

Review of the History-Making Events of the World

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

© Western Newspaper Union.

Lewis and His C. I. O. Are Moving Forward

YOU'VE got to look to John L. Lewis. The beetle-browed leader of the C. I. O. is going places and doing things, despite several setbacks in his plans to unionize all industry. The steel magnates are yielding to a great extent, and the threat of a general strike in that industry is fading out. With the Carnegie-Illinois corporation, largest subsidiary of United States Steel, leading the way, the biggest concerns in that industry are granting increases in wages and the 40 hour week, and agreeing to deal with the unions affiliated with the C. I. O. This is the first time in 45 years that "Big Steel" has recognized union labor as a bargaining agency for its employees.

Lewis and Philip Murray, chairman of the steel workers' organizing committee, were jubilant, but the Carnegie-Illinois corporation issued an official statement that toned them down a bit.

"The company will recognize any individual, group, or organization as the spokesmen for those employees it represents," the statement said, "but it will not recognize any single organization or group as the exclusive bargaining agency for all employees."

"Under this policy the status of the employee representation plan is likewise unchanged. It will continue as the spokesman for those of the employees who prefer that method of collective bargaining, which has proved so mutually satisfactory throughout its existence."

The General Electric company declared its willingness to discuss a national collective bargaining agreement with the United Electrical Workers, a C. I. O. affiliate; and the indications were that Lewis and the Appalachian coal operators would be able to negotiate a new wage and hour agreement in time to avert a coal miners' strike.

The C. I. O. announced the formation of the United Shoe Workers of America with a nucleus of 20,000 members and went after New England's shoe industry. Still more important, Lewis and his aids let it be known that the next target of the C. I. O. drive would be the textile industry.

General Electric and some of the other big concerns that yielded to a certain extent to the demands of the C. I. O. followed the example of the steel companies in asserting that they still reserved the right to deal also with other unions or groups of employees, and in some cases company unions undertook to maintain their independent positions. Furthermore, President Green and other leaders of the American Federation of Labor entered wholeheartedly into the fight against Lewis and his C. I. O. The latter gained strength by the decision of aluminum workers at the New Kensington, Pa., plant of the Aluminum Company of America to renounce the federation in favor of the C. I. O.

In Chicago there was a strike of taxicab drivers who formed a union and sought the support of the Lewis organization. They demanded higher pay.

Eight thousand employees of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company's Pittsburgh plant demanded a 20 per cent raise in wages and it was feared they would start a strike if the demand were rejected.

Because the Chrysler motor company refused to recognize the United Automobile Workers of America as the sole bargaining agency for all its employees, a strike was called in all its major units in Detroit, and

other plants of the company were closed because of dependence on Detroit production. More than 50,000 workers were thus thrown into idleness. Vice President B. E. Hutchinson of the corporation said it appeared that "the conferences into which we entered with good faith had only one purpose, namely, to put this union in complete control over all our employees, regardless of individual wishes."

The union also called a strike at the Hudson Motor Car company because, they asserted, officials of the concern were stalling in negotiations on working conditions.

United States Gets Meats From Foreign Nations

FIGURES supplied by the Department of Commerce show that the live stock producers who predicted the United States would be forced to depend on foreign meat imports this year were right. During January the arrivals of foreign pork at domestic ports set an all time record for any month, and the imports of meat were far in excess of those a year ago. This condition is blamed on the drouth and the four-year federal crop control program.

Meat imports in January aggregated 30,387,000 pounds, compared with 19,922,000 in January of 1936 and only 7,141,000 pounds in 1935. Dressed pork imports alone reached the record figure of 5,580,033 pounds compared with 2,250,389 in January, 1936, and only 265,000 in 1935.

Heavy imports of pork continued during the first three weeks of February, government figures for receipts at New York indicated. During this period foreign nations shipped 2,988,500 pounds of pork to New York, which exceeded imports for any February.

Canada proved to be the largest source of supply for the American market. Imports of all kinds of meat from Canada during the first month of this year were approximately 17,102,000 pounds, an increase of 190 per cent over the 5,884,000 pounds imported in January of last year.

