

# Review of the History-Making Events of the World

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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## Guffey Coal Act Is Declared Invalid

SIX members of the Supreme court of the United States ruled that the Guffey act to control the bituminous coal industry is invalid, and another of the New Deal experiments goes into the discard. This is the act which President Roosevelt urged congress to pass notwithstanding doubts of its constitutionality "however reasonable."



Sen. Guffey

Five justices—Sutherland, Butler, Van Devanter, McReynolds, and Roberts—joined in the majority opinion which invalidated the whole act. Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, and Stone joined in a dissenting opinion in which they upheld the act. Chief Justice Hughes held in a separate opinion that the act was constitutional with respect to the marketing provisions but unconstitutional with respect to the labor regulations.

The court in the majority opinion held that there is no authority in the Constitution for the control of the coal industry attempted in the Guffey act. The act was not valid either under the commerce clause or the welfare clause. Power was unlawfully delegated to set up a coal code similar to the codes of the invalidated NRA and the regulations establishing working hours of miners were a violation of the fifth amendment prohibiting the taking of property without due process of law. Mining, the court declared, is a local industry, the state jurisdiction whereof the federal government has no authority to invade.

Congress provided that if one part of the act were held unconstitutional other parts should not be affected. But the majority declined to accept that arrangement, ruling that the price fixing provisions were inextricably interwoven with the labor regulations.

Senator Guffey, author of the act, declined to comment on the opinion, but it was said he was preparing a substitute measure.

John Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, said that "it is a sad commentary upon our form of government when every decision of the Supreme court seems designed to fatten capital and starve and destroy labor."

## Tugwell's Housing Hit by Court Decision

THE resettlement administration headed by Rexford Guy Tugwell was declared by the District of Columbia court of appeals to be "clearly unconstitutional delegation of power," in a case involving a model community project in Somerset county, New Jersey.

Going beyond the issue before them, the justices of the Appeals court called the entire relief appropriations act of 1935 into question. The act was invalid and hence RA was invalid, according to the court. Legally, however, none of the rest of the act will be affected by the decision because the other multitudinous activities of the New Deal under the appropriation were not before the court.

Solicitor Gen. Stanley Reed said an appeal would be taken to the Supreme court at once.

## War Debts Will Be Defaulted Again

NEITHER Great Britain nor France has any intention of paying the installments on the American war debt due June 15. And almost certainly all the other debtor nations except Finland will follow the example of the two big ones and again default. British

Foreign Minister Eden talked about the debts with Leon Blum, who probably will be premier of France soon, but there was no indication that either one was planning to make a payment. Blum told the American club in Paris he hoped the war debt "misunderstanding" might be cleared up, but he was just trying to be pleasant to the people of both America and France without spending any money.

## Uncle Sam Stands by Nine Power Pact

NEWS that Japan was greatly enlarging her force in North China led the State department in Washington to announce that the position of the United States is the same as that outlined last December by Secretary Hull affirming its support of the nine power pact that guarantees China's territorial integrity. At that time Mr. Hull said this country has a binding faith in the fundamental principles of its traditional policy. This government adheres to the provisions of the treaties to which it is a party and continues to bespeak respect by all nations for the provisions of treaties solemnly entered into for the purpose of facilitating and regulating, to reciprocal and common advantage.

At the State department it was said that the reaffirmation of support of the nine power pact does not mean that the administration will abandon its policy of declining to take the initiative in any attempt to curb Japan for violations of the pact. This was attempted by Henry L. Stimson, secretary of state in the Hoover administration, with the gain of nothing but Japanese ill will.

Japanese military strength in North China south of the Great Wall is now said to be fully 15,000 men. There are about 80,000 more in Manchukuo and still others in Inner Mongolia.

## Italy Releases Alleged Leader in King's Killing

DR. ANTON PAVELIC, alleged leader of Ustashi, the Croatian terrorist organization, and accused as one of the "master minds" in the assassination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia in Marseilles, has been set free by the Italian authorities. Released with him was his lieutenant, Eugene Kvaternik. The two were arrested in Turin in October, 1934, soon after the murder of Alexander, but the French authorities who were working on the case were never permitted to question them, and an Italian tribunal refused the request of the French government for their extradition to France for trial.



