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With confidence in our armed forces—with the unbounding determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable triumph—so help us God.

Roosevelt's War Message.

MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1945.

TOP OF THE MORNING

Waiting, watching eagerly
For little letters post-marked "Free"
That flutter in like falling leaves
On winds borne home from over seas.
Often so short—just a line to say:
"I'm well, and I think it will rain today!"
Or perhaps they will mention a town not far
From another town where they actually are.
Then back to the weather, a word about chow,
And likely as not, "That's all for right now!"
But we read and re-read them, thrilling to see
Each little letter post-marked "Free!"
From "Pillar to Post!"

The New Food Bill

The drastic changes in the food administration approved by the House of Representatives after a day of hectic debate, and particularly by the 356 to 12 vote by which they were authorized, culminates the national dissatisfaction with the Office of Price Administration and the bungling of the food program it has been guilty of since the office was set up. It is not known at this time that all the changes will be enforceable or benign, but neither have the practices of the OPA, and they certainly cannot be worse.

Although the OPA is given another year of life, it is shorn of its despotic authority, in which it has gone contrary to the nation's cherished democratic principles and throttled private enterprise, besides creating a general food shortage which, has imposed unnecessary burdens and unwarranted skimping on American households and encouraged the black market.

The bill as finally adopted includes Representative Andersen's provision that the Secretary of Agriculture's approval will be required on all government food orders; the Patman provision which lifts the oppressive restrictions on independent processors provided sanitary conditions at plants is satisfactory to the Secretary of Agriculture; the Dickson provision that individuals may sue out injunctions against OPA regulations and enjoy the right to appeal OPA orders in federal courts. It also provides for a profit margin for meat processors.

The chief complaint against the Office of Price Administration has been its dictatorial policies. The people have justly held that its authoritarian practices have been so closely allied with those of totalitarian states, notably Germany and Italy under the dictators, that the line of demarcation was imaginary; that while we were fighting to overthrow totalitarianism abroad we were being subjected to its evils at home. The bill approved by the House at least overcomes many of the practices most severely criticized.

As House and Senate are broadly in agreement on the principal provisions of the bill it is to be expected few readjustments will be made in conference.

No Politics, Please

A popular pastime in these first days of his return home is to suggest a job for General Eisenhower. To make him director general of the new world security league, as noted in these columns on Saturday, would be a fitting reward for his war services and in keeping with his talents. But all that is definitely known of his future is that he has been named head of the American occupation forces in Germany.

However, being of sound body and in his right mind, General Eisenhower has taken the political bull by the horns and squelched any incipient movement to boom him for President or any other political office. By making the announcement that he is not a candidate nor inclined to become one, he has saved himself a lot of trouble.

It will be remembered the embarrassment and annoyance imposed on General Pershing, after the former World War, by ardent admirers who started "Pershing for President" clubs all over the country, and more recently the movement to draft General MacArthur for republican candidate for the presidency while he was doing a tremendous job in the war against the Japanese.

It may be said that the friends of General Eisenhower can do him no greater service or show their friendship to better advantage than by refraining from activities in his case that embarrassed General Pershing and General MacArthur.

The New League

When World War I ended and the leading nations gathered around the peace table a League of Nations was born. Although it lingered on for years with waning strength, its death sentence was uttered at its encouchment. It has been claimed that failure of the United States to become a member of the League was the chief cause of its failure. This is true only to a limited extent. The principal reason was that the framers of the League Covenant looked upon the project as the first step toward Utopia. Counting on perpetual good will among the powers, the kind of teeth and jaws that could have made it an effective instrument for lasting peace were left out.

The League of Nations was a noble adventure in idealism, but because it ignored the human element it was predestined to what President Cleveland long ago described as "innocuous desuetude."

With the lessons learned from the ill-fated League before them, delegates attending the United Nations Security Conference now closing at San Francisco, after weeks of bickering and disagreements which at times threatened disruption, have produced a Constitution which provides not only a program for the maintenance of peace but for its enforcement as well.

