

News Review of Current Events the World Over

President Roosevelt Moves to Take the Profit Out of War—Wallace for Continued Federal Control of Agriculture.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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WHILE the senate committee headed by Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota was still investigating munitions makers and their profits and methods, President Roosevelt named another committee charged with the duty of preparing legislation that would authorize the Chief Executive, in time of war, to assume absolute power over industrial profits, prices and wages and over the operations of all industries. Bernard M. Baruch, New York financier who was head of the war industries board, was made chairman of this committee, and Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, former head of the NRA, was selected as Mr. Baruch's assistant. Others on the committee are Secretaries Hull (state), Morgenthau (treasury), Dern (war), and Swanson (navy); Undersecretary of Agriculture Tugwell, acting for Secretary Wallace; Assistant Secretary of Labor McGrady, acting for Secretary Perkins; Assistant Secretary of the Navy Henry Latrobe Roosevelt; Rall Co-ordinator Eastman; Gen. Douglas MacArthur, chief of staff; and Foreign Trade Adviser George N. Peek.

The President told newspaper men gathered at his press conference that "the time has come to take the profit out of war." He declared that not only the war profits of corporations would be under inspection but the wages of individuals as well. He pointed out the disparity between the soldier's pay of \$1 a day and that of the munitions worker at \$10 a day, and declared this unequal mobilization, as he called it, had led to the veterans' demands for a soldiers' and sailors' bonus.

Legislation will be asked of the new congress meeting in January, Mr. Roosevelt said. He added that he regarded the subject as one of the most important of any to be laid before congress.

The President insisted that his move at this time was not prompted by any threat of war. The war horizon, he said, is cloudless. Neither should the proposal be considered one for war preparedness, the President added.

Senator Nye and others of his committee, fearing this move might prevent the appropriation of funds for the continuation of their investigation, were rather caustic in their comments on the President's action. It was pointed out that the entire field of inquiry suggested by the President was covered by the war policies commission, appointed under congressional authority three years ago. This commission made recommendations, but congress took no action.

In order that he may aid in handling expected War department legislation, General MacArthur is retained as chief of staff indefinitely, by direction of the President. This does not mean that he will serve another four-year term.

ALL Michigan was thrown into mourning by one of the worst disasters that ever occurred in that state. The Hotel Kerns in Lansing, crowded with legislators gathered for a special session of the assembly, was destroyed by an early morning fire, and probably as many as forty persons were killed by the flames or by leaping to the street or into the Grand river on the bank of which the hotel stood. The exact number of victims may never be known, for the register was burned. At least six members of the legislature lost their lives.

"BALANCED abundance" is the keynote sounded in the program offered by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace in his annual report. Convinced that agriculture should be brought under permanent federal control, he will ask congress for drastic new legislation. This will include broad amendments to the AAA, great extension of the grain futures act and passage of the Tugwell food and drugs bill. While he insists on continuance of crop control, Mr. Wallace advises against falling into the pit of "scarcity economics"; nevertheless, he defends the working of the AAA reduction schemes to date.

He sees "the end of our period of emergency adjustments, of drastic reduction in farm output coming into view." Hereafter, the task may include adjustment of production to a rising demand, he says. To this end, as

murder of Alexander and to punish anyone found guilty of connection with the crime. This scheme was presented to Hungary and the little entente by Capt. Anthony Eden, British lord privy seal, and was accepted by them, to the great relief of the statesmen.

Meantime the tenseness of the situation was lessened by the sudden cessation of deportations of Hungarians from Yugoslavia, which action, it was said was due to the intercession of other powers, chiefly Great Britain and France. The Serb government probably realized that its cause at Geneva would be prejudiced by the continuance of the expulsions.

WHEN December 15, war debt installment day, came around, it was found that Finland was again the only nation with enough decency to pay. It deposited the amount due, \$228,538, in the New York Federal Reserve bank. All the other debtor nations repeated their defaults, and Great Britain rejected a suggestion for another conference on the ground that world conditions had not altered since last June and negotiations now would be "useless and unwise."

POLAND'S foreign policy was clearly set forth to the press by Prince Radziwill, chairman of the foreign relations committee of the Polish parliament, the statement being meant primarily for the French. The prince said the Franco-Polish alliance was still the basis of his country's foreign policy, but France's lack of consideration for Poland's independence and the attitude of French capitalists who regard Poland as a fit object of exploitation have developed serious differences.

