

News Review of Current Events the World Over

President Asks for Nationalization of Gold Supply—Not Yet Ready to Fix Exact Value of Gold—Cuban Presidency Goes to Carlos Hevia.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT sent to congress his long-awaited message on monetary matters, and it should be in a measure reassuring to business and finance. He asked that the gold supply of the country be nationalized and that his powers be redefined to enable periodic revaluation of the dollar within a range of 50 to 60 per cent of the present gold content. He already had the power to devalue the dollar down to 50 per cent, but he does not do so yet, saying that "because of world uncertainties, I do not believe it desirable in the public interest that an exact value be now fixed." He added that careful study had led him to the conclusion that any revaluation at more than 60 per cent would not be in the public interest.

The President asked full power to take over the last outstanding supplies of gold in the country, much of which belongs to the federal reserve banks. The legislation he requested, he explained, "places the right, title and ownership of our gold reserves in the government itself; it makes clear the government's ownership of any added dollar value of the country's stock of gold which would result from any decrease of the gold content of the dollar which may be made in the public interest."

The profit that may result from cutting the gold content, the President proposed should be used to set up a two-billion-dollar fund for purchases and sales of gold, foreign exchange and government securities.

No further recommendations concerning silver were made in the message, the President saying he believed "we should gain more knowledge of the results of the London agreement and of our other monetary measures."

In talking with the correspondents, Mr. Roosevelt explained once more that the objective of his monetary program is to bring the purchasing power of the dollar back to the level at which the average debts of the country were incurred, so that these debts may be paid off with a dollar equal in value to that at which the debt was incurred. He made it clear that his program does not call for a resort to green-back currency.

Immediately after the reading of the President's message, Senator Duncan U. Fletcher of Florida, chairman of the senate banking and currency committee, introduced the administration's bill to effect the monetary changes proposed. He called his committee together the next day to consider it, and Secretary Morgenthau was the first to be heard in argument for the legislation asked.

Only two Democratic senators came out in the open promptly in opposition to the President's program. Carter Glass of Virginia and Thomas P. Gore of Oklahoma. Both declared that the appropriation of the reserve banks' gold was unlawful and immoral. Most of the Republicans were cautious in their expressions of opinion.

Secretary Morgenthau made a final attempt to get into the treasury all remaining private gold holdings. By his order all persons who did not turn in their gold by midnight January 17 are liable to have it confiscated and to being fined double the amount of their holdings.

RAMON GRAU SAN MARTIN finally yielded to the force of circumstances and resigned as president of Cuba. His decision to quit was made at a closed meeting of government leaders, who thereupon undertook to select a man to fill the office temporarily. Antonio Guiteras, secretary of the interior and of war, wanted the job, but he was shut out of the meeting. A newspaper quoted him as saying the navy would fight if an agreement was reached unsatisfactory to him and his followers. The leaders of the various cliques were debating whether to pick Carlos Mendieta, who was supported by Col. Fulgencio Batista, commander of the army, or Carlos Hevia, the young secretary of agriculture.

The choice finally fell on Hevia, whom Colonel Batista consented to tolerate, and the thirty-three-year-old statesman, after several hours of hesitation, announced: "I am the president." There was a lot of rioting in Havana and at the nearby Camp Columbia and at least three men were killed.

PRACTICALLY without opposition, a measure was put through the house and senate extending the life of the Reconstruction Finance corporation for another year and providing it with \$850,000,000 of new capital. There was little debate, and in the house only Louis T. McFadden of Pennsylvania voted against the bill.

PUTTING to the test his influence over the senate President Roosevelt in a special message to that body asked speedy consideration and ratification of the St. Lawrence waterway treaty with Canada. The opponents of the pact had been waiting for the chance to start the battle, and they were so numerous and so determined that no one would predict the outcome. Ratification requires a two-thirds vote, or 64 of the 96 senators.

