

# Review of the History-Making Events of the World

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

© Western Newspaper Union.

## Court Bill Hearings Continued to April 28

HEARINGS on the President's Supreme court enlargement bill will be continued until April 28, and the last two days will be devoted to testimony by supporters of the measure. Then the senate judiciary committee will go into executive session and debate the bill at length. The hearings were suspended Monday afternoon, April 19, but the senators scornfully denied that the opening of the baseball season had anything to do with this.



Smith W. Brookhart

One witness heard in support of the bill was Smith Wildman Brookhart, radical former senator from Iowa. He said the President's proposal was an issue in the campaign because the opposition declared what he would do to the Supreme court.

"It was specifically made an issue in the campaign," said Mr. Brookhart. "The President himself did not so urge it because he probably had not fully made up his mind, but former Senator James A. Reed, the ablest, most brilliant and most forceful opponent the President had in the whole campaign, did present in detail the President's plan upon accurate information. He dared the President to deny his statement.

"There was no denial because Senator Reed was telling the truth and the President was content to submit the issue upon the violent arguments against it alone."

Judge William Denman of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals at San Francisco, an appointee of President Roosevelt, argued against Chief Justice Hughes' contention that a Supreme court working in two or more separate panels would be unconstitutional.

## Army's Huge Bombing Plane Is Given Test Flights

TEST flights by the army air corps' new big bombing plane were being made at Seattle, Wash., where it was built by the Boeing Aircraft company. This machine is the largest military airplane in the world, with an all metal fuselage 100 feet long, a wingspread of 105 feet, and a cruising range of 6,000 miles. It weighs about 40,000 pounds unloaded and 75,000 pounds when carrying a full complement of fuel and armament. It has four twin row engines of a new type which will deliver 1,400 horse power each for takeoff. The speed is about 250 miles an hour. There are five streamlined blisters on the new machine which are emplacements for small, quick firing cannon, instead of machine guns. These cannon will outshoot any guns mounted on any other military airplane in the world and make the great machine virtually impregnable.

## Auto Strikers Lose \$65,000,000 in Pay

IN THE last five months strikes in the automotive industry have cost the workers between \$65,000,000 and \$70,000,000 in wages. And still, at the behest of John L. Lewis and his C. I. O., they are planning further strikes. What they gain, beyond recognition of their union which probably could be obtained by negotiation wherever it is deserved, is problematical. The figures are from Ward's Reports, Inc., which says of losses to companies affected that the net volume of business "delayed" by the strike would approximate \$200,000,000, but what proportion of this actually is lost cannot be calculated.

"Let me tell Lewis here and now that he and his gang will never get their greedy paws on Ontario as long as I'm prime minister," said Premier Hepburn.

He thereupon let it be known that he was prepared to push through legislation that would exclude the C. I. O. from Ontario if this becomes necessary to save the pulpwood and mining industries from C. I. O. control.

General Motors of Canada offered the strikers at Oshawa various concessions but not recognition of the union. Hugh Thompson, U. A. W. A. organizer, advised that the offer be accepted, but the strikers rejected it as insufficient.

The executive board of the union at a meeting in Washington decided to postpone until November the drive to unionize the Ford company plants.

Hepburn forced two of his ministers to resign, charging they were not supporting the government in its fight "against the inroads of the Lewis organization and communism in general." They are David A. Croll, who held the labor, municipal affairs and public welfare portfolios, and Attorney General Arthur W. Roebuck. Axel Hall, young mayor of Oshawa, who has been friendly to the strikers and critical of Hepburn's action, sent an "ultimatum" to President Martin of the Automobile Workers of America demanding that members of the union in the United States strike in support of the Oshawa local. The latter body adopted a resolution demanding that Premier Hepburn withdraw from the negotiations to make way for intervention by the dominion authorities.

In Montreal 5,508 women garment workers, members of the C. I. O. international union, employed in 72 plants, started a strike for higher wages; and in Fernie, B. C., 1,000 C. I. O. miners threatened to strike for union recognition.

## International Patrol of Spain's Coasts Begins

PATROL of the coasts and borders of Spain by the navies and land observers of Great Britain, France, Italy and Germany, as arranged some time ago by the international non-intervention committee, is now in effect.

