

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Soviet Premier Attacks the United States and Secretary of State Stimson Begins Study of the Russian Question.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



V. Molotov delivered by V. Molotov, president of the council of people's commissars, which means premier of the Soviet government.

Much attention is being paid these days to our relations with Russia, or the lack of them. In Moscow the opening session of the All-Union Soviet congress was aroused to wild enthusiasm by a violent attack on the United States—and incidentally all other "capitalistic" countries—delivered by V. Molotov, president of the council of people's commissars, which means premier of the Soviet government.

Molotov characterized the lack of diplomatic relations with the United States as abnormal and as being part of a plot of European groups, headed by the Vatican, against Soviet Russia. He said that twenty countries are having satisfactory relations, except Poland, whose relations might be improved.

He denounced the charges of dumping and forced labor that have been made against the Soviet government, and declared the American "foolish fish bill"—framed by Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr., after a congressional investigation into Communist activities—undoubtedly would affect trade relations between the two countries.

"America must remember," he declared, "that the imports of the United States of the Socialist Soviet Republics depend upon her exports."

The premier called the attention of the delegates to a statement by an American senator that "a thousand persons are starving to death daily in the United States." He asked the delegates to compare this situation to that in the U. S. S. R. where, he said, there was no unemployment and no starvation.

In Washington it was learned that Secretary of State Henry Stimson is now devoting most of his time to a careful study of the Russian question in all its phases, presumably at the request of President Hoover. That this indicated any important change of policy by the administration was considered unlikely by the well informed. Indeed, William R. Castle, acting secretary in the absence of Mr. Stimson, said that the latter's study had no significance beyond the fact that the secretary desired to inform himself more closely on the Soviet problem. Since becoming secretary, Mr. Castle pointed out, Mr. Stimson has been devoting his time to disarmament, Latin-American affairs, and other problems, leaving no time to study Russia.

From the statements of state department officials it was gathered that no consideration would be given to the suggestion that a separate division for Russia be established in the state department, and that there was nothing in the report that an assistant secretary of state would be appointed to handle Russian affairs. President Hoover has in the past stood firmly by the policy that there can be no recognition of Russia before the Soviet government agrees to recognize official and private obligations to this country and cease propaganda intended to overthrow the American government.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Thomas C. T. Crain of New York county is liable to lose his job as a result of the exposures of corruption in the magistrates' courts of the metropolis. The City club through its officers filed formal charges against Crain, alleging inefficiency, incompetency and misfeasance in office, and asked that Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt remove him. The governor promptly appointed Samuel Seabury as special commissioner to investigate the charges and report back to him. If he sees fit the governor may remove Crain and name a successor to serve the remainder of the year. Seabury already has been serving as special referee investigating the magistrates' courts and will continue that work. It is expected that the Crain inquiry will lead into the police department and any other department of the city government or phase of political life which may be related to the district attorney's conduct of his office.

Republican leaders and others are urging that the legislature authorize

a thorough nonpartisan investigation of the entire New York city government, and a mass meeting of citizens was called to promote that plan.

IT IS understood now that the new naval treaty between France and Italy will be signed by only those nations and Great Britain. It will not be incorporated in the London naval treaty of 1930, but both pacts will run concurrently until 1936. Official expressions of approval of the convention will be asked of both the United States and Japan, but neither will be called on to sign it, because it was recognized that this might embarrass them owing to the high submarine tonnage which the pact allots to France.

Arthur Henderson, British foreign secretary, made public the terms of the three-power accord in a long memorandum. They cover three outstanding considerations in the armaments situation. Technical problems of European naval power are swept away; renewal of an armaments race such as led to the World War has, it is hoped, been prevented; success of the world disarmament conference at Geneva next year is brought measurably closer.

The basis of the agreement as outlined in the detailing of the limits of both the French and Italian building programs in all fleet categories until 1936. It is estimated by naval experts that France will continue to hold a superiority of about 157,000 tons over the Italian fleet, although this is not stated explicitly in the memorandum.

ONE of the State department's most valuable men, Undersecretary Joseph Potter Cotton, died in Baltimore after a long illness and two severe operations for spinal infection. Mr. Cotton, who was fifty-five years old and a native of Rhode Island, worked under President Hoover when the latter was food administrator and later secretary of commerce. He was appointed to the state department post in 1929 and made a reputation for his frank and direct diplomatic methods.

