

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Davis Warns Japan Against Scrapping Naval Treaty—Peaceful Agreement for Saar Plebiscite—Moley and Richberg to Industrialists.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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NORMAN H. DAVIS, American ambassador-at-large and our chief representative in the naval limitation conversations that have been going on in London, has given plain warning to Japan that if that nation insists on scrapping the Washington naval treaty, security will be endangered, suspicion created and the world forced into a costly naval construction race. Mr. Davis was addressing the American Correspondents' association in London, but his words were meant for all the world to hear, and as his speech was the first comprehensive statement of the American position since the opening of the conversations, it was regarded as of the greatest importance. He also announced, for the first time, that President Roosevelt has proposed "a substantial all-around reduction in naval armaments."

Mr. Davis said that, since no agreement for armament reduction has been reached, the United States advocates the continuance of the Washington and London treaties with their assurance of "equality of security." Asserting that the Washington pact put an end to a ruinous naval race and established "a sound basis for peace in the Pacific and the Far East," he continued: "Only by maintenance of the system of equality of security, with proportionate reductions downward of naval strength if possible, can there be maintained the substantial foundation for security and peace which has thus been laid."

"Abandonment now of the principles involved would lead to conditions of insecurity, of international suspicion, and of costly competition, with no real advantage to any nation."

Unofficially, it is said that when Japan gives formal notice that she is denouncing the Washington treaty, probably on December 20, the United States will immediately withdraw from the discussions in London. Officials in Washington consider that to continue the conversations would be tantamount to acquiescence to Japan's demand for modification of the ratios on which the treaty is based.

No more than any other nation does the United States wish to see the revival of the race in naval construction, but the government will not tolerate the decline of our navy to a subordinate place. Recent utterances of cabinet members and of congressmen who especially have to do with naval affairs make this plain.

In his annual report to the President, Secretary of the Navy Swanson says that although the United States may reduce its naval strength proportionately with other powers, it is imperative that a navy second to none be maintained. He warns also of the dangerous shortage of personnel in the navy, saying that "ships are valueless unless manned by adequate crews of trained, experienced officers and men."

THE government of Yugoslavia has decided to expel all the 27,000 Hungarians now living in that country. The process will be gradual but relentless. Already more than 2,000 have been deported and more are being sent away daily. Hungary called the action of Yugoslavia to the attention of the League of Nations.

PEACEFUL solution of the Saar plebiscite problem seemed assured when the council of the League of Nations unanimously and gladly adopted the report of the Saar committee embodying the Franco-German agreement for payment for the mines in the region votes to return to the reich. Leading up to this settlement were two announcements of utmost importance. First, Foreign Minister Pierre Laval of France promised that French troops would make no attempt to enter the Saar territory before or during the vote on January 13. "I desire to announce," said he "that France will not participate in any international force which it may be found necessary to send into the Saar. We cannot participate in such a force because Germany cannot participate."

Then Capt. Anthony Eden, British lord privy seal, told the council that Great Britain would contribute troops to the proposed international force, provided Chancellor Hitler of Germany were willing that such an army should be sent into the territory. When Berlin was informed of this, a foreign office spokesman announced that Hit-

ler's government would raise no objections to the plan. All this was in effect a victory for the policies of Col. Geoffrey G. Knox, the league commissioner of the Saar, for he has long advocated the creation of an international police force for the territory. Delegates of Italy and Czechoslovakia declared their countries would send troops, and Maxim Litvinov, Soviet foreign commissar, said he believed Russia would be willing to supply a part of the league force.

DISPATCHES from Warsaw said the Poles were amazed and alarmed by the Franco-German agreement because they feared the understanding between those two nations would be extended to include Great Britain and Italy. The foreign office hinted that in that case Poland's relations with Russia might be made closer. Poland resents being left out in the cold, for she is determined to be recognized as one of the great powers, and to play her part in the stabilization of peace in Europe.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT returned from Warm Springs to his reconditioned executive offices in Washington with the greater part of his winter program completed. It will be presented to congress in his annual message on January 3. The major items have to do with expansion of the public works administration to provide work relief, revision of the NRA and the AAA, extension of power developments, social security insurance and low cost housing, and the paring down of the budget.