It is not a particularly strong Constitution. Its faults are many, as any document produced by mortals gathered from the far corners of the world and holding diverse views, is bound to be. But in one particular it holds out hope that peace may be maintained, and that is an achievement well worth the time and controversy involved in its promulgation.

There is to be a continuously-functioning Security Council of eleven members whose "primary responsibility (is) for the maintenance of international peace and security." Any nation may appeal to the council for settlement of a dispute. This would be attempted first through peaceful methods. Then, if necessary, through diplomatic, economic or military pressure.

In sharp contrast with the League of Nations, which lacked courage to establish sanctions against Italy when Mussolini attacked Ethiopia, the settlement of future disagreements between nations is not to be confined to persuasion alone, or even to economic blockade. "Military pressure" is to be used, and not only among minor or non-member nations, but among the top members of the Security Council. If the Constitution is observed none of the great powers would dare to rattle the saber in another's face.

There is widespread belief that this time the United States Senate will ratify the Constitution, possibly not before President Truman's departure for the Big Three session at Potsdam, but ultimately, when the members have made their oratorical flourish. The American people, whose stewards the senators are, want their nation to be a party to the new organization. They have found the price of isolation too high. For this reason it is fair to think the Constitution will eventually receive their blessing.

Russia In The Pacific

General George C. Marshall, U. S. Chief of Staff, tells the House Appropriations Committee that the great imponderable of the moment in the Pacific is whether Russia will join the attack.

It is obvious that with Russia striking from the north and America, with her able Allies, pouring Japan's home islands and forces and industries in China and Manchukuo with ever increasing fire power, the war in the Orient can be brought to a successful termination much quicker than if the entire job is left to the combined naval, air and land forces of the United States and Britain.

In the interest of humanity and the saving of lives it is argued that Russia's help now would be militarily invaluable.

But suppose Russia decides to keep out? Japan will be defeated anyway, if Russia continues to immobilize the vast Japanese armies now in northern China and Manchukuo.

Tokyo dare not withdraw these armies to help in the defense of Japan and stave off defeat to the southward. Inevitably, if Tokyo should do so, the Russian armies in Siberia, well trained and fully equipped as they are, would move in to settle an old score against Japan and simply occupy the territory deserted by the Japanese.

It would mean a bloodless conquest of Japan's puppet state. In her present frame of mind, Japan is not liable to offer Manchukuo to the Russians on a platter, as it were.

Coast Guard Award

When the attack on Pearl Harbor was but thirteen days past, the Cape Fear division of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, composed of Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach volunteers was in action—the first unit in the entire Sixth N. V. District. Only recently it was placed on standby duty.

Between the time of its organization and the end of the Battle of the Atlantic the Auxiliary was on duty twenty-four hours a day, year in and year out, in all kinds of weather, patrolling the coast and inlets against the approach of enemy submarines, making rescues, and performing heroic service at beach fires.

Wilmington and Wrightsville business men gave freely of their time in the interest of security and area safety. Now the Auxiliary is to receive the Coast Guard Security Shield of Honor. The ceremony, to be held at the Hanson Lodge, in Brunswick county, on Tuesday evening, is a fitting climax to the Auxiliary's outstanding war service. Incidentally, Hanson Lodge is the country home of Louis L. Hanson, a charter member of the local

division and just before being transferred to Charleston as director of the Coast Guard Auxiliary in the Sixth Naval district was elected head of the Auxiliary here.

Captain M. J. Ryan of the Sixth district Coast Guard, is to make the award. The occasion is the sixth anniversary of the unit's organization.

Study And Planning

By ARTHUR KNOCK

WASHINGTON, — Congress is often represented as populated largely by handshaking politicians with only a superficial knowledge of the problems on which it must legislate. That was the attitude of the New Deal executive assistants during a large part of the previous Administration. On this concept they brought legislative drafts to the Capitol for which they asked passage without material change, and to get the necessary votes they were disposed to use patronage and other strictly political pressures as the arguments Congress could best comprehend.