LIVER WENDELL Holmes, the grand old man of the Supreme court of the United States, celebrated his ninety-third birthday on Sunday, and received at his home the affectionate congratulations of countless friends and admirers. In the evening the venerable associate justice made his first radio speech, after listening to the tributes of Chief Justice Hughes and others. Justice Holmes said, through the microphone: "In this symposium my part is only to sit in silence. To express one's feelings as the end draws near is too intimate a task."

"But I may mention one thought that comes to me as a listener in," he added. "The riders in a race do not stop short when they reach the goal. There is a little finishing canter before coming to a standstill. There is time to hear the kind voices of friends and to say to one's self: 'The work is done.' But just as one says that the answer comes: 'The race is over, but the work never is done while the power to work remains.' The canter that brings you to a standstill need not be only coming to rest. It cannot be, while you still live. For to live is to function. That is all there is to living."

Next day Justice Holmes achieved his ambition of harding down a decision after he was ninety. In the Supreme court ruled that within the meaning of the motor vehicle theft act an airplane is not a motor vehicle.

STEALING a march on the insurgent Republicans and Democrats, the Republican national committee announced the organization of an advisory council for agriculture, with Senator-Elect L. J. Dickinson of Iowa as its chairman. The other members are Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas and Representatives Robert G. Simmons of Nebraska and Fred S. Purnell of Indiana. This council will have headquarters in Washington and in the West, and will immediately begin work in the corn and wheat belts. One of its purposes, it was stated, is to be the "dissemination of accurate information regarding the various constructive steps the administration has

taken to aid the farmers and to save them from bankruptcy in this critical period of economic depression and drought."

Two days after this announcement was made, the insurgents opened their scheduled conference the purpose of which was to demonstrate that the Hoover administration did little if anything to relieve the economic depression in the country. Five sessions were held, each devoted to discussion of a major topic. Senator Borah, who still advocates the export debenture, presided over the session on farm relief; Senator Norris, chairman of the conference, presided over the public utilities session; Senator Cutting over the representative government session, and Senator-Elect Costigan of Colorado over that devoted to the tariff. All of these except Costigan are nominally Republicans.

ONE more campaign issue was provided for the Democrats when President Hoover vetoed the Wagner bill for a reorganized employment service. Even if the measure is again introduced and passed by the next congress, the Democrats are sure to make the veto one of their principal talking points, claiming, the bill should have been enacted and signed at the height of the business depression.

EMPEROR NAGAKO of Japan has given birth to a daughter, her fourth, and the Imperial family and the Japanese nation are rejoicing and celebrating. But the joy is mainly over the safety of the new princess and her mother, and there is little concealment of the disappointment that the child is not a son. The throne of Japan can pass only to male descendants of the sun goddess and Emperor Hirohito is yet without a direct heir to carry on the line that has been unbroken for many centuries. Prince Chichibu, the emperor's next younger brother, continues to be the heir presumptive.



Empress Nagako

SCORES of towns and villages in the Balkans, in Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Greece, have been wrecked by earthquake shocks, and the dead, though officially put at 150, probably numbered nearer 1,000. The tremors continued for several days. King Alexander of Yugoslavia and King Boris of Bulgaria both left their capitals and personally directed the relief work in the stricken districts, which was carried on effectively by the Red Cross.

Terrific gales, accompanied by snow and extreme cold, swept over most of Europe during the week, and flooded rivers, blocked highways and delayed trains added to the distress. The island of Mauritius was devastated by a hurricane that killed a number of persons and left 4,000 homeless. Northwestern Japan had an earthquake that destroyed many houses.

PERU'S new provisional president is Lieut. Col. David Samanez Ocampo, and he has assumed the office in Lima after flying there from Arequipa. Ocampo was the head of the "southern junta" which was set up by Arequipa revolutionaries. He and his followers, to bring peace to the country, gave up their regime in favor of the new junta at the capital, and Ocampo was promptly put at the head of the government.