Dr. Pavelic

## Italy May Withdraw From League of Nations

BECAUSE the League of Nations council would not immediately recognize Italy's annexation of Ethiopia and the creation of the new Roman empire, Premier Mussolini recalled his representatives from Geneva, and before long Italy may quit the league entirely. At present its is merely "not participating" in its activities. The council had adopted a new resolution virtually condemning again Italy's aggression in East Africa and then adjourned until June 15.

The Italians at Addis Ababa are executing many natives for espionage or murder, among them being the giant umbrella carrier of Haile Selassie. A number of newspaper men have been expelled because of "anti-Italian activities and espionage." Among them were George

Steer, correspondent for the London Times and the New York Times; Isadore Nebenzahl, a representative of the Havas (French) News agency; Alkeos Anglopolo, a Hearst correspondent, and M. D. Robillard, director of an Ethiopian newspaper.

## General Is the New Premier of Poland

POLAND feels that another European war is more than likely to break out soon, and she intends to be ready to take part in the conflict. A new government has been installed with Gen. Felicjan Slawoj-Skladkowski as premier and minister of the interior. The general took the oath of office wearing his uniform, which was taken as symbolic of the government's program. Poland will be adequately armed. Opposition leaders are warned that they will be prosecuted, as they were by Pilsudski after 1930.

## Borah Is Loser in the Ohio Primaries

SENATOR WILLIAM BORAH S banked heavily on success in the Ohio Presidential preference primary, but the Republicans of that state turned him down decisively in favor of their "favorite son," Robert A. Taft, son of the late President Taft. Of the 52 delegates to the Cleveland convention, Borah captured only five, the others, including the delegates at large, being Taft men. The winning delegation will be virtually unpledged, because it will vote for Taft only on the first ballot. Mr. Borah did not take this defeat calmly. He gave out a statement in Washington accusing the Republican organization leaders of manipulating the votes of colored citizens against him by promising the passage of federal anti-lynching legislation which he has opposed as unconstitutional. The Idaho senator added:



Senator Borah

"The Republican party will go into the campaign laying great stress upon Constitutional integrity and the preservation of state rights. The men who are in control of the party, and who will likely be in control of the convention, will write its platform and name its candidate, have already demonstrated that they care nothing about constitutional integrity or the preservation of state rights, that their talk on this subject is hypocritical and intellectually dishonest."

Ohio Democrats polled about 500,000 votes in the primary, nearly 100,000 more than the Republicans, and they expressed their preference for Mr. Roosevelt over Col. Henry Breckenridge to the tune of 16 to 1. They also renominated Gov. Martin L. Davey, who will be opposed by John W. Bricker, Republican, in November.

About twenty of Pennsylvania's delegation to the Republican convention were pledged to support the popular choice of the state, which turned out to be Mr. Borah, no other name being officially entered at the April 28 primary. The delegation, which is uninstructed, has now voted that those members must keep their pledge on the first ballot or until it becomes manifestly impossible for their choice to win. This action was taken on motion of former Senator David A. Reed, who will be the state representative on the platform committee.

## President of Bolivia Is Compelled to Resign

JOSE LUIS TEJADA SORZANO was forced to resign the presidency of Bolivia by a junta of army officers and Socialists who staged a bloodless coup d'etat in La Paz. Col. German Busch, acting chief of the general army staff, leader of

the coup, will be at the head of the government until Col. David Toro, hero of the war with Paraguay, returns from the Chaco, when Toro will be installed as president.

The immediate objective of the new administration was complete settlement of a general strike which the officers asserted was imperiling the country's economic stability. The labor federation quickly suspended the strike movement, expressing solidarity with the army-Socialist coup.

## Inflation Bill Defeated by the House

WE ARE not going to have any currency inflation, at least before next session of congress. The Frazier-Lemke farm mortgage refinancing bill, dragged out of committee by a petition signed by 218 house members, and then hotly debated for a day, was defeated by the decisive vote of 235 to 142. The bill called for the printing of three billion dollars for its financing.

The petition signers included 159 Democrats, and before the vote every one of them was told by Pat Bohand of Pennsylvania, the party whip, that the President didn't want the measure passed at this time and that if the member voted for the bill it would be just too bad for him. Besides this potent argument the Democratic leaders induced President William Green of the American Federation of Labor to intervene and he called together the federation's executive council and had it write a letter saying it was opposed to the bill because of the inflation feature.