There are members of Congress who fit this concept. But in far greater numbers are serious, hard-working men and women—quite capable of understanding these problems as executive officials—who have insisted on making original investigations. These legislators, overshadowed for many years of the last Administration, have been swiftly coming to the fore during more recent years; and now members of both House and Senate recognize that they, too, have experts on all the issues that confront government. The Republicans have organized study groups which have made suggestions that in some instances have bettered those produced by the Executive. Individual Representatives have gained recognition as authorities on such problems as China (Representative Judd), monetary policy (ex-Representative Dewey), intragovernmental procedure (Representative Kefauver), economy and efficiency (Senator Byrd), and there are many others.

An example of this intellectual emergency of Congress was provided today when Senators Hatch, Ball and Burton—one Democrat and two Republicans—brought forth a proposed labor policy for the Government, which has been extemporizing in this field for many years. And their preparation of the bill they introduced today is typical of the best tradition of planning.

They formed a volunteer committee of thirteen persons headed by Donald R. Richberg, himself an expert in labor relations and the author of numerous labor statutes, including the Railway Labor Act, which is the best product of its kind. His colleagues were also men of the same experience, and with the bill's sponsors they held many conferences until they had worked out the projected legislation. The task occupied many months and, for a miracle, was approached from the viewpoint of the public interest instead of those of labor and management specifically. Partisans of these groups will be given every opportunity to express their opinion of the bill. It is in striking contrast to the methods of preparation of the Wagner Act (which operates unilaterally and the compulsions of which are directed entirely to management) and of most of the other labor relations laws in recent times. It is also in contrast to the background of measures written in a spirit of vexation and reprisal such as the Smith-Connally law—the consequence of great provocations from labor and a labor-swayed Executive, but as full of faults as of remedies.

What moved these Senators to their careful study was a deep understanding of the post-war problem that is posed—of returning veterans, among others—by the unsettled industrial labor relations that now exist in the United States, and comprehension of the necessity to give these a sound foundation. The Senators and their committee examined the causes carefully and then set out to devise solutions. They did not achieve their goal of putting all the Federal labor agencies under one tent; they cannot by legislation weld at once the split in the ranks of organized labor which is the source of many strikes and other disputes; and CIO and AFL spokesmen will probably unite to oppose some of the soundest provisions in the Bill. But the three Senators have made an excellent beginning; they have applied the materials for an informed national debate from which great improvement could emerge, and they have demonstrated again that thinking and planning are not outside the capacities of Congress.

Labor and management were not asked to assist in the drafting of this legislation. But, as Senator Ball pointed out in his explanatory speech today, the convictions which animated the study and took form in the product were the result of many discussions with members of both groups. Employers told him that, unless the unilateral compulsions of the Wagner Act be fairly spread (an equitable adjustment which its author has never really tried to make), and unless there is clear Government policy, small business will find it too risky to attempt expansion in the reconversion period. And they might also have cited such Supreme Court decisions as in the Hutcheson case.

Spokesmen of labor told him of their fear that management may repeat its post-war effort after 1920 to destroy their unions and to amend or repeal existing laws, not to restore a fair balance between employer and employee but to remove merited and necessary protection, to labor that are furnished by these laws. There is some basis for the apprehensions. The answer is to eliminate them by legislating a labor policy based on equal justice for both groups but with the public interest paramount. That is the objective of this bill, and the sponsors have not lost sight of it in any section.