SECRETARY of the Interior has accepted the bid of the Six Companies, Inc., of San Francisco, which offered to build the Hoover dam, power house and appurtenant works at the Boulder canyon project for \$48,890,000. This huge engineering job, the biggest ever undertaken in the United States, will be directed for the present from a hospital in San Francisco, for William H. Wattis, president of the Six Companies, is confined in the institution.

The entire project, including erection of a dam and power house, installation of machinery and building of a canal, is estimated to cost the tremendous total of \$165,000,000.

NAVY department officials announce that contracts for the construction of at least six of the eleven destroyers appropriated for during the short session of congress will be awarded early this summer. The designs for the new destroyers call for the largest, most heavily armed, fastest and most seaworthy vessels of this class ever built for the United States fleet. They will have a speed of 40 miles an hour, weigh 1,500 tons each, carry 5-inch guns and, in addition, have a large fuel carrying capacity to provide a larger radius of action.

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Gathering Russian Grain to Dump on Markets



Giving an idea of how Russia is engaged in gathering all the wheat raised throughout the vast domain in order to dump it on the world's markets at a low price, this photograph of one of the stations in Asiatic Russia shows peasants bringing in their grain.

Tree That Has Changed Maps

Cinchona, Source of Quinine, Has Given 300 Years of Service to Man.

Washington.—Cinchona, source of quinine, whose 300 years of service to civilized man was recently celebrated, has probably done more than any other tree to change the map of the world, according to a bulletin from the National Geographic society.

"The bark of this once unknown tree that grew wild in the forests of South America has made habitable to white men thousands of tropical areas that formerly were death traps," says the bulletin.

"The powerful enemy that cinchona fights so successfully is malaria. Before the discovery of cinchona and its action, little could be done to combat 'ague,' 'marsh fever,' and 'jungle fever,' as malaria was called. It attacked tens of millions of persons in the tropics and the warmer and moist regions of the temperate zones, and caused millions of deaths. It is believed by some historians that malaria, nurtured in the marshes of the Campagna, had an important part in bringing about the fall of Rome.

"In Greece, too, this energy-sapping disease is supposed to have played an insidious role; and there are some who explain the passing of the mysterious Maya civilization of Central America as a surrender to the joint attacks of malaria and yellow fever.

Malaria Dangerous Enemy. "It was when white men began to live in the tropical countries that they came to realize that malaria (or the various aliases under which it passed) was an exceedingly dangerous enemy. Many of the early colonists in Mexico, Central and South America, India and the East Indies died of the disease. And then the tropics at least partially squared their debt by furnishing the one drug so far discovered that can successfully combat malaria.

"The cinchona tree was first found growing wild in forests on the mountain slopes of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. Tradition has it that the value of the bark in treating malarial fever was first discovered when some fever-stricken Indians drank from a pool into which a cinchona tree had fallen, and were cured.

"Medicine made from cinchona bark was first used in treating white sufferers from fever in northern Peru (now Ecuador) about 1630. After it saved the life of the Countess of Chinchon, wife of the viceroy of Peru, in 1638 its fame grew rapidly. It is to this happy cure that the tree owes its name, for in honor of the countess, Linnaeus named it Cinchona, inadvertently dropping the first 'h.'

"The powdered bark was soon afterward introduced into Spain and other parts of Europe where it was known as 'Countess powder' and

Miami Places Ban on Crowing Fowls

Miami, Fla.—Miami objects to crows and crowing. A special city ordinance has been drawn up which prohibits "roosters and other crowing fowls" from being kept within 200 feet of any hotel or apartment house.

Woman Practices Dentistry at 92

Pomeroy, Ohio.—Dr. Amy L. Whaley, believed to be the oldest practicing woman dentist in America, recently celebrated her ninety-second birthday. She passed the state dental examination in 1857, and when her husband died in 1913 she took charge of his business. Doctor Whaley employs a registered dentist, a laboratory expert and an office assistant, but she personally supervises all work.

Figures Show Farms Are Gaining in Population

Washington.—The farm population of this country is on the increase for the first time in a decade, the Department of Agriculture stated recently, when figures released showed that, considering the normal increase of births over deaths, the January 1, 1931, population was 27,430,000, as compared with 27,222,000 on the same date in 1930.