MEMBERS of the Mid-Continent Reclamation association, representing 19 states, met in Chicago and perfected plans for a soil erosion and flood control program, to cost \$900,000,000, which the association will recommend to the federal government with a request for a survey to determine its practicability. The plan, which was developed by A. B. Hulit of Chicago, involves the construction of canals and dams over an area extending from northern North Dakota through Texas to control flood waters originating on the eastern slopes of the Rocky mountains.

INTERESTING statements were made to the American Congress of Industry in New York by two of the President's closest advisers, Raymond Moley and Donald Richberg, director of the national emergency council. Professor Moley declared there is no workable substitute for the present capitalistic economic system. "Basically," he said, "the New Deal was an effort to save capitalism and, by spreading the range of opportunity under it, to enable the average man to regain a measure of control over the conditions under which he lived. It seemed to me in 1933, as it seems to me now, that this effort to save capitalism was wise and just."

"By no stretch of the imagination could the vote of November, 1932, have been interpreted as a mandate for the abandonment of the capitalistic system. Finally, even had there been such a mandate, there was and is no workable substitute for our present system."

Moley expressed much optimism regarding business. He told the industrialists, in effect, that they need have no fear of any radical change in the present economic and social order, that industry was needed to stimulate trade, bring about recovery, and that in the last analysis it would be the business men who would distribute the wealth of the nation.

Mr. Richberg admitted the NRA had not achieved all its aims in its effort to bring about industrial self-government, but insisted that its fundamental principles must be preserved in permanent legislation for codes of fair competition.

He warned the manufacturers that the permanent law must be written in co-operation with labor and consumers, as well as private business and government, so that there should be neither work-consumer regimentation by business nor business regimentation by government.

He hinted that if employers consented to legal restriction in return for increased power under the codes, organized labor would be called upon to do likewise in submitting to legislative control.

Organized labor was soundly berated by C. L. Bardo, president of the National Association of Manufacturers. He said its contribution to national recovery had been "the most widespread inauguration of strikes, coercion, intimidation, and violence that the United States has ever seen, as evidenced by strikes in Minneapolis, Cleveland, textile industries, and the general strike at San Francisco."

Bardo pledged the united opposition of the National Association of Manufacturers to the efforts of the American Federation of Labor to obtain through congress legislation imposing a 30-hour week on industry, or any other effort to "fix a rigid and arbitrary work week for all industry."

Industry's platform for recovery, which was proposed at a meeting of the national industrial council, urging return to the gold standard, a balanced budget, and other orthodox economic measures, was adopted.

LORD RIDDELL, who during the World war was Lloyd George's chief liaison officer with the press of the world, is dead in London. He gained fame and great wealth as a newspaper publisher. As a reward for his war work Riddell was made a peer in 1918. His first news over the telephone carried the first news to England of the signing of the Versailles treaty. For some time after the war he continued to be a friend and confidant of Lloyd George. Later there were political differences, but while the close liaison ceased the two men never ceased to be friends. Lord Riddell leaves no heir and the title expires with him.

SERGEI KIROV, one of the most prominent members of the Russian Communist party's political bureau, was assassinated in Leningrad, and as he was a close associate of Stalin his death was the occasion of public mourning. The government announced that the assassin was Leonid Nicolief and that he "was sent by the enemies of the working class." But it appears there is something more to the event than a mere murder.

A dispatch from Warsaw said ten Red army officers had been executed as the result of a plot to assassinate all Soviet leaders at the same time. The Moscow government denied this story, but at the same time it was putting under arrest scores of White Guards, enemies of the Soviet regime, accusing them of "terroristic action." They were tried by a military collegium of the Supreme court and sixty-six of them, including one woman, were found guilty and immediately executed.