—New York Times

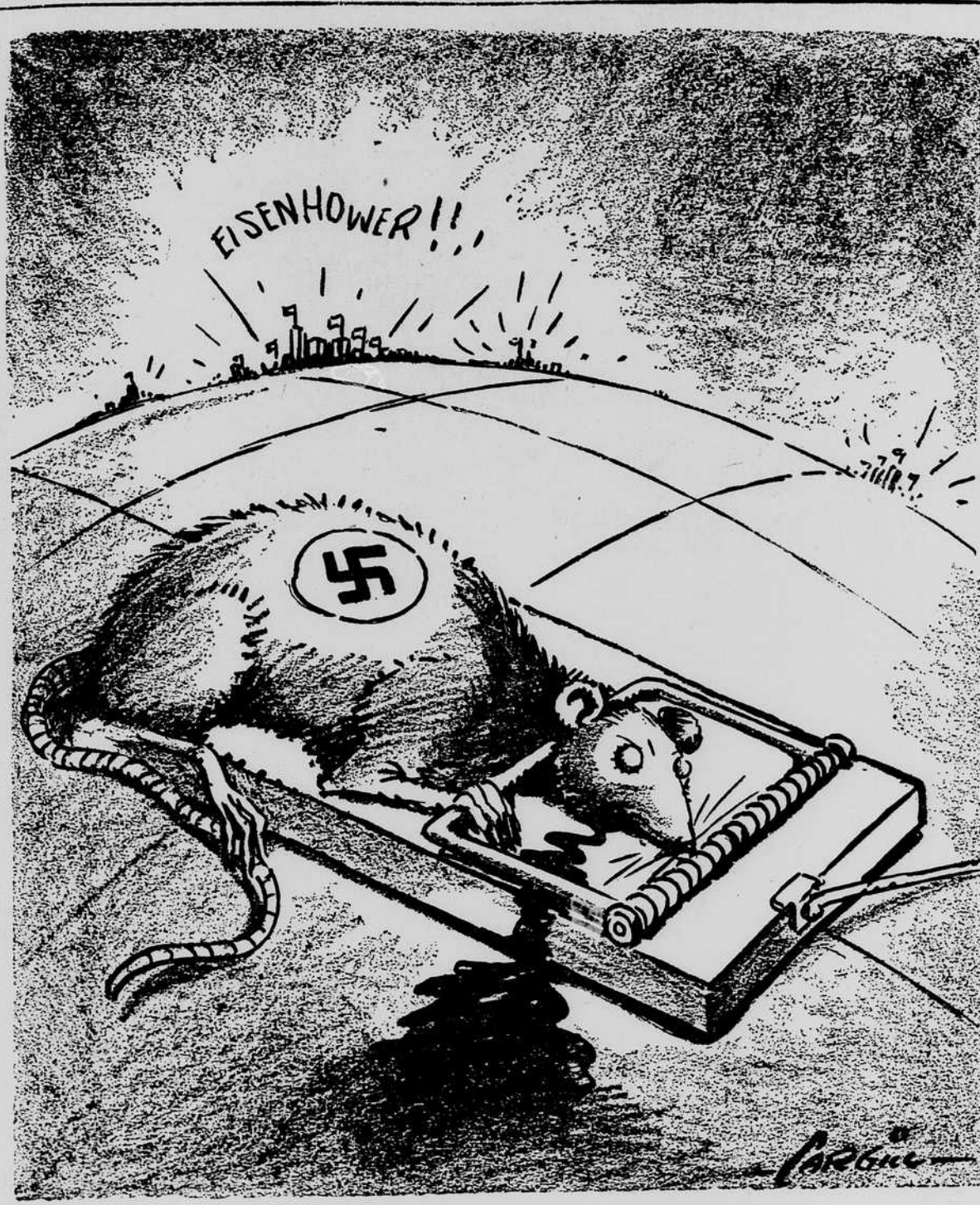
EDITORIAL COMMENT

AGAINST FEDERAL CONTROL

The most important question the people of America will soon be deciding will be whether to let government grow beyond their power to curb it, in return for alleged benefits. The decision surrounding proposed Federal control of medicine is a phase of the larger question. It is interesting to note what insurance commissioners think of compulsory medical care as contrasted to voluntary programs. G. L. Neel, Insurance Commissioner of Pennsylvania, declares: "The unquestioned preference for voluntary action, for the continuance of only those laws and regulations which permit of the use of individual initiative, is so strong among directors, superintendents and commissioners of insurance as to be unanimous." The worst danger is that the people will let government grow beyond their control before they fully recognize what is happening.

