

Review of the History-Making Events of the World

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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Mussolini Takes Part in European War Dance

IT WAS Benito Mussolini's turn to go into the European version of the Indian war dance, following Hitler and Stalin, and he gave a great performance. At Avellino, center of the Italian army maneuvers, Il Duce announced to a cheering throng that he could mobilize 8,000,000 soldiers "in the course of a few hours and after a simple order." The premier declared the world is in the throes of an irresistible re-armament race and Italy must reject the idea of eternal peace, which he said is "foreign to our creed and to our temperament." He asserted that the armed forces of Italy are more efficient than ever as a consequence of the Ethiopian war and that the 60,000 men engaged in the maneuvers are but a modest and almost insignificant part of the country's actual war strength. "We must be strong," cried Mussolini. "We must be always stronger! We must be so strong that we can face any eventualities and look directly in the eye whatever may befall!"

Germany's new army of a million men, created by Hitler's order doubling the term of compulsory military training, is to be financed by increased taxes on all companies and corporations by 25 per cent for 1936 and by 50 per cent for 1937. This increase brings the corporations tax up to a minimum of 25 and 30 per cent on new profits.

A government communique carefully explained that corporations which have enjoyed heavy earnings due to government orders frequently pay "only a tax of 20 per cent on reserves they accumulate while private business men pay up to 50 per cent."

Germany is rapidly increasing naval armaments. It was announced that a second U-boat flotilla will be formed in addition to the first flotilla named for the former submarine commander, Otto Weddigen.

Polish Army Chieftain Visits the French

SHOULD war break out in Europe, France counts on having the powerful Polish army on her side. Consequently the week long visit of Gen. Edward Rydz-Smigly, inspector general of that army, and a Polish military mission to France was made the occasion of elaborate ceremonies. The train carrying the Poles crossed the border at Belfort and there General Rydz-Smigly was received by the commanding generals of the area and reviewed thousands of troops of the frontier regiments. Going thence to Paris, the Poles were accorded the highest military honors and the crowds in the decorated streets cheered them lustily.

Dinners for the guests were given by President Albert Lebrun, Premier Leon Blum and Foreign Minister Delbos. Later they were taken to the Franco-German frontier where they inspected the famous Maginot defense line of concrete and steel strongholds and passages. A great military review at Nancy ended the tour. The Paris press is sure that Hitler's action in lengthening the term of German military service has drawn Poland closer to France.

President Roosevelt's Trip to the Drouth Area

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S special train made a quick run to Bismarck, N. D., and the special committee on the drouth, headed by Morris L. Cooke, reported to him on its inspection of the afflicted

area. The President then took an automobile tour through the countryside to see for himself some of the effects of the long dry spell. He conferred with Acting Governor Welford and Senators Nye and Frazier of North Dakota and Acting Governor Holt and Senators Wheeler and Murray of Montana. Next day Mr. Roosevelt's train carried him down to Pierre, S. D., and thence into other drouth stricken states.

Ruth Owen Resigns as Minister to Denmark

MRS. RUTH BRYAN OWEN, now the wife of Capt. Boerge Rohde of the Danish king's royal life guards, has resigned as American minister to Denmark in order to be free to campaign as a private citizen for the re-election of President Roosevelt, and the President has accepted her resignation. This was done in an exchange of telegrams, that from Mr. Roosevelt saying:

"While I am very loath to have you discontinue the very fine services you have been rendering as United States minister to Denmark, I appreciate your reasons for wanting to resign and the motives that prompt you. I therefore reluctantly accept your resignation."

Mrs. Rohde, daughter of William Jennings Bryan, has had a long career of public service. Before entering the diplomatic service she served in the Seventy-first and Seventy-second congresses, 1929 to 1933, from Florida. Captain Rohde, to whom she was married in July last, is her third husband. She divorced her first husband, William Homer Leavitt. She entered politics after the death of her second husband, Maj. Reginald Owen of the British Royal Engineers.



Ruth Owen

Farmers' July Income Best Since 1929

PERHAPS the farmers of America don't realize it, but during July they enjoyed the largest cash income they have had since 1929. Figures given out by the Department of Agriculture show the sales of farm products brought them \$711,000,000 against \$582,000,000 in June and only \$451,000,000 in July, 1935.

