

# Review of the History-Making Events of the World

By EDWARD W. PICKARD  
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## Mrs. Simpson Offers to Free King Edward

**D**ISTRESSED by the storm over King Edward's proposal to marry her, Mrs. Wallis Warfield Simpson, lovely American divorcee, took refuge in the villa of friends at Cannes, France, and there made a dramatic gesture of renunciation. Through Lord Brownlow, gentleman-in-waiting to the king, she gave the correspondents this statement:



Mrs. Simpson

"Mrs. Simpson, throughout the last few weeks, has invariably wished to avoid any action or proposal which might hurt or damage his majesty of the throne.

"Today her attitude is unchanged and she is willing, if such action will solve the problem, to withdraw forthwith from a situation that has become both unhappy and untenable."

This offer to abandon her romance was transmitted to London and all the world awaited the response of the king, in his seclusion at Fort Belvedere. Unhappiness is the fate of both Edward and "Wally", whatever the decision may be. If the king relinquishes the woman and retains the throne, Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin and the cabinet, together with the aristocratic caste, will have scored a victory, but the contest between the new and the old will certainly be renewed in other form.

At the time when Mrs. Simpson gave out her statement, it appeared that the king had scored a point. Mr. Baldwin, having failed signally to induce the monarch to abandon his determination to wed Wally, gave in to the extent of side-tracking the abdication issue and giving King Edward ample time to come to a final determination. He told the house of commons this and related the whole story of the controversy which, he said, was precipitated by the king himself when he informed the prime minister of "his intention to marry Mrs. Simpson whenever she should be free." Mr. Baldwin said the king "will no doubt" communicate his decision in good time "to the government in this country and the dominions." He added: "It will then be for those governments to decide what advice, if any, they would feel it their duty to tender him."

Replying to a warning from Winston Churchill that the government must not try to "extort" abdication from the king, Mr. Baldwin said: "It has always been, and remains, the earnest desire of the government to afford his majesty the fullest opportunity of weighing the decision which involves so directly his own future happiness and the welfare of all his subjects."

But, he added, both the government and the king were aware that "considerable prolongation of the present state of suspense and uncertainty would involve the risk of gravest injury to national and imperial interests."

In what the prime minister said it was made evident the king never had stated his intention of making Mrs. Simpson queen; and it appears the monarch was told that neither his government nor those of the dominions would countenance legislation making possible a morganatic marriage, which Edward desires. On this point neither the king nor the cabinet has yielded, and to date Edward has shown no intention of abdicating.

Having learned all about the Simpson affair when the British press

dropped its self-imposed silence, the British public took hold of it with excitement and enthusiasm. Crowds paraded in London, carrying banners with such inscriptions as "God Save the King From Baldwin." They booed cabinet members and the archbishop of Canterbury, who was steadfast against the marriage, and surged about Buckingham palace in great throngs.

## Blum's Spain Policy Wins Support of Deputies

**P**REMIER BLUM of France, for the first time calling for a vote of confidence, won the chamber of deputies to the support of his policy of neutrality concerning the civil war in Spain, and this victory saved his regime from disaster. The vote was 350 to 171. The communists refused to vote because they could not approve the "blockade of republican Spain," but affirmed their support of the Popular Front government. Following the vote the cabinet ministers all decided to retain their posts.

Foreign Minister Delbos told the chamber of deputies that France would give army, navy and air aid to Great Britain and Belgium if they were attacked without provocation. He also said that France soon would propose at Geneva "a practical plan for reduction of armaments which will include provisions for publicity on military expenditures and limitation of air forces."

## Mr. Hull Offers Eight "Pillars of Peace"

**H**EADS of 21 delegations to the peace conference in Buenos Aires outlined national policies, and among them was Secretary of State Hull, who proposed a program containing what he termed "eight pillars of peace" upon which rest peace and prosperity. These were:

1. Internal quiet and education.
2. Frequent international conferences.
3. Swift ratification of existing peace pacts.
4. Adoption of a common neutrality policy.
5. Fair and equal commercial policies.
6. Practical international cooperation.
7. Strengthening of international law.
8. Faithful observance of the sanctity of treaties.