—Watertown (S. D.) Public Opinion.

"Better Rat Trap"



CIANO'S DIARY

Duce Desperately Tries Blackmail But Adolf Hitler Balks In Berlin

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Aug. 19—Sept. 3, 1939.

Mussolini made a last effort to blackmail the Germans for 17,000,000 tons of military supplies as the price for entering a war he knew he couldn't fight, it is disclosed in the diary of Count Ciano, his son-in-law, for the closing days of August, 1939.

For a time Il Duce aspired to the mantle of peacemaker, but he wore it poorly and cynically. As hostilities approached, he began to hope the war would be "long, hard and bloody" for everybody but the Italians. Ciano ran up bankrupt Italy's telephone bill with frantic long-distance calls.

Il Duce alternately was lion and lamb. His advisers were divided. One even suggested war would be popular with the Italian women because they would be rid of their husbands and draw six lira a day in addition.

Ciano went to Tirana, Albania, Aug. 19 and then to Valona, but an urgent telegram summoned him back to Rome Aug. 20. He wrote:

AUG. 20—"In my absence Il Duce has done an about-face. He wants to support Germany in the conflict, which is now close at hand. . . . Conference between Mussolini, Attolico (ambassador to Berlin), and myself. This is the substance: It is too late already to go back on the Germans. The press of the whole world would say that Italy is cowardly, that it had withdrawn in the face of the threat of war."

PLEADS WITH DUCE TO RENOUNCE ALLIANCE

AUG. 21—"Today I've spoken clearly. 'Duce, you must not do it. . . . At Salzburg I found myself face to face with an ultimatum. Not we, but the Germans have betrayed the alliance. . . . Tear up the pact. Throw it in Hitler's face and Europe will recognize in you the natural leader of the anti-German crusade. Do you want me to go to Salzburg? Very well, I shall go and shall speak to the Germans as they should be spoken to. Hitler will not make me put aside my cigarette as he did Schuschnigg (former Austrian premier)."

"He was very much impressed and approved my suggestion to ask Von Ribbentrop to come to the Brenner Pass. . . . We telephoned Von Ribbentrop, who was unavailable. Finally, at 5:30 p. m., I speak to him. He says that he cannot give me an answer because he is waiting for an important message from Moscow and will telephone me during the evening."

AUG. 22—"At 10:30 last night a scene occurred. Von Ribbentrop phoned that he would rather see me at Innsbruck than at the frontier because he was to leave later for Moscow, to sign a political agreement. . . . (The German-Russian non-aggression pact.) The Germans have struck a master blow. All Europe is upset. . . . We must wait and be ready ourselves to gain something in Croatia and Dalmatia. . . . The representatives of the democratic countries are inclined to underestimate the incident."

"He fears the Germans and wants to intervene at once. It is useless to struggle. . . . 2 p. m. I hear of a message from Hitler to Il Duce. . . . It is couched in abstract language but gives one to understand that the action will begin shortly. It asks for 'Italian understanding.'"

MUSSOLINI, CIANO ATTEMPT BLACKMAIL

"I use this phrase to persuade Il Duce to write to Hitler that we are unprepared for war, and that we shall go into it only if he will furnish us all the equipment and raw materials we require. . . . German reaction is cool. Von Mackensen (German ambassador) brings a brief note at 9:30 p. m. in which we are requested to make

England let it be known they will intervene. . . . Il Duce authorized me to present to Percy Loraine (British ambassador) a solution based on the preliminary return of Danzig to the Reich, after which there would be negotiations and a general peace conference. . . . Percy Loraine faints, or almost fainted in my arms. He retired to the toilet.

"Francis-Poncet (French ambassador), discouraged and pessimistic, repeats that France will fight. . . . Weiszacker (Nazi secretary of state for foreign affairs) telephones from the Berghof to relay Hitler's harsh reply to the British ambassador. Another hope is gone.

"Il Duce is warlike tonight. . . . He has received Parians (Italian chief of staff) who gave him good news of the army's condition. Parians is a traitor and a liar."