## Townsend Plan Petitions Reach Washington

WITH three truckloads of petitions, the Townsend plan caravan that started from Los Angeles arrived in Washington and was met at the foot of Capitol hill by Representative John H. Tolan of California, a Townsendite, and three other congressmen.

"We have traveled 3,000 miles and endured hardships to bring to you the signatures of 10,581,000 persons who insist that the Townsend plan be enacted into law," Miss Lois Jean Johnson, leader of the Townsend youth movement in San Diego, told Tolan.

## Former Governor Small of Illinois Dies

LEN SMALL, twice governor of Illinois and prominent in the politics of the state for nearly forty years, died suddenly in a Kankakee hospital from an embolism resulting from an operation. He was seventy-three years old. Mr. Small's career was rather stormy. His enemies were many and bitter, and he fought them courageously; his friends were devoted to him, and he was always loyal to them. In addition to his eight years as governor, he served two terms as state treasurer. Moreover, he was defeated for governor four times. He sought the Republican nomination again in the recent primary but was defeated.

## President Still Wants Ship Canal and Quoddy

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT was supposed to have abandoned for the present the Florida ship canal and Passamaquoddy tidal power projects for which the house refused to appropriate further funds. But Senator Robinson of Arkansas was called to the White House for a conference and returned to the house to introduce a resolution authorizing the President to appoint engineering boards of review for the two schemes.

The boards would present their findings by June 29, and, if favorable, the President would have authorization to set aside \$10,000,000 for the canal and \$9,000,000 for Passamaquoddy out of available relief money.

## Failure to Subpoena Roosevelt Letter

NEWTON D. BAKER and Acheson, counsel, for five power companies that are trying to block the government's resettlement program, met with judges of the District of Columbia Supreme court when they sought to subpoena correspondence between President Roosevelt and Secretary Jerome Frank, a New Deal attorney, stated that his "privilege" of testimonial immunity be asserted in the case, and Chief Justice Hughes refused to issue the subpoena.

## Starhemberg Ousted From Austrian Cabinet

CHANCELLOR KURT SCHNIGG of Austria has been at odds with the vice chancellor, Prince Ernst von Starhemberg, and now he has got rid of the active young man and is practically the sole dictator of the country. This was accomplished by resignation of the cabinet and reconstruction immediately with Starhemberg left out. Schnigg is not only chancellor but also minister of defense and foreign affairs.

Von Starhemberg had mobilized Schuschnigg by insisting keeping up his own private army, the Heimwehr, and also by his friendliness toward Mussolini and his general Fascist sympathies.

## Tugwell's Report on Resettlement Work

RESPONDING to a senate report on the activities of the settlement administration of Rexford Guy Tugwell, he is the head of the resettlement work. He showed that in 1934 15,804 employees on the administration pay roll has been \$275,549,944. Of this amount, \$98,500,000 has been spent on a total of \$17,823 obligated, including \$102,458,112 incurred.



R. G. Tugwell

Up to April 15, according to report, the resettlement administration had taken options on 9,570 acres of land, of which options on 8,400,000 acres, costing \$36,344,000 had become legal commitments. Of May 7, the report said, 34,000 persons, including 3,581 on the pay roll, were employed in connection with the land acquisition program.

Of 33 subsistence housing projects, construction has been completed on 18, is in progress on 10, and final plans have been drafted for 4. The report lists four urban housing projects, financed from a \$31,000,000 allocation for this purpose. They are in Berkeley, Md., Bound Brook, N. J., Milwaukee, and Cincinnati.

On rural rehabilitation, the report says the RA has cared for more than 800,000 families. For its rehabilitation advances to individuals "clients," the administration will expend \$106,000,000 through June 30.

## WPA Directors Mustn't Have Armed Guards

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION HARRY HOPKINS issued an order to state WPA directors instructing them not to employ armed guards, not to spy on workers and not to blacklist workers who organize.

The order was issued following conference with Victor F. Rieder, New York city WPA administrator who employed a detachment of guards to protect his office against anti-WPA demonstrations which Rieder asserts were stirred up by Communists.