Coincidental with the reception of the President's message was the submission of a minority report by Senator Wagner of New York as a member of the foreign relations committee, in which Mr. Wagner argued vigorously against ratification of the treaty. He declared the cost of the waterway to the United States would be \$573,135,000 instead of the \$272,453,000 estimated by the proponents of the pact; and he asserted the United States would spend three times as much as Canada, though the Dominion would receive a "vast preponderance" of the benefits. The senator added:

"Most important of all, I am not in favor of a public works project designed to employ Canadian workmen with United States money. The treaty provides that although the United States is to supply the funds for most of the work in the International rapids section of the St. Lawrence river, the portion of this work on the Canadian side of the section is to be performed with Canadian workmen using Canadian materials."

The President's message to the senate gave his opinion that the treaty was fair, that the waterway project was economically sound. He declared that "local fears of economic harm to special localities or to special interests are grossly exaggerated." He attempted to dispose of opposition from Illinois and Mississippi valley senators by declaring that the treaty provision on the diversion at Chicago was adequate to guarantee a sufficient volume of water.

The opposition of Chicago and the Mississippi valley to the treaty was voiced especially by Senators James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois and Bennett Champ Clark of Missouri.

GERMANY'S great church quarrel goes on unabated and the Evangelical pastors are still determined that their religion shall not be nazified. Reichsbishop Ludwig Mueller, who is a confidant of Chancellor Hitler, issued a decree forbidding pastors to criticize the Nazi Protestant church administration from the pulpits under pain of dismissal from the church. But the rebellious ones, organized as the Pastors' Emergency league, defied Doctor Mueller and for the second time read to their congregations a manifesto demanding his resignation. It was up to the councils of the churches to enforce the reichsbishop's decree, but several of the councils declared openly they would not do so.

Bishop Mueller showed some inclination to recede from his position, but the militant Nazi German Christian pastors brought great pressure to bear, telling him they would support him only so long as he stuck by his decrees. The bishop also seeks to annul all church laws passed in 1933 so he can proclaim new ones.

FRANCE was cast into gloom by a major aviation disaster. The giant tri-motor plane, Emerald, returning from a flight to Saigon, Indo-China, crashed in flames and exploded between Lyons and Paris and its ten occupants perished. Among the victims were Pierre Pasquier, governor general of Indo-China; Emmanuel Chaumie, government director of civil aviation, and Mme. Chaumie, and three other high aviation officials. The Emerald represented the latest in planes of this

sort. Christened last June, it was the intended prototype of a whole fleet of heavy transport planes.

ITALO BALBO, the bearded Italian air marshal who commanded the great mass flight from Italy to Chicago and back last summer and thereby became too popular to suit Premier Mussolini, has made his peace with the Duce and has assumed his new duties as the governor of Libya in north Africa. He crossed the Mediterranean in state on the new cruiser Alberto di Giussano with another cruiser in escort, and when he landed was received by all the Italian officials in the colony and a colorful gathering of the native troops.

Balbo, who is just thirty-seven years old, replaces Marshal Pietro Badoglio as Libyan governor. While a new line of activity, it will be a job with an opening for him, for Mussolini wants to make Africa in time an outlet for Italian emigration and that same grandeur which it was during the days of imperial Rome.

JUSTICE CHARLES GARROW of Toronto refused to upset the judgment of Justice A. C. Kingston ordering that Martin J. Insull be detained for extradition from Canada to the United States for trial in connection with the collapse of the Insull public utilities empire. The fugitive Chicagoan took an appeal and was released on \$20,000 bail.

It was believed that Samuel Insull, who must leave Greece by January 31, would try to go to Turkey. But now the Turkish minister of the interior has instructed the police department not to permit Sam to enter that country.

PUERTO RICO has a new governor who may please the islanders better than did Robert H. Gore. He is Gen. Blanton Winship, former judge advocate general of the army, and a man of experience in insular affairs. He served in Cuba and the Philippines as an advisor to the highest American officials in those parts. Also he was a military aide to President Coolidge. His home town is Macon, Ga. Mr. Gore, whose administration was bitterly and constantly attacked by island politicians, resigned, stating his reason was ill health.

President Roosevelt also selected a new chief of the weather bureau in Washington in the person of Willis G. Gregg. He succeeds Dr. Charles F. Marvin.

