

# Review of the History-Making Events of the World

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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## Mormons Are Off the Dole, Says President Grant

SIX months ago the Latter Day Saints church—otherwise the Mormons—inaugurated a program to make every able bodied member self-supporting by October 1. In the great tabernacle at Salt Lake City Heber J. Grant, president of the church, told an audience that the plan had succeeded and that the drive had taken all the needy members off public relief. The church has consistently opposed "pay without work." In reading his report President Grant took occasion to criticize the Townsend pension plan and government control of crops, and he warned the members to avoid "political entanglements."



Heber J. Grant

Under the church relief drive, land was leased and the needy provided with implements for tilling. Women groups have made clothes and bedding. Members have contributed the financial equivalent of two meals monthly to a special fund. In scattered storehouses, Mr. Grant reported, supplies have been laid up in generous quantities for distribution among the needy who helped produce them.

Under the program, the speaker declares, "the curse of idleness would be done away with, the evils of a dole abolished, and independence, thrift, and self-respect will be once more established amongst our people."

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## Social Security Act Is Due for a Court Test

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE C. B. KENNEMER of Montgomery, Ala., issued an order halting collection in Alabama of a one per cent payroll tax to finance the unemployment program. The result, it is expected, will be a clear cut test of the validity of the New Deal's social security act, for lawyers had no doubt the case would be carried to the United States Supreme court. The order was granted the Gulf States Steel corporation of Gadsden, Ala., on a plea that the unemployment insurance program, operated in co-operation with the federal government violates both state and federal constitutions. A Supreme court hearing would carry the threat of possible invalidation of insurance and pension programs now under development in the several states.

## Test Case Started Under Robinson-Patman Act

THREE complaints were filed by the federal trade commission under the Robinson-Patman act, naming five concerns, launching the first move to test its powers under this far-reaching legislation which forbids the granting or receiving by merchandisers of discriminatory price discounts in interstate commerce.

The complaints named Montgomery Ward and Company, Inc.; Kraft-Phenix Cheese corporation, Chicago; Shefford Cheese company, Inc., Syracuse, N. Y.; Bird and Son, Inc., and Bird Floor Covering Sales corporation, East Walpole, Mass.

Montgomery Ward and Company is named jointly with Bird and Son and the Bird Floor Covering Sales corporation, a subsidiary. The complaint contends that the two Bird companies sold floor coverings to Montgomery Ward and Company at substantially lower prices than to competing retailers.

Kraft-Phenix Cheese was charged with discriminating in price between purchasers, with the alleged effect of lessening and injuring competition between it and other manu-

facturers and distributors of similar products. Lessening of competition between customers of Kraft-Phenix was also alleged, and some of them were alleged to have received favored prices.

In filing its bill of complaint, the commission pointed out that no allegation was made of "bad faith or any subterfuge or secrecy on the part of Kraft-Phenix in connection with its price policy."

Charges against Shefford Cheese were substantially the same as in the case of Kraft-Phenix.

## Chicago Meat Packers Cited by Wallace

CHARGES of engaging in unfair practices have been filed against the Armour and Swift meat packing companies of Chicago, and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace has cited them for a hearing in New York on November 2, for violation of the packers and stockyards act of 1921.

According to Dr. A. W. Miller of the bureau of animal industry, the complaint was based on the charge that the packers had been obtaining business in violation of the law from steamship companies in New York.

Under the alleged illegal arrangement, Miller said, Armour and Swift had arranged a reciprocal agreement by which they sold meat to the ship owners and in return sent their exports abroad in their ships.

Another charge was that the packers had extended credit for longer periods for favored customers than for others.

## Secretary Ickes Reports Alleged Collusive Bids

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR ICKES referred to the Department of Justice for investigation two new instances of alleged collusive bidding for federal construction material contracts. The charges are against seventeen copper cable and steel tubing firms. The Justice department already has under investigation previous charges made by Ickes of collusive bidding on steel contracts.

The projects affected were the North Platte reclamation development in Nebraska, and the Grand Coulee Dam in the Columbia river basin of Washington.

Many of the bids in both cases, said Mr. Ickes, were identical. However, in each case at least one bidder submitted different and lower figures, and the contracts were awarded.