To their income from sales, the farmers added \$24,000,000 in various forms of government benefits, bringing the total cash at their disposal to \$735,000,000. The rental and other benefits totaled \$57,000,000 in June and \$19,000,000 in July, 1935. "The sharp increase in cash farm income in July was mainly due to the pronounced gain in income from grains, chiefly wheat," the report said. "Receipts of wheat in the principal markets in July were the fourth largest for the month on record, despite the relatively small supplies on farms this year."

"Prices of meat animals in July, while averaging slightly lower than in June, were nevertheless higher than in July, 1935, so that income from meat animals was considerably higher than a year ago. Cash income from dairy products increased more than seasonally."

American Bar Association Against Court Limitation

RESOLUTIONS adopted by the American Bar association at its meeting in Boston declare firmly against any attempt to limit the power of federal courts to pass on the constitutionality of laws. The association avoided what had been expected to be a lively debate by taking a noncommittal attitude on the report of another committee which denounced in great part the alleged invasion of the rights of citizens by the New Deal. This report, to which there was a minority re-

port appended, was received and filed by the assembly, but not accepted, and the committee which filed it was discharged from further duty.

Frederick H. Stinchfield of Minneapolis was unanimously elected president of the association for the coming year.

Stalin Warns Red Army That War Is Near

REICHSFUEHRER HITLER has injected a little more ginger into the international armament race by suddenly announcing that the terms for compulsory military service for Germans was doubled—two years instead of one. As matters are just now in Europe, this appeared to be aimed directly against Soviet Russia, and if the London newspapers are to be believed, Dictator Stalin recognizes this and reacts as might be expected. The London Evening News and Daily Mail both assert that Stalin, in a secret radio address to the red army, said:

"Comrades of the red forces: We are on the very eve of momentous events. At any moment now you may be called upon to lay down your lives for the defense of the proletarian birthland."

"This is the moment you have been anticipating, and now your birthland is expecting you to do the duty you have so eagerly awaited."

"I have no doubts about you, and I am convinced you have no doubts about us, your leaders."

"Our enemies are getting into position. So be ready. The enemies are on the frontiers of our great land. Keep watch."

"Everything money could buy, everything the genius of man could invent and everything the loving labor of the workers could make have been given into your hands for the defense and glory of the Soviet land."

Transfer of W. C. Bullitt to the Paris Embassy

TRANSFER of William C. Bullitt from the embassy in Moscow to that in Paris is not surprising. He it was who was chiefly responsible for the recognition of the Soviet government by the United States, and when he was rewarded with the ambassadorship it was expected he would be able to swing a lot of Russian business to American concerns. Also it was hoped he could persuade his Russian friends to keep their promises not to disturb this country with communistic propaganda. In these respects at least Mr. Bullitt has been a disappointment. But he retains the confidence of President Roosevelt and will not be out of place as ambassador to the leftist French government.

Some observers think Mr. Bullitt is sent to Paris for the purpose of secretly sounding out the major European powers on the possibility of reconvening the world economic conference in 1937. Jesse Isador Straus resigned as ambassador to France on the advice of his physician. The President wrote him that "if this administration shall be continued for another four years, I shall count on your returning as a part of it."

John L. Lewis' Committee for Industrial Organization in one of its initial efforts to organize the steel workers seems to have succeeded only in leading one big plant to go out of business, throwing 750 men out of employment. Such is the result of a strike in the plant of the Standard Steel Spring company at Coraopolis, Pa., the strike being directed by the CIO. The employees who didn't strike later re-



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Strike Directed by CIO Closes Big Plant

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fused to work because, they said, their families had been threatened by phone with bombing if the men returned to the plant. So the company closed down and began removing the machinery. It was alleged the strikers were assured in advance that they would be given relief money if the plant were closed, and that the state authorities did nothing to protect the plant or the non-strikers from violence.

Secretary Ickes' Stepson Commits Suicide

WILMARTH ICKES, stepson of Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, shot himself to death in the Ickes home at Winnetka, Ill. He was thirty-seven years old, married and the father of three children. The suicide, on the anniversary of his mother's death in an automobile accident, was attributed to despondency over illness. The young man had just been informed by a physician that he had tuberculosis. Secretary Ickes, informed of the tragedy, went to Chicago at once by airplane.

American Destroyer Periled by Spanish Bombs

SIX bombs dropped from an unidentified Spanish airplane fell perilously near the American destroyer Kane, which was en route from Gibraltar to Bilbao to help in the removal of Americans from the war zone. The Kane fired several rounds from an anti-aircraft gun at the plane. Naturally our government was roused to protest. Secretary of State Hull instructed his agents abroad to request both the Spanish government and Gen. Francisco Franco, leader of the rebel forces, to "issue instructions in the strongest terms" to prevent another "incident of this character."