CAMILLE CHAUTEPS, fighting desperately to save his French government after the great Bayonne pawnshop scandal, promised the chamber of deputies to clean up that affair, and thereupon was given a vote of confidence, 360 against 229. The vote came on the government's opposition to the creation of a parliamentary commission to investigate the collapse of the Bayonne Institution, the death of its founder, Serge (Handsome Alex) Stavisky, and the part several deputies have accused high officials of taking in the affair. The premier insisted that such a commission would not get to the bottom of the charges.

The premier promised to investigate the affair personally and to spare no names. During the heated debate he admitted there had been looseness and poor functioning of various services, but denied the charges of governmental and police corruption. The opposition deputies were furious and there were open declarations that the country faced a dictatorship. Chauteps replied vigorously and made the assertion that a coup had been prepared several days previously to put the government in the hands of a few "energetic" men to act as a directory.

Meanwhile the royalists and young men sympathizing with them, ever ready to take advantage of circumstances, were rioting in the streets and battling the police in the effort to gain entrance to the chamber. Excitable correspondents sent cables indicating that the republic was about to fall, but heavy rains put a stop to the demonstrations, for even French monarchists don't like to get wet.

CHINESE Nationalist forces after severe fighting captured Foochow, the headquarters of the rebels in Fukien province, and it was reported that negotiations were proceeding to settle the dispute between the Nanking government and the leaders of the rebel movement. There was great disorder in Foochow, for all the officers of the Nineteenth route army except its commander, Gen. Tsing Ting-kai, had fled and the leaderless soldiers were running wild. On the request of Vice Consul Gordon Burke, an American naval party was ordered ashore from the gunboat Tulsa to protect 144 Americans in the city.

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MENDIETA IS MADE PRESIDENT OF CUBA

Grau Resigns, Hevia Rules Only One Day.

Havana, Cuba.—Ramon Grau San Martin resigned the presidency of Cuba under pressure, and after long and acrimonious discussion the leaders of the revolutionary junta agreed that his successor should be Carlos Hevia, who had been secretary of agriculture in Grau's cabinet. Hevia, who is a graduate of Annapolis Naval academy and only thirty-three years old, was sworn in before the Supreme court in a brief ceremony, but he lasted only one day.

Col. Fulgencio Batista, commander of the army, had consented reluctantly to support Hevia, and when an intensive campaign to oust the colonel was started and Hevia demanded his resignation, he immediately announced that Col. Carlos Mendieta should be president and ordered 3,000 troops from Santa Clara province to reinforce the 5,000 at Camp Columbia close to Havana. Yielding to the inevitable, Hevia resigned and Mendieta took his place.

It was reported that Jefferson Caffery, personal representative of President Roosevelt, promised the delegates of all revolutionary factions that the United States would recognize the Mendieta regime. Mendieta is a conservative and it was expected he would promptly revoke Grau San Martin's extreme measures and accord full protection to foreign-owned investments in the island. He and Batista, with the army back of them, appear to be in full control of the republic. Batista said Mendieta was "the only man capable of continuing the junta's revolutionary program without the extreme leftist measures which were responsible for the lack of recognition by the United States."

In a public statement Batista declared:

"I will not tolerate under any conditions the Communist and Socialist tactics of the Grau San Martin administration. With the help of my army I shall stop the prevailing anarchy, regardless of cost. I now realize that the Grau regime brought chaos to Cuba. The junta made a costly mistake when it established the Grau regime. I realize the mistake now and will rectify it."

The federation of labor still demanded the ousting of Batista from the army command and planned a general strike, but the colonel warned all government employees that unless they returned to their work they would lose their jobs and all departments would be taken over by the military.

WASHINGTON BRIEFS

The Federal Surplus Relief corporation announced that 5,800,000 pounds of butter for distribution to needy unemployed persons had been purchased.

The United States lifted its liquor import bars a little higher to allow the entry of about 1,000,000 more alcoholic gallons from France, Portugal and Ireland within the next month or so.

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau has ruled that hereafter lawyers, accountants or other professional advisers who assist in the preparation of income-tax returns must sign the return along with the taxpayer.