## French Communists and Fascists Clash

FRANCE may be on the verge of a civil war between Communists and Fascists comparable to the terrible conflict in Spain. In Paris desperate fighting already has begun. The Reds, numbering many thousands, and the nationalists, under orders from Col. Francois de la Rocque whose Croix de Feu organization was disbanded by the government, undertook rival demonstrations; and the result was a day-long series of street battles in which hundreds were wounded. Order was finally restored for the time being by a force of 12,000 republican guards and police.

The Nationalist-rightists said the fighting "was only beginning." Troubles resulting from devaluation of the franc would be severe and numerous, they predicted. Leftists charged the battles were part of a rightist plot to provoke trouble for the Socialist government.

In London, also, there was a big riot in which a hundred persons were injured. Sir Oswald Mosley's Black Shirts, a Fascist organization, planned a parade but Communists and Socialists numbering 100,000 were determined to prevent it and battled with a big force of east end police to get at their enemies. The authorities forbade the parade as scheduled but the oppos-

ing mobs got together in various localities and fought desperately. Sir Oswald issued a statement charging that the "British government has openly surrendered to Red terror."

## Italy's Cabinet Votes to Devalue the Lira

FOLLOWING the example set by France and other countries, the Italian cabinet voted to devalue the lira, setting its value at approximately 5.2 cents, as compared with the latest previous figure of 7.6 cents. The cabinet also let it be known that it would take action to prevent rent and price increases; and it voted a new 5 per cent capital levy to which property owners are obliged to subscribe to the extent of 5 per cent of their wealth.

The gold value of the lira was placed at 4.677 grams of gold for each 100 lire. Gold reserves of the Bank of Italy will be revalued on the basis of the new lira with the surplus to be placed at the disposition of the treasury.

## Former Ambassador Straus Taken by Pneumonia

JESSE ISADOR STRAUS, merchant prince and, until his resignation last August, American ambassador to France, passed away in his New York home at the age of sixty-four. The immediate cause of death was pneumonia, but Mr. Straus had been in ill health for some time, this being the reason for his retirement from the ambassadorship.



Jesse I. Straus

Graduating from Harvard in 1893, Mr. Straus began work as a bank clerk. In 1896 he obtained employment with R. H. Macy & Co., big New York department store, and by 1919 was its president, holding that position until he was given the Paris post by President Roosevelt in 1933. He was a Democrat and was a member of the board of overseers of Harvard and of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. He maintained a country estate at Mount Kisco, N. Y., as well as a city apartment.

## Madrid Claims Victories Over the Insurgents

THOUGH the capture of Toledo by the Spanish insurgents was a severe blow for the government, it by no means ended the civil war. Madrid announces that one of the loyalist columns broke the rebel line that almost surrounded the capital and re-took the important junction town of Maqueda. An army of loyalist miners was reported to have reached the outskirts of Oviedo, and reinforcements for the Madrid garrison were on their way from Asturias province and from Valencia. The government forces also were said to have taken the important town of Motrico on the Bay of Biscay.

Gen. Francisco Franco, chief of the insurgents, decreed a Fascist dictatorship and created a "junta of state" which will govern subject to his will. In his first statement of policy, Franco assured workers they would be "protected against the ills of capitalism" and that "steps would be taken to regulate favorable working hours."

"All Spaniards will be obliged to work according to their capacity," he said. "In the new state no parasitical citizens will be permitted."

## Al Smith Comes Out for Gov. Landon

FRANK KNOX, President Roosevelt and Al Smith, al on the air the same evening, provided a political feast for radio listeners. Colonel Knox, speaking at Pittsburgh, reiterated and substantiated his former assertion that New Deal financial policies were imperiling savings accounts and insurance poli-

cies. Mr. Roosevelt, not so eloquent as usual, defended the spending policies of his administration. He, too, spoke at Pittsburgh. The high spot of the evening came at the close of Al Smith's address to a women's organization in New York city. He had been treating of the New Deal and its leaders with biting sarcasm and wound up with the dramatic declaration:

"I firmly believe that the remedy for all the ills that we are suffering from today is the election of Alfred M. Landon."

## Treasury Figures on Year's First Quarter

THE government wound up its affairs for the first quarter of the 1937 fiscal year with a deficit of about \$530,000,000 compared with a deficit of more than \$880,000,000 for the same period last year.

Receipts in the July 1-Sept. 28 period were \$1,119,196,888, compared with \$986,888,265 last year, while expenditures were \$1,635,909,816, against \$1,815,219,471. General expenditures were \$1,047,514,060 this year, compared with \$939,977,775 last. Recovery and relief expenditures amounted to \$588,395,755, compared with \$875,241,695.