Radziwill said Poland wishes to avoid becoming involved in Danubian and Balkan problems and at the same time wishes to be consulted on problems directly affecting it, such as the proposed eastern Locomotive security pact and questions concerning its relations with Russia, Germany, and the Baltic states.

Poland is not the "yes man" of France, and it cannot permit action to be taken in northeastern Europe without being consulted, Radziwill continued.

HENRY FORD believes, as do many others, that recovery can be brought about by reviving industry and creating employment, and he is acting on his belief. The motor magnate announces that he will spend an additional \$8,000,000 for further expansion and improvement of his company's thousand-acre plant at River Rouge, near Dearborn, Mich. This is in addition to the recent letting of contracts for nearly \$12,000,000 for two steel mills and power units for the plant, so the company will spend a total of about \$20,000,000 within a period of ten months for the development of the River Rouge plant.

The new units now under construction and the cost of each are the steel finishing plant, \$3,400,000; the hot steel strip mill, \$6,111,923; the stripper building, for handling ingots, \$230,000; new steam and electrical units for the power house \$4,599,888; new blast furnaces and foundry equipment, \$2,120,460; and additional equipment of many kinds, costing \$3,144,250, made necessary by the shift from 24-hour to 16-hour daily production.

Evidently Mr. Ford has no fear for the future economic stability of the country.

UNION labor, like President Roosevelt, is heartily in favor of legislation establishing unemployment insurance, but it proposes, through President Green of the A. F. of L., that the insurance be financed wholly by a 5 per cent tax on pay rolls. Opposing any direct levy on the workers, Mr. Green says they would pay most of the cost any way. Employers add their cost to prices and employees buy 85 per cent of all goods, he argued. If workers shared the direct cost of insurance, he adds, they would be paying twice.

Representative Connerly of Massachusetts, chairman of the house labor committee, says that sentiment in favor of the 30-hour week measure as a means of reducing unemployment is increasing. This also is warmly urged by union labor, but the administration seems to think the time for it has not yet come.

BOLIVIA, badly beaten by Paraguay, announced her acceptance of the League of Nations' plan for ending the war in the Chaco; and, although at the same time an order was issued for a general mobilization of all the country's available man power, it was believed the long struggle was near its ending.

The league plan provides for an armistice while a neutral international commission works out details of a settlement of grievances. Paraguay has not acted finally on the league's offer.

Outdoor Court for "Party Cleaning" in Russia



THESE four members of the Russian judiciary, perched on a bench, are conducting court during the "party cleaning." This is an investigation to check up on the farm leaders of the U. S. S. R. who have not conducted themselves as true Communists in their work and general behavior. The defendant is the man standing.

Bedtime Story for Children

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

YANK YANK THE NUTHATCH RETURNS

PERHAPS you can guess how pleased Peter Rabbit was one morning when, as he hopped over the old stone wall into the Old Orchard, he heard the voice of an old friend. It was the voice of Yank Yank, the Nuthatch, and while it was far from being sweet, there was in it something of good cheer and contentment. At once Peter hurried in the direction from which it came.

On the trunk of a tree he caught sight of a gray and black and white bird about the size of Downy the Woodpecker. The top of his head and upper part of his back were shining black while the rest of his back was bluish gray. The sides of his head and his breast were white. The outer feathers of his tail were white, with black patches near their tips.

But Peter didn't need to see how Yank Yank was dressed in order to recognize him. Peter would have known him if he had been so far away that the colors of his coat did not show at all. You see, Yank Yank was doing a most surprising thing, something no other bird can do. He was walking head first down the trunk

of that tree, seemingly quite as much at home and unconcerned in the queer position as if he were right side up. He lifted his head and called a greeting which sounded very much like the repetition of his own name. Then he turned and began to climb the tree as easily as he had come down.

"Welcome home, Yank Yank!" cried Peter, hurrying up quite out of breath. Once more Yank Yank turned so that he was head down and his eyes twinkled as he looked down at Peter. "You're mistaken, Peter," said he. "This isn't home. I've simply come down here for the winter. You know home is where you raise your children, and my home is in the great woods further north."