Edward and Wally May Lease Maryland Home

ACCORDING to a copyrighted article in the Philadelphia Record, Edward, duke of Windsor, and Mrs. Wallis Warfield Simpson may live in the United States after their marriage early in May. The duke, says the Record, is "considering most favorably" for their home the Cloisters, the castle-like country residence of Mr. and Mrs. Sumner A. Parker near Brooklandville, Md., just outside of Baltimore.



Duke of Windsor

says he had options also on an estate in Carroll county, Maryland, and on one on Long Island, but will take up neither.

"The option on the Cloisters provides for a year's lease," the newspaper says. "It gives the right to the duke to renew the lease for two additional years if the place proves satisfactory. Apparently feeling certain Edward will lease his estate, Parker has ordered improvements to meet the duke's specifications."

Death of Dr. W. T. Hornaday, American Zoologist

DR. WILLIAM T. HORNADAY, one of America's foremost naturalists, died at his home in Stamford, Conn., at the age of eighty-two. He was the first director of the New York Zoological park, retiring in 1926. Doctor Hornaday was a devoted advocate of the conservation of wild life and steadily worked

for the protection of migratory fowl and for federal game refuges.

One of the leaders of the Republican party passed with the death of Mark L. Requa in Los Angeles. He was national committeeman from California from 1932 to 1936, was a close friend of Herbert Hoover and for years a dominant figure in politics on the West Coast. During the World war Mr. Requa was director of the oil division of the United States fuel administration and the "motorless week-ends" he established are still remembered.

More Prominent Russians May Be Put on Trial

DICTATOR STALIN hasn't yet cleaned up the Russian Communist party to his own satisfaction, and it seems probable that more men once prominent among the bolsheviks will go to trial as traitors. Foremost among these unfortunates are Alexis Rykov, former president of the council of people's commissars, or premier, and Nikolai Bukharin, former editor of the government organ Izvestia.



Alexis Rykov

These two were expelled from the Communist party the other day on charges of anti-party activity, and it is believed in Moscow they and a score of others will soon be tried for conspiring to overthrow the Stalin regime.

For ten years Rykov was premier of the soviet union, and before that, during the civil war, he had the job of provisioning the Red army. Though succeeding to Lenin's position, he did not have his power, for Stalin reserved that for himself.

Conference on Sources of Raw Materials Opens

FIFTEEN nations were represented in the conference on the distribution of the sources of raw materials which opened in Geneva under the sponsorship of the League of Nations. The United States had a delegate, Henry F. Grady, and there was one present from Japan. But Germany was not represented and neither was Italy, both of which nations are demanding room to expand and new sources of raw materials. Brazil, which like America and Japan is outside the league, participated.

A League of Nations communique pointed out both Germany and Italy are in need of many essential materials including coal, petroleum, iron, copper, lead, zinc, tin, aluminum, nickel, sulphur, rubber, cotton, wool, silk, and other commodities.

Authoritative sources believed Germany's boycott of the conference was due to fear the committee might declare she could obtain raw materials without regaining the war lost colonies Hitler is demanding.

War Department Buys Six Autogyros for Army

OUR War department has finally decided that the autogyro is a good thing—long after European nations reached the same conclusion. Secretary Woodring announced that six autogyros had been purchased for military purposes at a cost of \$238,482. They are the Kellett KDL wingless planes, which have a top speed of 125 miles, a minimum of 16 miles, a cruising speed of 103 miles, and a cruising range of 3½ hours, or 361 miles. The plane is powered with a Jacobs I-4 engine, which develops 225 b. h. p. at 2,000 r. p. m.

The army air command for years resisted suggestions for tests of the autogyro but for the last year it has been tried out by all branches of the

army and the report was that it was essential to the modernization of the army.

Roosevelt Urges His Court Packing Plan

GUESTS at "victory dinners" all over the country heard President Roosevelt deliver at the feast in Washington a preliminary appeal to his party and the nation to support his plan to pack the Supreme court. He said that a crisis exists demanding immediate social and economic legislation to improve the lot of the common man and that there is no time to lose, lest a great calamity, such as a revolution or the advent of a dictatorship, be visited upon the country in the two or three years that might be necessary to remove the obstruction of the New Deal in the manner prescribed by existing law.

Incidentally, Mr. Roosevelt let his hearers understand that he has no intention of seeking a third term in the White House.