"Phillips (U. S. ambassador) brings a long message from Roosevelt for the King. It doesn't seem to make much sense."

Editor's note: This refers to a message from President Roosevelt appealing to the Italians to try to stop war in Europe. "The unheard voices of countless millions of human beings ask that they shall not be vainly sacrificed again," Mr. Roosevelt said.

KING VICTOR AWARE OF ITALY'S WEAKNESS

AUG. 24—"I went to Sant' Anna di Valdieri to confer with the King. . . . In his judgment we are absolutely in no condition to wage war. The army is in a 'pitiful' state. . . . Even the defense of our frontier is insufficient. . . . He is convinced the French can pierce it with ease. The officers of the Italian army are of poor quality and our equipment is old and obsolete. . . . Six months of neutrality will give us greater strength."

"In the event of conflict, he hopes that Il Duce will give the Prince of Piedmont (King Victor's son, Prince Humbert) a command. Those two imbeciles from Bergamo and from Pistoria (the King's nephews) have one; my son can have one, too."

AUG. 25—"During the night I had a telephone conversation with Von Ribbentrop who says the situation is becoming 'critical' because of the usual 'Polish provocations'. . . . I succeed in having Il Duce approve a communication to Hitler announcing our nonintervention for the time being. . . . I was very happy over this result but Il Duce recalls me to Palazzo Venezia."

"He has changed his mind. . . . He wants the Germans and wants to intervene at once. It is useless to struggle. . . . 2 p. m. I hear of a message from Hitler to Il Duce. . . . It is couched in abstract language but gives one to understand that the action will begin shortly. It asks for 'Italian understanding.'"

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a complete list of what we need. . . . He hopes this will put the brakes on his government. . . .

AUG. 26—"Berlin is showering us with requests for the list. . . . We go over it. It's enough to kill a bull, if a bull could read. Alone with Il Duce, we prepare a message to Hitler. We explain why Italy absolutely cannot begin war without such provisions. . . . Transmitting our requests, Attolico gets into difficulty. He asks for immediate delivery, an impossibility since it involves 17,000,000 tons which would require too many cars for its transport. . . .

"Hitler's reply arrives. He can give us only iron, coal, lumber, only a few anti-aircraft batteries. He says he understands our difficulties, and asks our friendship."

"He proposes to annihilate Poland, Poland alone, and to defeat France and England. . . . Il Duce expresses his regret for being unable to intervene. He is really confused. His military instincts and his sense of honor were leading him to war. Now reason has halted him. . . . For Il Duce this is a great blow."

MUSSOLINI DANCES TO HITLER'S TUNE

AUG. 27—"Halifax (British foreign minister) has informed us courteously that measures taken in the Mediterranean must not be interpreted as preliminary to hostilities against us. . . . Hitler still is determined to go to war, and makes three requests:

1. That we not make known our decision for neutrality until it is absolutely necessary.

2. That we continue our military preparations to check the French and British, and,

3. That we send agricultural and industrial workers to Germany. Il Duce concurs in all this, and promises to revise our position after the initial phase of the conflict.

"Meanwhile a singular incident occurred. . . . They (the British) communicate to us the text of German proposals for an alliance, or what seems equivalent to it. This was made naturally without our knowledge. . . . We decide to make direct contact with Halifax."

"In this move I have been abandoned completely by the large group who are concerned with telling Il Duce only those things that will please him. Starace (Fascist party secretary) tells Mussolini that the Italian women are happy about the war because they will receive six lira a day and will not be encumbered by their husbands. How shameful! . . . 'Ribbentrop. . . . has answered that there is little chance for peace and that Henderson (British ambassador in Berlin) has gone to London to express his views only. Could there ever be a bigger sound-ear than Von Ribbentrop? . . . Hitler has spoken in strong language to the deputies of the Reich in secret meeting.'"