"Well, anyway, this is a kind of home. It's your winter home," protested Peter, "and I certainly am glad to see you back. The Old Orchard wouldn't be quite the same without you. Did you have a pleasant summer? And if you please, Yank Yank, tell me where you built your home and what it was like."

"Yes, Mr. Curiosity, I had a very pleasant summer," replied Yank Yank. "Mrs. Yank Yank and I raised a family of six, and that is doing a lot better than some folks I know, if I do say

THROUGH A Woman's Eyes

By JEAN NEWTON
WITH NOTHING TO DO

A WELL known minister the other day preached a sermon on the need of modern men and women for solitude.

"Our mental powers," he said, "express themselves most efficiently in solitude." And he cited the work of successful people and creative artists the world over who have accomplished their best work alone, away from people.

Do we need solitude? It seems to me the question is will we tolerate it. For the one companionship that most people today seem zealously to avoid is their own.

It is one thing to like pleasant company and enjoy the society of our friends. But an honest observer of the modern scene must admit that the way the average woman clings to company and craves companionship for every bit of leisure time looks almost like a mania to get away from herself.

Why? Is it the rush and bustle of this modern age making so many demands on our time? Is it simply disinclination to give up something else to take the time for getting acquainted with ourselves? That would be an agreeable explanation, but one difficult of acceptance by anyone who has seen that look of consternation on the faces of women whom a "broken date" left "high and dry" with themselves.

It is not only from the viewpoint of work, accomplishment, that solitude is a good thing. Every one of us needs a little leisure time alone just for our growth as a person. As our bodies need time to rest from physical activity to rebuild, so our minds need rest to contemplate, to digest, to assimilate, in a way that we cannot when we are preoccupied with things or people.

Many a woman who is hector about "making a date" for every moment she has free, might find a pleasant surprise in store for her if she tried taking a walk, for instance, with herself. She might find a certain satisfying something that will open up to her a new resource and give her a feeling of new power the next time someone disappoints her and she finds herself with "nothing to do."

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Man's Mane

Some scientists believe that in the very remote past man must have had a mane on his neck not unlike that in the baboon and ever since has worn something around the neck. Essentially masculine and associated with power, the collar has been worn by knights as a badge and in metallic form by kings at coronations.

QUESTION BOX

by ED WYNN, The Perfect Fool

Dear Mr. Wynn: Do you believe in equal rights for men and women? I do. Is there anything a man can be that a woman can't be?

Truly yours,
F. QUALITY.

Answer: Yes, there is something a man can be that a woman can't be. That's a "father" to a big family.

Dear Mr. Wynn: I am a boy nineteen years of age, and intend being a chef. I love to cook. Can you tell me the best way to preserve peaches?

Yours truly,
F. M. ENIT.

Answer: The best way for you to preserve peaches is not to introduce them to any other fellows.

Dear Mr. Wynn: I have to write a story about "Nero" for my school examinations. Who was Nero? Wasn't he the fellow who was always so cold?

Sincerely,
E. QUATOR.

Answer: No, my child. You are thinking of Nero. He is a different chap, entirely.

Dear Mr. Wynn: My wife is always picking on me because I let her take in washing and support me. She says I'm lazy and calls me a "Hydroplane." I admit everything, but I don't get that Hydroplane. What does she mean by calling me a "Hydroplane"?

Yours truly,
L. M. TIREB.

Answer: She simply means "You're no good on earth."

Dear Mr. Wynn: My brother and I were painting the roof of our three-story house. My brother fell from the roof and lay in a heap on the ground. I could not get

him aroused, so I sent for a doctor. The doctor examined him and then told me my brother was dead. At that moment my brother shouted: "That's a lie, I'm not dead." What do you think of that?

Truly yours,
ART TIST.

Answer: Your brother must have been wrong. The doctor knows better than he does.

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Do YOU Know—



That stilts were used in ancient days for the scaling of castle walls. In the upper parts of the Tweed and Clyde in Scotland, they are resorted to for crossing dry-shod from one bank to another.

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Sherman's Georgia Headquarters A modern dwelling has been made of the house in which General Sherman had his headquarters after seizing Atlanta, Ga., during the Civil war.