Opponents of the President's judiciary program, especially those of his own party, were stirred to anger by his speech, denouncing it as an example of pharisaic demagoguery. Senator Edward R. Burke of Nebraska led the Democratic assault on the President's address with a radio speech in which he spoke with bitterness of "loose, misleading, unfounded and exaggerated tirades against the Supreme court."

Row Over La Guardia's Insult to Hitler

THERE is war on between Mayor Fiorella H. La Guardia of New York and Reichsfuehrer Hitler of Germany. The mayor, addressing a gathering of Jewish women, proposed that a "Hall of Horrors" be erected for the city's 1939 world fair which would include a figure of "that brown-shirted fanatic who is menacing the peace of the world." Hitler himself made no retort but Ambassador Luther was directed to protest to the State department. The Berlin press raged against La Guardia, one of the mildest names applied to him being "scoundrel super-Jew."

Secretary of State Hull expressed to the German embassy his regret that an American official should use language reflecting on the head of a friendly nation, but called attention to the right of free speech in this country. This didn't satisfy the German newspapers and the attack on La Guardia was renewed. In New York the mayor was praised by the Jews and criticized by citizens of German blood.

British Rearmament Plan Approved by Commons

AFTER a lively debate the house of commons indorsed Great Britain's huge rearmament program by a vote of 243 to 134. Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, who outlined the principles of the British foreign policy, repudiated the policy of universal military commitments for Europe as "unworkable" with Germany and other powers absent from the League of Nations.

Next day the navy announced that its share of the rearmament program would cost \$525,325,000, this including the construction of 80 warships. Sir Samuel Hoare, first lord of the admiralty, said only \$135,000,000 of the cost will be borne by Britain's new \$2,000,000,000 defense loan, forcing the nation's tax payers to dip into their pockets for the additional \$390,325,000.

Supreme Court Decision Renews Inflation Talk

BUSINESS men and economists again were talking about the prospects of inflation after the decision of the Supreme court upholding the New Deal's gold clause abrogation act for the second time. The ruling was made in the case of the Holyoke Water company, which,

moved by a desire to protect itself against loss in the event that the dollar should be debased, had written into leases to the American Writing Paper company clauses giving it the privilege of demanding from the latter payment in gold coin or bar gold. Now the Holyoke company must be content to accept payment in present depreciated dollars.

The court's decision was regarded as removing the last barrier to the free exercise of authority over monetary matters by the administration.

President Contemplates Another Fishing Trip

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT told the press correspondents that he was planning another fishing trip and hoped to get away late in April. This time he is going after tarpon in the Gulf of Mexico, and he intends to go to New Orleans and there board the Presidential yacht Potomac for a cruise along the Texas coast.

"Freedom of the Seas" Is Abandoned by Senate

"FREEDOM of the seas" as an American policy was abandoned by the senate when it passed, by a vote of 62 to 6, the resolution submitted by Senator Key Pittman on behalf of the foreign affairs committee continuing the President's present power to declare an embargo upon the shipment of arms, ammunition and implements of war to belligerent nations.



Sen. Pittman

The measure also provides that the President may declare it unlawful for any American vessel or aircraft to carry to warring nations any articles whatsoever he may enumerate. However, foreign nations may purchase such articles, arms and munitions not included, and transport them to their own countries at their own risk. And the act will not apply to an American republic, such as a South American country, engaged in war against a non-American country provided that the American republic is not co-operating with a non-American state in such a war.

Senators Borah and Johnson fought valiantly against adoption of the resolution but when it came to a vote only four others supported them. These were Austin, Bridges, Gerry and Lodge.

How Controls of NRA Type Can Be Re-established

HOW the minimum wage and maximum hour provisions of the outlawed NRA can be re-established was pointed out to congress in a report from the President's committee on industrial analysis.

"In my opinion," the President said of the report in a special message, "it will point the way to the solution of many vexing problems of legislation and administration in one of the most vital subjects of national concern."

"If controls of the NRA type are to be tried again," the report said, "experience indicates that the attempt should be limited to a few of the more important industries in order that proper standards of investigation and adequate supervision may be maintained, and should be guided from the start by more definite principles and policies, such as NRA experience indicates would be likely to stand the test of application."

"Under the type of policy finally adopted by NRA, if strongly adhered to, there is little chance that codes would be proposed in such large numbers as to create serious difficulties, but even that chance might be guarded against."