Income tax collection for September will amount to about \$287,000,000, against \$231,000,000 last year, and for the first quarter of this year approximately \$358,000,000, compared with \$278,000,000. Miscellaneous internal revenue netted the government \$617,307,783 in the July 1-September 28 period, as compared with \$517,986,451 last year.

The public debt at the end of the month stood at \$33,831,790,000, compared with \$29,423,624,000 on the same date last year.

## Poland Confiscating Lands of Nobility

POLAND'S government began the confiscation of the lands of the nobility and large estate holders by seizing 60,000 acres from tax indebted properties. The land will be divided among the peasantry. This is the first step in carrying out a radical project that has been shelved for ten years.

Jules Poniatowski, minister of agriculture, had a hard fight before the president and cabinet indorsed the decree. Much pressure was brought to bear on the government and confiscations were reduced almost 50 per cent from the amounts suggested by the minister.

More than one-third of the sequestered land is in east Galicia, the remainder in the east and south of Poland.

## Admiral Sims Buried With Full Military Honors

HIGH ranking officers of the navy and army and many federal officials were present at the funeral of Rear Admiral William S. Sims in Washington and his interment with full military honors in Arlington national cemetery. The war time commander of America's naval forces in European waters died suddenly in Boston of heart attack. During his long years of service he was a severe critic of naval matters, and, he was given credit for developing gunnery in the navy to a high point of excellence.

## Communist Nominee for President Jailed

EARL BROWDER, Communist party nominee for the Presidency, achieved the distinction of being the first Presidential candidate to be jailed since Eugene V. Debs was incarcerated during the World war. Browder was scheduled to make a campaign address over the radio from Terre Haute, Ind., but when he arrived in that city he was nabbed by Chief of Police James C. Yates and put in the hoosegow on charges of vagrancy and "for investigation." Held with him were Seymour Walden and Waldo Frank, both of New York city; Charles Stadtfeldt, secretary of the Indiana

Communist party, and Remes of Indianapolis. All were released the next day.

Chief Yates, who had the signing of Mayor Samuel O. Bellamy and the Terre Haute Merchants' association, said neither Browder nor any other Communist would be permitted to air their party doctrines over the local radio station but David J. Bentall of Chicago, Browder's attorney, slipped into the speech his principal had prepared while Yates fumed at the locked door.

## Bleakley and Lehman for New York Governorship

REPUBLICANS and Democrats of New York state met in convention at Albany and Syracuse respectively, selected their state



William F. Bleakley

Col. Ralph K. Robertson of Buffalo was nominated for lieutenant governor, Nathan D. Perlmutter of New York city for attorney general and John A. May, Gloversville, comptroller.

The convention at its evening session heard Col. Frank Knox, republican vice presidential candidate, in a strong attack on the New Deal.

The Democrats renominated Herbert H. Lehman, and his didacy was warmly espoused by President Roosevelt, who went to Syracuse to deliver his first speech as an avowed candidate. The president took occasion to deny that he seeks Communist support and alleged that issue was a "herring" dragged across the stage by his opponents.

## "Windfall" Tax Case to Be Decided by Courts

IN WHAT was said by court attaches to be the first important ruling anywhere on numerous cases filed by packing companies and others against government collection of the "windfall" tax, Judge C. Baltzell of the United States district court at Indianapolis, ruled the government's motion to dismiss a suit for an injunction by Kingan and Company, packers.

## Supreme Court May Pass on Wagner Labor Act

APPEALS filed by the national labor relations board after Supreme court five new opportunities to pass on the constitutionality of the Wagner labor relations act. The board asked the high court to review rulings in a case involving the Jones & Laughlin Steel corporation of Pittsburgh, two involving the Freunaufer Trailer company of Canton, Ohio, and two affecting the Friedman-Harry Marks clothing company, New York.

## Frankfort, Ky., Celebrates Its Sesquicentennial

RESIDENTS of Frankfort, Ky., stopped work and politics three days and, with thousands of guests, celebrated the sesquicentennial of their city. A pioneer was given the affair by the presence of many families, from other parts of Kentucky in horse-drawn wagons and on horseback. There were historical parades and services, an old fashioned burgo feast, and a formal banquet at which addresses were delivered by Admiral Rodgersman of the navy and Governor Chandler of Kentucky.