Under the command of British Vice Admiral Geoffrey Blake, aboard the battle cruiser Hood, the British fleet patrols the northern coast on the bay of Biscay. Germany patrols the southwestern coast while France guards Spanish Morocco and the Balearic islands and Italy the eastern Mediterranean coast.

Merchant vessels of the committee's 27 members entering Spanish territorial waters must first call at specified ports and take aboard non-intervention committee supervisors who will have the right to examine the cargo, inspect ships' papers and question passengers. After their vessel leaves Spanish waters the supervisors will be disembarked at some convenient port.

The patrolling warships also have been empowered to halt and examine the papers of any ship coming from a country not a participant in the scheme, such as the United States.

Neither land nor sea observers have the authority to turn back volunteers or shipments of ammunitions. Their functions are limited to observation.

## Americans Want to Fill Soviet Warship Order

SOVIET RUSSIA, which recently was said to have asked American help in building a navy that would check Japanese ambitions, wants to buy a "knocked down" battleship in the United States, and two manufacturers are trying to adjust the specifications so that they can fill the order with the consent of the State department. The munitions control office in Washington at first ruled that a license should be issued unless military secrets were involved, but the State department objected because the proposals called for 16-inch guns to

be manufactured in this country, and because the Soviet government specified that the guns and armor plate be inspected by the United States navy.

Officials of the two American companies, it was reported, believed it might be possible to meet State department objections by changes in the specifications, possibly providing for 14-inch instead of 16-inch guns.

## Baseball Season Opened; President Tosses Ball

BOTH the National and American baseball leagues opened their seasons, and the small boy and the tired business man are happy. President Roosevelt, conforming to custom, "did his stuff" by tossing a new ball into the field at the national capital where the Washington and Philadelphia teams started the American league games. Vice President Garner hoisted the flag in center field, and a great crowd of congressmen and government and social leaders was present.

The National league season was opened in Boston by the Boston Bees and the Philadelphia team.

## South Is Angered by Anti-Lynching Act

SOUTHERN congressmen found they were no longer in the saddle when the house by a vote of 276 to 119 passed the anti-lynching bill. The debate was furious and the representatives from the South were deeply resentful.

The bill was sponsored by Representative Joseph Gavagan of New York whose district includes the big negro city of Harlem. It provides that any state officer who surrenders a prisoner to a mob shall be guilty of a felony and subject to prosecution and severe penalties. In addition, the county in which a lynching occurs shall be liable for \$2,000 to \$10,000 damages, to be paid to the family of the lynched person.

Proponents of the measure were greatly aided by a mob in Mississippi that took two negroes from a sheriff and tortured and burned them to death. The local authorities were supine and called the shocking affair a "closed incident."

## Luther Assails Critics of German Nazis

DR. HANS LUTHER, German ambassador to the United States who is about to retire, gave his annual bock beer party, and surprised his guests, several hundred congressmen and correspondents, by assailing Americans who criticize the Nazi regime in Germany.

"You must accept Germany as she is," he said. "You may not like some of the things about her, but you must recognize her as a strong and unified country under the leadership of a man who has the courage and the wisdom to lift it out of a grave emergency."

"My chief aim during the four years I have spent in the United States has been to give your people a better understanding of mine, their homes, and their ambitions. But recently I have been made melancholy by suggestions I have read and heard of political disunion in my fatherland."

"Nothing can be farther from the truth. Germany today is a nation actuated by a single purpose, which is to recover from the fetters placed upon her by the treaty of Versailles. Germany wants to live in friendliness and amity with other nations of the world. But such a peace must be constructive peace if we are to achieve the friendly cooperation among nations which you seem so much to desire here."

Over in Germany the anti-Jewish crusade seemed to be growing more intense. The latest instance reported is the dismissal of Leo Blech, a

Jew, who has been conductor of the Berlin State Opera house since 1906 when he was appointed by Kaiser Wilhelm II. Hermann Goering, Prussian premier and reich minister of aviation, has been a strong supporter of this accomplished artist, but pressure from the anti-Semites grew too powerful and Blech was ousted.

## Wagner Act Validation and Supreme Court Measure

HOW does the upholding of the Wagner labor relations act affect the battle over the President's plan to enlarge the Supreme court? That question arose at once on announcement of the decisions and received various answers. Opponents of the President's bill declared the necessity for such a measure, if it ever existed, was entirely removed by this showing of liberal tendencies by a majority of the court; and many supporters of Mr. Roosevelt admitted that some compromise such as the appointment of two new justices instead of six, might be advisable. But the President himself let it be known that he wished his program pushed through without modification. The favorable majority of one, created by the shift of Justice Roberts, did not seem to him safe enough.