"There is no need for war," Hull said in his address. "There is a practical alternative policy at hand, complete and adequate. It is no exclusive policy aimed at the safety or supremacy of a few, leaving others to struggle with distressful situations. It demands no sacrifices comparable to the advantages which will result to each nation and to each individual."

"Peace can be partially safeguarded through international agreements. Such agreements, however, must reflect the utmost good faith; this alone can be the guarantee of their significance and usefulness."

Next day Mr. Hull offered a neutrality pact for all American republics. His plan would create a permanent inter-American consultative committee to co-ordinate existing peace instruments and bring agreement on a common neutrality policy, based on the United States' neutrality theory.

## Midland Steel Strike Ended by Agreement

**E**MPLLOYEES of the Midland Steel Products plant at Detroit returned to their work, having voted to accept a settlement of their strike which included wage adjustments and abolition of the piece

work system. The strike had been seriously felt by the automobile industry.

The peace terms, which union leaders called a "90 per cent victory" for employees, provide for recognition of the union, a 45 hour week, time and a half pay for overtime and holidays, an increase of 10 cents an hour on the base rate of pay, and a 10 per cent increase on piece work until it is eliminated, which is to be done as rapidly as possible.

## Pope Pius XI Stricken With Leg Paralysis

**S**TRICKEN with paralysis that affected both his legs, Pope Pius XI was believed to be in a serious condition because he already was afflicted with asthma, arterio sclerosis and high blood pressure. At first the holy father flatly refused to submit to a medical examination, saying "I am in the hands of God," and he even insisted on dictating and signing letters. But later he was persuaded to take complete repose, which his physicians said was vitally necessary. Father Agostino Gemelli of Milan, a medical expert, was summoned to Vatican City and gave out a statement indicating that rigid measures were being taken to stave off possible uremic poisoning.



Pope Pius

The pope's illness was discovered when he was unable to arise for a ceremonial concluding a week of spiritual exercises. He was barely able to stir the left leg and physicians found that the heaviness of limb had spread also to the right leg.

Cardinal Pacelli, papal secretary of state, was more optimistic than many others. After a visit to the sick room he said:

"The pope is improved. In about a week the strong constitution of the holy father will win out over the illness. He is nearly eighty years of age and has never been confined to bed by illness. It is only natural that he should just for once feel indisposed."

## Wheat Farmers Approve Crop Insurance Plan

**L**EADING wheat producers held a convention in Washington and gave their approval to Secretary Wallace's plan for crop insurance and the "ever normal granary." It was proposed that the federal government supply the initial capital to start the program, acquire and maintain warehouses and run the "all hazard" insurance program through a corporation.

A permanent wheat farmers' committee of fifteen was established to advance a program for participating farm groups and to exercise pressure for legislation. The committee was instructed to report by January 15. M. W. Thatcher is chairman.

## Treasury Financing Plans Told by Morgenthau

**S**ECRETARY OF THE TREASURY HENRY MORGENTHAU announced the mid-December financing operations of the treasury, the main features being further borrowing and refunding that will put the national debt above 34 billion dollars, lowered interest rates on government bonds and elimination of preferential treatment for the small investor. The secretary said that the December 15 financing, which includes the borrowing of 700 millions to cover continuation of deficits incurred, would be the last until March, when heavy income tax collections will pour into the treasury. Refunding raises the overall amount of the financing to \$1,486,631,900.

In announcing that the treasury would not permit the small investor to have his subscription up to

\$5,000 met in full as in the past, but would be forced to accept a pro-rata share just as is the big bond buyer, Morgenthau declared that the public had "abused" the privilege. The plan "to give the little fellow a break" was initiated by Secretary Ogden Mills during the Hoover regime.

## Trotzky Given Permission to Reside in Mexico

**L**EON TROTZKY, the banished Russian revolutionist, will soon have to leave his refuge in Storsand, Norway, for his permit is about to expire. But the government of Mexico has come to his rescue, giving him permission to live in that country "as long as he pleases."

Mexican Foreign Secretary Eduardo Hay in his statement said Trotzky's life was in danger because European governments would not let him reside within their boundaries, and that the permission to come to Mexico was in line with Mexico's policy of granting "asylum to those exiled for political causes." He added that Trotzky will be expected "to abide by our laws and not take part in the social and political affairs of Mexico."