Inventories of all distilled spirits, including alcohol, rectified spirits, wines, and cordials, was ordered, as of January 12, in telegrams to collectors of internal revenue sent out by Commissioner Guy T. Helvering.

Woman, 60, Kills Self by Firing Her Clothing

Bloomington, Pa.—Her body a flaming torch, Mrs. Wellington M. Moore, sixty, of Bloomington, perished in her home. Members of her family said she caused her own death. Despondent for some months because of severe headaches, Mrs. Moore went to the cellar, removed outer clothing and piled it near the furnace, poured kerosene over herself and applied a match.

Shot to Death in Answering Telephone

Kansas City, Mo.—J. M. Stubblefield was called to the telephone while attending a meeting of the Carpenter unions' district council. As he picked up the receiver some one shot him in the back by firing through an open window. He died at a hospital.

Two Beheaded for Killing Nazi Trooper

Dessau, Germany.—Two men were beheaded for the slaying of a Nazi storm trooper in the province of Anhalt. They were the first to be beheaded here since 1886.

More or Less Joyous School Days Recalled

Did you ever glance through an old school book, particularly a reader, and note the pencillings of more or less happy school days? On the fly leaves will be found such sentimental doggerel as "roses are red, violets are blue, sugar is sweet and so are you"; "sure as the vine grows 'round the stump, you're my little sugar lump," and others. But speaking of sentiment, do you remember the canceling of names—yours and that of a childhood sweetheart? You will recall the letters appearing in both names were stricken out. Those remaining were named in rotation, "love, hate, friendship, marriage," and repeated. The last letter was supposed to forecast the windup of that particular love affair. Some of the pupils spent idle moments blacking all the o's in the printed page. Others, myself included, specialized in adding fierce mustaches to Daniel Webster and other smooth-faced men of fame whose pictures appeared. Another very popular stunt was to write in the front of the book: "If my name you want to see, look on Page 203." Turning to the indicated page, however, you were told to look elsewhere and then began a chase that probably ended with a saucy remark instead of the promised name. Oh, the good old days! Oh, to read again of the princess who was black and blue from three peas under fourteen mattresses. Or of the third and last wish that had to be wasted in getting rid of those sausages that clung to the old man's nose "and what was more, they could not be pulled off!"—"Pioneer," in the Indianapolis News.

Political Method

"Why did you go to so much pains to tell that caller you were giving him information that was absolutely confidential?" asked the political aide. "You are quite aware that he carries it to the other camp."

"It was something I wanted him to remember," said Senator Sorghum, "so that, for purposes of my own, it could be communicated more impressively and inspire greater credulity."

LIFE LONG "FRIEND" Keeps Them Fit at 70

This safe, all-vegetable laxative—NR—has been as dependable as a family doctor during their trying "after forty" years. NR keeps them regular—year after year faithfully—with never any need to increase the dose. No wonder their "evening of life" is so free from complaints. Millions of people welcome the aid of this reliable corrective. For Nature's Remedy strengthens and regulates the entire eliminatory tract, safely carries away the poisons that bring on headaches, colds, biliousness. Get a 25c box. All druggists.

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NO INDEED! All flours are NOT alike. TRY... CADICK'S GOLD DUST (Plain) ITS WHITE CADICK MILLING CO., GRANDVIEW, ILL.

Coughed Day and Night

Mrs. M. Pierce of 318 S. Bay St., Gainesville, Fla., said: "A few years ago I was very sick. At times I could hardly breathe, and I coughed day and night. I was not able to sleep and felt all played out. I started taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I stopped coughing, slept better and felt stronger. When I had taken three bottles the trouble all cleared up." New size, tablets 50 cts., liquid \$1.00. Large size, tabs. or liq. \$1.35. "We Do Our Part."

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PARKER'S HAIR BALM. Famous Dandruff Stopper. Relieves Itching Scalp and Promotes Growth and Falling Hair. Get It at all Druggists. FLORESTON SHAMPOO—Ideal for use in connection with Parker's Hair Balm. Makes the hair soft, cool and fluffy. 50 cents by mail or at drug stores. Elmore Chemical Works, Patchogue, N.Y.