The names of those executed were officially announced. Among them apparently were none of the leaders who had figured prominently with the White armies during the civil warfare following the Bolshevik revolution. Nor were there any names of men who have had national prominence subsequently in Russia.

The executions were carried out while Kirov's body was being cremated. He was given a state funeral and his ashes were placed in the Communists' Valhalla beside the wall of the Kremlin where rest the remains of Lenin, John Reed and other heroes of the Red revolution.

CENTRAL, western and northern sections of Honduras were devastated by a series of earthquake shocks continuing through two days. The extent of the disaster is unknown at this writing for all communication systems were crippled, but it was reported that at least three towns of considerable size, Copas, Cabanas and Santa Rita, were nearly destroyed.

PRESIDENT MUSTAPHA KEMAL of Turkey has become the idol of all the women of his nation, for, after giving them such social rights as emancipation from the harem, he has given them political rights. At his instance the national assembly unanimously decided that any Turkish woman more than thirty years old is eligible to election to the chamber of deputies, and that all women over twenty-two years of age can vote in the national elections. Thousands of women telegraphed their "deepest gratitude" to Kemal.

It is a tragedy that we used to connect with women, that desperate battle with the years, that inability to grow old gracefully. Particularly women on the stage, whose survival in their profession was thought to depend on their physical charms, were assumed to live in dread of the creeping up of inevitable time. And yet today we see more and more popular actresses outwitting that enemy. They do it by the simple process of going along with time, instead of trying to fight it. Mary Pickford gives up sweet sixteen parts and grows up in pictures; such a still gloriously beautiful actress as Judith Anderson plays the modern mother of a grown son. Even on the stage a woman can be forty-five and still beautiful; she can be sixty and still interesting; but she

QUESTION BOX

by ED WYNN, The Perfect Fool

Dear Mr. Wynn:
I have just been convicted and sentenced to jail for twenty years. I understand a prisoner has his choice of jobs when he is sent to prison. Twenty years is a long time. Can you tell me what position I should pick out?
Yours truly,
A. ITZTUFF.

Answer: When the warden asks you what you want to do tell him you want to be a sailor.

Dear Mr. Wynn:
I am troubled with insomnia. I can't seem to sleep at night. It worries me very much. What remedy do you suggest to stop me worrying?
Sincerely,
IKE ANTSLEEP.

Answer: Jump on a train and go to Virginia, get some of that corn whiskey they make down there, take 3 drinks of it and you won't care a rap if you sleep or not.

Dear Mr. Wynn:
Can you tell me why a giraffe's neck is so long?
Yours truly,
ARCH OLOGIST.

Answer: My dear chap, the reason a giraffe's neck is so long is merely because its head is so far away from its body.

Dear Mr. Wynn:
A friend of mine whom I haven't seen for three years came into my office yesterday. I always thought he

was tall, but yesterday he looked short to me. He told me he had just gotten married. Could that have anything to do with him looking shorter than before?
Sincerely,
I. GLASS.

Answer: That is the whole story in a nutshell. He used to be tall, but since he married he probably settled down.

Dear Mr. Wynn:
I own a cafe which only does a small business. I can't afford a cabaret and do not know how to entertain my customers. Can you suggest any way of me giving my customers some enjoyment while dining?
Yours truly,
E. TINGPLACE.

Answer: Serve them some waffles and alphabet soup and they can make up their own cross word puzzles.

Barbados Has Clean Record
Of all the land in the western hemisphere, no part of it has a cleaner early history than Barbados, observes a writer in the Detroit News. The island was uninhabited when the crew of the Olive Blossom took possession of it in 1603, and it was still without inhabitants when it was settled by Englishmen in 1627. Thus no one was dispossessed in Barbados, and the island has had a peaceful record under the British flag ever since it was first unfolded.

Bedtime Story for Children

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

A WONDERFUL SWIMMER
IN THE moonlight on the bank of the Big River Peter Rabbit sat gossipping with Honker the Goose. Suddenly they were interrupted by a wild, strange cry from the middle of the Big River. It was like crazy laughter. Peter jumped at the sound, but Honker merely chuckled.