By granting a haven to Trotzky the government disregarded the powerful Confederation of Workers of Mexico, openly sympathetic with the regime of Josef Stalin in Russia.

## Hamilton Will Resign as Republican Chairman

**J**OHAN HAMILTON, chairman of the Republican national committee, called a meeting of that body to be held in Chicago December 17, and announced that at that time he would submit his resignation.

Mr. Hamilton desires that the committee shall be able to address itself to the plans for a party comeback with a clean slate and with new officers in command, if a change of personnel shall be deemed more conducive to success.

The management of the late campaign has been criticized by some leaders in the East, and also by a few of the most radical of the western leaders; but it may well be that the criticism represents only minority views of the committee and that Mr. Hamilton's resignation will not be accepted.

## Vice President Garner Vexes Some Congressmen

**C**ALLED back to Washington because he is acting President during the absence of Mr. Roosevelt, Vice President Garner promptly involved himself in the battle for the house leadership that is being waged by the supporters of John J. O'Connor of New York, chairman of the rules committee, and Sam Rayburn of Texas, chairman of the interstate commerce committee.

Mr. Garner put himself behind his fellow Texan, declaring: "I am for Rayburn 200 per cent. He is the best equipped man for the job and I will do all I can to further his candidacy."

O'Connor's friends and other representatives who had been neutral were astounded and angered by what they considered an unwarranted intrusion by the vice president into a house contest.

## Death for Hoarders Is Decreed by Nazis

**G**ERMANY'S cabinet, with Hitler presiding, promulgated a number of startling edicts for the furtherance of the Goering four-year plan of rehabilitation of the reich. Most important of these is the "economic sabotage" law, decreeing death for Germans who "unscrup-

ulously" hoard wealth abroad and "damage the Germany economy."

This is directed against violators of recent injunctions which put within reach of the government between 1,500,000,000 and 2,000,000,000 marks (\$600,000,000 and \$800,000,000) which could be converted into foreign currencies should the necessity arise.

Another law orders the incorporation of every German boy and girl, without exception, in the Hitler youth movement, for physical, spiritual and moral training.

The "youth leader of the German reich," Baldur von Schirach, was made responsible directly to Hitler and given the rank of a supreme Nazi authority.

## Borah Opposes Reducing French War Debt

**S**ENATOR BORAH of Idaho returned to Washington, and one of the few topics he was willing to talk about was the proposition of some French deputies that France settle her war debt to the United States by a payment of 10 cents on the dollar, in order to clear the way for further borrowing of American money. Mr. Borah was quick to declare his opposition to such a scheme, calling it downright insolence on the part of the French, and as he is the ranking Republican on the foreign relations committee his words mean something. Said the senator:

"We settled once at 51 cents on the dollar and that was just about what they owed us at the close of the war. We have no reason to believe that they will keep their word this time any more than they did before. This is no cash proposition. It is another installment scheme. Remember this money belongs to the American taxpayers. If we continue to loan this money and then take it back at 10 cents on the dollar we cannot do any more to promote armaments."

In the French chamber Jean Mistler, chairman of the foreign affairs committee, requested the deputies to drop discussion of the debts question in order that the government "may have a free hand in its present negotiations with the United States." Details of the "negotiations" were not disclosed.

Some Paris observers thought there was an attempt to fix up an Anglo-French-American security pact and that France was ready to reconsider the debt question in order to facilitate the execution of that project.

Big Campaign Gifts Are Reported to Committee

**R**EPORTS to the senate campaign funds committee show that John D. Rockefeller, Jr., gave \$70,000 to Republican campaign funds, while Democratic organizations received \$50,000 from Mrs. James R. H. Cromwell, formerly Doris Duke, the tobacco heiress.

The committee said it hoped to trace the source of most of the \$13,000,000 spent by scores of political organizations in the last campaign, as a basis for legislative recommendations to the President and congress.

## Williams Says WPA Rolls Must Be Decreased

"**W**HITE collar" members of the Workers' Alliance of America who called on Aubrey Williams to insist that no workers be dropped from the relief rolls were told by the acting WPA administrator that lack of funds made necessary the dropping of about 175,000 by December 15, and that 250,000 others would be transferred from drouth relief to the resettlement administration.

David Lasser, president of the Workers' Alliance, asserted that widespread strikes would result from the reduction of the rolls.



King Edward