The rebel forces in the north were making a powerful air attack on Irun, scattering many bombs on that border city, and an assault by land and sea forces was expected at any moment. The government troops there had refused to surrender and their officers said rightist prisoners, including some prominent men, would be exposed in the most open places during the bombardment.

The Madrid government admitted its troops had sustained an "important reverse" in a battle at Oropesa, 100 miles southwest of the capital and were driven back to Talavera. Later a loyalist victory at that place was claimed, though London heard the rebels had scored another victory there. The fighting in the Guadarrama mountains continued indecisively, and in Toledo the loyalists were still hammering away at the ancient Alcazar in which about 2,000 rebels were besieged.

Ten foreign envoys accredited to Spain sent a note to the Madrid government calling on it to "humanize" the war, and they expressed the hope that "both parties" would stop the killing of hostages and non-combatants and refrain from bombarding non-defended cities. The American and Japanese representatives did not sign the appeal.

The United States does not consider the attempted blockade of rebel-held ports any more valid than do the European nations. Secretary Hull told the Madrid foreign office: "My government directs me to inform you that, with the friendliest feelings toward the Spanish government, it cannot admit the legality of any action on the part of the Spanish government in declaring such ports closed unless that government declares and maintains an effective blockade of such ports."

Death of George H. Dern, Secretary of War

SECRETARY OF WAR GEORGE H. DERN died in Walter Reed hospital, Washington, of heart disease and other complications resulting from influenza. He had been ill since last spring but part of the

time had insisted on attending his official duties, keeping him even from his sick bed. Mr. Dern was sixty-four years old, formerly a brilliant mining engineer and was the second non-Mormon to be elected governor of Utah.

Funeral services for Mr. Dern were held in Washington, with high federal and army officials, private citizens in attendance. The body was then taken to Salt Lake City on a special train aboard which were Mrs. Dern, her three sons, two daughters, and a cabinet of state, including Secretary of Commerce Roper, Acting Secretary of War Woodring, Attorney General Cummings, Acting Secretary of the Navy Standley and Acting Secretary of Labor McGrady. Gen. Mac Craig, army chief of staff, headed the delegation of the army high command. At Salt Lake City funeral services were held in the great Mormon temple with President Roosevelt attending.

Merchandise Exports for July at Low Level

FIGURES given out by the Department of Commerce reveal that July merchandise exports from the United States declined to \$324,000,000, the lowest level of the year.

Imports, however, increased to \$380,000,000, leaving a favorable balance of trade of \$56,000,000 for the month. This was the second consecutive month in which the unfavorable balance was reported. However, compared with the 1935 month, exports were up 3 per cent and imports up 9 per cent.

The unfavorable balance was regarded by Secretary of Commerce Roper as convincing proof of economic recovery in the United States because nearly half the increase in imports over last year in the volume was accounted for by luxury items such as furs and jewelry and commodities not extensively produced in this country, such as wood-pulp, paper, nickel and copper.

The increase in exports over July 1935, consisted chiefly of finished and semi-manufactured articles, including machinery, electrical apparatus, aircraft, iron and steel manufactures and inedible vegetable products.

Many Farmers Employed on PWA Projects

ANNOUNCEMENT was made by WPA officials in Washington that more than 100,000 farmers are now at work on Works Progress Administration projects in the drouth areas of the West and Central West. About half of the farmers on WPA rolls are in North and South Dakota. North Dakota reported 32,762 at work on federal projects and South Dakota 22,927. Relief agricultural authorities have estimated that 110,000 to 120,000 farmers will need help through the winter in the Dakotas.

Britain and Egypt Sign Treaty of Alliance

GREAT BRITAIN and EGYPT have settled their disputes and signed a treaty of friendship and alliance. It brings Egypt nearer to its goal of independence while at the same time it provides full safety for England's interests, especially the Suez canal. The British troops probably will be withdrawn from Cairo and other cities and concentrated with the air force within the canal zone around Matruh. The maximum strength to be 10,000 in the army and 1,000 in the air force, but in an emergency Britain will be allowed to send necessary reinforcements.

The British high commissioner in Cairo and the Egyptian minister in London will be raised to the status of ambassadors.