"It's Dippy the Loon," said Honker. "He spends the summer in the Far North not far from us and started south just before we did."

"I wish he would come in here so that I could get a good look at him and make his acquaintance," said Peter.

"He may, but I doubt it," replied Honker. "You know Dippy practically lives on the water and rarely comes ashore. He's about the most awkward fellow on land of anyone I know of."

"Why should he be any more awkward on land than you?" asked Peter.

"Because," replied Honker, "Old Mother Nature has given him very short legs and has placed them so far back on his body that he can't keep his balance to walk and has to use his wings and bill to help him over the ground. On shore he is about the most helpless thing you ever have seen. On water he is altogether another fellow. He's just as much at home under water as on top. My, how that fellow can dive! When he sees the flash of a gun he will get under water before the shot can reach him. That's where he has the advantage of

us geese. You know, we can't dive. He could swim clear across this river if he wanted to. And he can swim so fast under water that he can catch fish. It is because his legs have been placed so far back that he can swim so fast. His feet are nothing but big paddles. Another funny thing is that he can sink right down in the water when he wants to, with nothing but his head out. I envy him that. It would be a lot easier for us geese to escape the hunters if we could sink down that way."

"Has he got a bill like yours?" asked Peter innocently.

"How do you suppose he would hold on to a slippery fish if he had a bill like mine?" demanded Honker. "His bill is stout, straight and sharp-pointed. He is pretty nearly as big as I and his back, wings, tail and neck are black, with bluish or greenish appearance in the sun. His back and wings are spotted with white and there are streaks of white on his throat and on the sides of his neck. On his breast and below he is all white. You certainly ought to get acquainted with Dippy, Peter."

"I'd like to," replied Peter, "but I guess I'll have to be content to know him just by his voice. It's about as crazy sounding as the voice of Old Man Coyote and that is saying a great deal."

Seeing that Honker was very tired, Peter bade him good night and left him in peace on the sandy bar in the Big River.

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Jimmy Walker Now Is a "Country Gentleman"



JAMES J. WALKER, former mayor of New York, is now living the life of a country gentleman in England. Our illustration shows "The Thatch," in Surrey, built by Mrs. Walker's mother, where he and his wife reside; and Jimmy himself with Jock, his pet Scotty.

THE DAYS THAT USED TO BE

By ANNE CAMPBELL

THE happy days that used to be
Trail green paths of allure.
The little home that sheltered me—
A nest warm and secure—
Sends up its smoke against the sky
Of memory. . . . Once more
I see the golden sun climb high
Above my cottage door.

There never were such dawns as those—
So fragrant and so clean;
The dew that sparkled on the rose,
The morning's silver sheen,
Shed over all of us the grace
Of the beginning day. . . .
It was the early morning face
Of God that turned our way.

So simple were the hours we spent,
So tranquil were our days,
It is small wonder that content
Adorned our humble ways.
And something of that beauty clings
To bless us still, and bind
The present to the happy Springs
That we have left behind.

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Through A WOMAN'S EYES

by JEAN NEWTON

VANITY, THY NAME IS—?

"VANITY, thy name is woman!" There are men the author of that quotation did not know. One of them, a motion picture actor, killed himself the other day because he had got too old to play romantic parts.

There were other circumstances contributing to his despondency, of course. There had been illness and financial loss. But the man's best friend at the time of his death said it was the prospect of playing "bit" parts with others in the romantic roles that was the real cause of his giving up. "His chief pride," it was said, "was his unswerving faith in himself as 'the perfect lover'—and when he could no longer be that he did not care to live."

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New Members of La Guardia Family



HERE are the two foster children of Mayor and Mrs. La Guardia of New York, Jean, aged six, and Eric, four years old. They have now been legally adopted. Jean is a niece of the mayor's first wife, who died in 1921, and Eric was an orphan.

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