DUCE SEES PROFIT IN BLOODY STRUGGLE

AUG. 28—"The day, so to speak, was quiet. Magistrati said the Germans to send troops to the Western front. . . . Il Duce now is serene. He does not want to say the word 'neutrality' but he has entered this frame of mind. He even begins to hope that the

(Continued on Page Eight)

Irish President

By JAMES KING

DUBLIN, June 24.—(AP)—Eire, admittedly facing a difficult task in moving into a place in the post-war world beside nations bargained by war, has chosen her best known "royal ambassador" as the front man.

Ireland's president-elect, Sean Thomas O'Kelly, an amiable slatted little man with a big smile, unquestionably is the most traveled and the best linguist among Irish politicians.

And for a job that is more an honorary position than anything else, the white-haired, pink-faced O'Kelly has been well trained during a 40-year political career. He was among the original leaders in Ireland's fight for independence and was the Irish republic's "unofficial" delegate to the Peace Conference after the first World War.

Since then this five-foot six-inch Irishman with his large horn-rimmed spectacles—always sunny and dignified—has appeared as a sort of Irish missionary in visits to capitals throughout the world including Washington, Rome, Paris, and Ottawa.

The 62-year old O'Kelly takes office tomorrow as a staunch supporter of Premier Eamon de Valera. They have been political associates since they took part in the 1916 Easter rebellion and both served time in British jails. During the 13 years of Valera's government O'Kelly has served as education minister, finance minister and was deputy prime minister at the time of his election to the presidency.

Political cartoonists take delight in depicting the lanky De Valera and short O'Kelly as the "Irish Mutt and Jeff."

O'Kelly's stormy political career is in sharp contrast to that of the man he succeeds, 70-year old Dr. Douglas Hyde, better known as a scholar in Irish history, poetry and folklore than for the minor role he played in politics as a member of the senate.

Hyde was a unanimous choice of all parties for the presidency seven years ago, but O'Kelly won his post only after a hard fight. With the backing of De Valera's powerful Finna Fail machine, O'Kelly beat two opponents who accused the premier of trying to establish a complete political dictatorship.

O'Kelly shares with his predecessor a scholarly interest in Irish history and Irish language. He was general secretary of the Gaelic league from 1915 to 1920. He speaks a half-dozen languages in addition to English.

O'Kelly began his career as a clerk in a British government office and later became a policeman, soldier, journalist and politician.

While personally of mild disposition, O'Kelly is an impassioned orator. Even his political foes concede he blunted their arguments during rows when O'Kelly was speaker of the Dail (Irish parliament). There was never much bitterness in his own campaigns. O'Kelly leads a quiet, retiring private life. He is related by marriage to Richard Mulcahy, general of the opposition Fine Gael party. Their wives are Ryan—sisters who hold in Irish politics a place similar to that of the Soong sisters in China.

After his first wife, a Ryan, died in 1934 O'Kelly married her sister, who was the only woman public analyst in Ireland. The fourth Ryan girl is the wife of the minister of agriculture.

With his inauguration, O'Kelly virtually will retire from party politics and will leave his post in government. The Irish president is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces but he has little power. He cannot even veto legislation, but he can refer measures to the Supreme Court in challenging their legality.

Christian Scientists Study Atomic Force

"Is the Universe, Including Man, Evolved By Atomic Force?" was the subject of the lesson-sermon in all Christian Science Churches and Societies on Sunday, June 24. The Golden Text was from Psalms 25:1. "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein."

Among the citations which comprised the lesson-sermon were the following from the Bible: "By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He stretched the waters of the sea together as an heap; he layeth out the earth in storehouses. Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it stood done; he commanded, and it was fast" (Psalms 33:6-9).

The lesson-sermon also included the following passages from the Christian Science textbooks, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy: "The universe of Spirit reflects the creative power of the divine Principle, or Life, which reproduces the multitudinous forms of mind and governs the multiplication of the compound idea man. The seed and herb do not yield fruit because of any propagating power of their own, but because they reflect the Mind which includes all. A material world implies a mortal mind and man a creator. The scientific divine creation declares immortality of mind and the universe created by God" (Page 507).