This position of the President was taken also by some of his cabinet members. Secretary of Agriculture Wallace declared that agriculture could expect nothing from the Supreme court as now constituted, and urged American farmers to give the Roosevelt plan their earnest support.

Attorney General Cummings declared that the four justices who dissented from the court's decision that the Wagner act is constitutional still constitute a "battalion of death" and will continue to oppose all major New Deal social legislation.

John L. Lewis, head of the C. I. O., asserted the Supreme court had demonstrated its "instability" anew and that the Wagner act decisions only made more imperative the need for enlarging the court.

Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois, whip of the senate, predicted that the President's court plan would emerge from the judiciary committee "a much compromised, amended and generally transformed measure."

## President Tells Envoys of American Republics

DIPLOMATIC representatives of 20 Latin American republics gathered in the Pan-American union building in celebration of Pan-American day and listened to an address by President Roosevelt. This was formal and was broadcast to all the republics, but it was followed by an "off the record" talk which the reporters were not permitted to hear. It was said the President sought to convince the diplomats of the good faith of the United States in its foreign policies, and that, reviewing the promises made by his administration in this respect, he declared them 100 per cent fulfilled.

## President Tells Officials to Curtail Expenditures

CHIEFS of executive departments, independent officers and other spending units of the government were called on by President Roosevelt to reduce expenditures up to the end of the fiscal year June 30. In his letter to them the President said:

"It is apparent at this time that the revenues of the government for the present year will be materially less than the amount estimated in my budget message of last January; and, hence, the deficit will be far greater than was anticipated unless there is an immediate curtailment of expenditure.

"You will carefully examine the status of appropriations for your activity with a view to making a substantial saving by eliminating or de-

ferring all expenditures which are not absolutely necessary at this time.

"You will report to me through the acting director of the budget not later than May 1, 1937, the steps which you are undertaking to reduce expenditures and the amount of the estimated saving resulting therefrom."

## Mrs. Harriman Nominated Minister to Norway

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT sent to the senate the nomination of Mrs. Florence Jaffray Harriman of Washington as minister to Norway. She is the widow of J. Borden Harriman, New York banker, and has been active in politics for a number of years. Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, Jr., who now holds the Norway post, was nominated to be ambassador to Poland.

## Government Must Formulate New Labor Policy

VALIDATION of the Wagner act brought the administration up against the necessity of formulating a new national labor policy to prevent strikes and to determine what course shall be followed when collective bargaining is unsuccessful. For this purpose Secretary of Labor Perkins invited 33 leaders of industry and labor to attend private meetings in Washington, stating they would be asked to discuss the need



of new safeguards for industry to balance the gains achieved by labor under the Wagner act. Among those Madame Perkins invited were William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; John L. Lewis, chairman of the Committee for Industrial Organization; Myron C. Taylor, board chairman of United States Steel corporation; Gerard Swope, board chairman of General Electric corporation; Harper Sibley, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, and government officials.

Certain of the President's advisers have told him a law requiring the incorporation of labor unions should be passed; or that at least there should be a law similar to the British trades union act which provides that all union funds must be accounted for to the government and that unions cannot participate in sympathy or general strikes.

Organized labor always has opposed any such legislation and probably would continue to fight against it.

John L. Lewis thinks one result of the Wagner act decisions may be the abandonment of the sit-down strike, though this, he says, depends on the attitude taken by employers in the operation of the act. "Under the court's decision," says Lewis, "workers now have machinery for adjudication of disputes and the making of contracts with employers. Everything depends on the attitude of employers, who showed no disposition to be generous although the right of labor to gather together for its protection had been conceded for a lifetime."

## Our Coronation Envoys to Wear Knee Breeches

WHEN George VI is crowned king of Great Britain on May 12, Robert Worth Bingham, our ambassador to London, and James W. Gerard, President Roosevelt's special ambassador to the coronation, will appear in Westminster abbey garbed in silk knee breeches and ordinary evening tailed dress coats. The State department in Washington consented to a modification of the ruling which bars American diplomats from wearing gala clothes at state functions. The costume decided upon is not full court dress but the duke of Norfolk, who is earl marshal, will let it go as such.