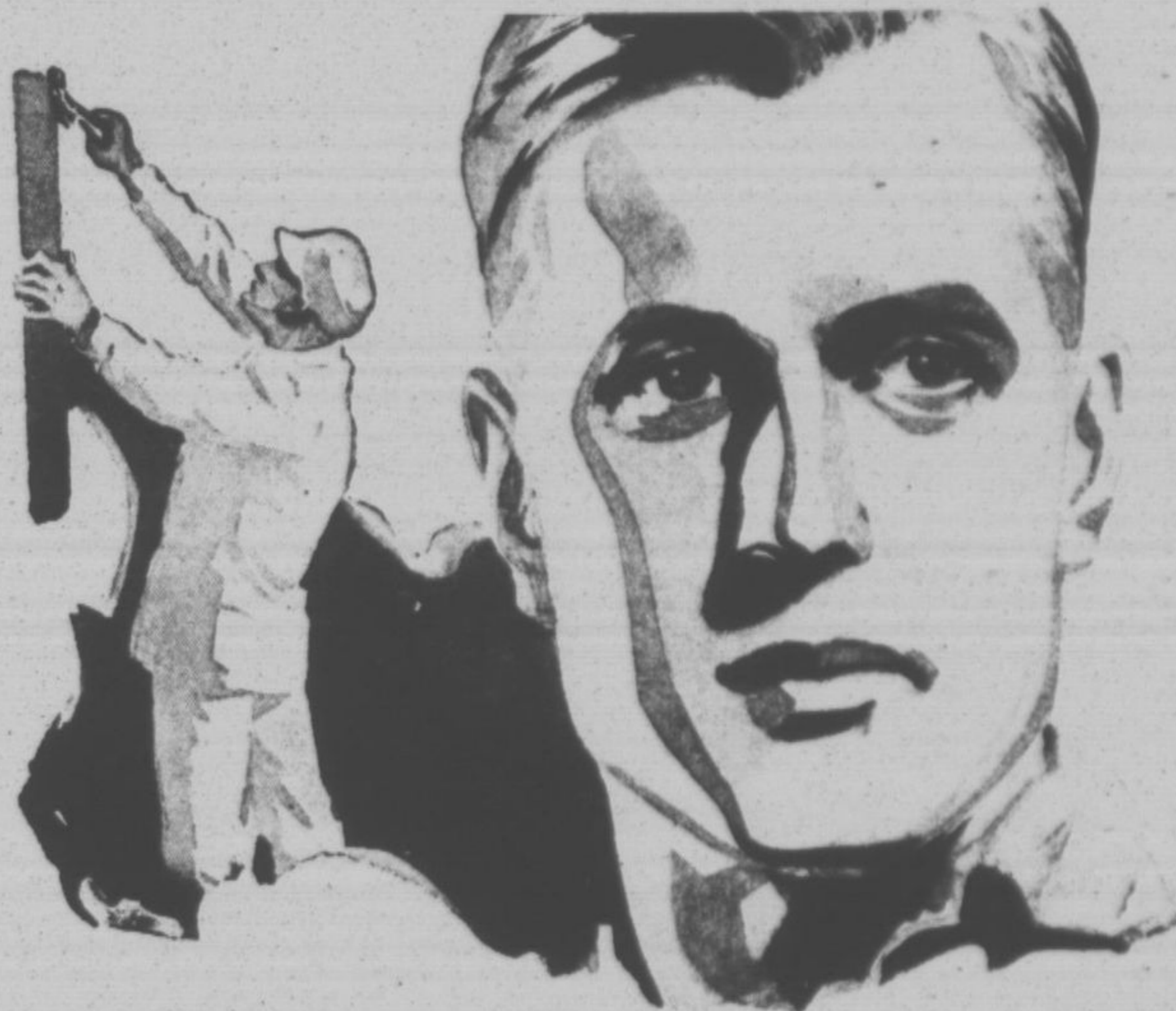
It was during the period presented in this painting that the gradually expanding plant life on earth first attained the size of trees, according to Sharat K. Roy, assistant curator of invertebrate paleontology at the museum. Most of the types of plants and trees shown in the picture are restorations resulting from study of actual fossil specimens, some of which have been collected in parts of New York state in the vicinity of the Catskill mountains.

A prominent place in the picture is taken by the oldest of all recorded trees, the Gilboa tree or Esopermatopteris (dawn of seed ferns). These

were majestic trees attaining heights of 30 to 40 feet, and in appearance resembled somewhat the tree ferns of modern tropical jungles.

Also shown in the painting are giant ancestors of the modern club-mosses; calamites, which were the predecessors of today's "horsetails" or scouring rushes; and a variety of smaller plant species.

The United States expended last year on public schools two billion dollars. Twenty-five million pupils received instruction from eight hundred and fifty thousand teachers. All of which might suggest that America has a future.



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