Fewer people are leaving farms and greater numbers are moving to them, according to the department. During 1930, 1,543,000 persons left farms for towns and cities, as compared with 1,576,000 in 1929, while the movement to farms during the last year was reported as the largest since 1924. Last year 1,392,000 persons moved to farms, as compared with a peak movement of 1,396,000 in 1924.

Rochester Starts War on Automobile Splashers

Rochester, N. Y.—Pedestrians who have had their clothes soiled because of the carelessness of automobile drivers will rejoice in the following edict added to Rochester's traffic laws: "The driver of a vehicle must use care and caution and must not drive, operate, or run the same in a reckless or negligent manner, or in any way so as to endanger the lives, person, or property of others or of himself, or so as to splash mud, water, or other substances upon the body, clothes, person, or property of others."

Judge Arrests Himself and Then Sits in Case

Memphis, Tenn.—J. C. ("Sandy") Lyons, police patrol wagon driver, drove his wagon into a telephone pole, arrested himself, told the arresting officer (himself), he was driving only 18 or 20 miles an hour, then released himself on his own recognizance.

This Seems to Make Flying Quite Safe



Here is the airplane of a new type, designed by Albert A. Merrill and successfully tested at the Glenn Curtiss airport on Long Island. Apparently it cannot dive, stall or spin, and the pilot, cutting off the power several hundred feet in the air and taking his hands from the controls, landed it gently and slowly.



DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE
Mary Graham Bonner

IN THE SWAMP

"I have such a nice suit," said Mr. Fox Sparrow. "It is stylish, I think, to wear a reddish brown coat and a spotted waistcoat."

"And your dress is nice, too." "Ah, yes," agreed Mrs. Fox Sparrow. "I am so much pleased with my own dress."

"I like to moult and improve my feathers, but I like to have them come back the same way as they were, that is the same color and of the same kind."

"Perhaps its because of our reddish brown feathers that we are called fox sparrows," said Mr. Fox Sparrow.

"Are foxes reddish brown, and have they feathers?" asked Mrs. Fox Sparrow.

"Oh no, my love," smiled Mr. Fox Sparrow. "Foxes haven't feathers. They have fur. And their fur, I believe, is of different colors."

"Sometimes it is gray, and sometimes, it is true, it is red."

"So perhaps, you see, because there is red in our feathers, the same reddish shade which foxes have in their fur, that we are called fox sparrows."

"Well, we're settled for the summer," said Mrs. Fox Sparrow. "It is nice and cool here, and in the winter we were south where it was nice and warm."

"What a fine swamp we lived in, and what nice old leaves we used to dig up, so as to find out what was underneath."

"We were like people who used to dig for hidden treasures."

"Yes," said Mr. Fox Sparrow, "and we were like chickens, hens and



They Sang the Most Glorious Song.

roosters, for they dig and scratch the earth to see what they can find.

"It was such fun to look under the leaves and to stop to talk over what we had found."

"We did have a fine winter. What are your plans now?"

"I'm going to build a nest," said Mrs. Fox Sparrow, "of moss and soft grass for a lining, and I shall put in some nice feathers, too, so it will be comfortable when the five little greenish-blue eggs which I shall soon lay turn into birdlings."

"The eggs will have nice little reddish brown spots on them, which shows that they are to have reddish-brown feathers later on."

"Of course that doesn't follow with most birds, but I like to think of the dear little reddish-brown spots will be when the reddish-brown spots and the greenish-blue eggs turn into precious little babies."

Then they sang the most glorious song, for the fox sparrows have beautiful, clear and musical voices.

They were so happy thinking of the birdlings there would soon be and they talked of swamp life with such happiness.

In fact all around the birds knew that soon the little birdlings would arrive for the fox sparrows sang so beautifully and so joyously and so happily.

Soon they were joined by other Mr. and Mrs. Fox Sparrows and they sang and made their plans in the same way.

RIDDLES

What fish carried a weapon? Sword fish.

When is a stupid boy like a jungle? When he is dense.

What is necessary to a farmer to assist him? System.

When does a man remind you of a candle? When he smokes as he goes out.

What is that which makes everything visible, yet is itself unseen? Light.

Why is a vanity case like a blank cartridge? Because it is all powder and puff.