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News Review of Current Events the World Over

Supreme Court Takes Up Gold Clause Abrogation Case—
Senate Committee Favors World Court Adherence—
Congress Gets the Budget.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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HAVING given the New Deal a slight swat by holding the petroleum control feature of the NIRA unconstitutional, the Supreme Court moved rapidly toward a judgment as to the legality of the abrogation of gold payments. Several cases challenging this act were lumped and oral arguments were heard. This being a matter of vast importance, involving \$100,000,000,000, Attorney General Homer S. Cummings himself appeared to present the case for the government. Mr. Cummings is an excellent lawyer, but not much can be said in praise of the legal abilities of most of the men whom the exigencies of politics have shoved into his office in Washington. So probably he was wise to handle this matter himself.

Cummings defended the constitutional authority of the President and congress to adopt the present monetary policy as inherently the right of the government to preserve itself.

In an argument distinguished for oratorical display as well as for its legal aspects, Cummings said an adverse decision by the court would:

1. Increase the public and private debt of the nation by \$69,000,000,000.
2. Create a special class that would be beyond the pale of the general financial structure, a class composed of those holding bonds demanding payment in gold.
3. Reduce the balance in the United States treasury \$2,500,000,000.
4. Add \$17,000,000,000 to the public debt and increase the interest charge on this debt alone by \$2,500,000,000 a year.

The latter sum alone, Cummings said, is equal to twice the value of the 1934 wheat and cotton crop.

The attorney general referred to the troubled state of the country in the spring of 1933 and added, "I contend and shall show that the congress and the President of the United States acted reasonably in a period of very great difficulties and that their acts were not the product of caprice."

From the questions asked by the justices, observers gained the impression that there was a sharp division of opinion among them.

SENATOR JOSEPH T. ROBINSON, majority leader of the senate, being informed that the foreign relations committee had voted 14 to 7 in favor of the project for American adherence to the World court, said he would bring the resolution up on the floor of the senate as soon as possible. However he recognized the sentiment against it was strong and would not predict the outcome of the fight.

The new resolution as approved by the committee is slightly altered to meet the objections of other nations to what is known as reservation five. Mr. Robinson said:

"The legal import and effect of reservation five has been preserved in full. It is provided that discussions may take place under the Root protocol, but in the end the court may not entertain over the objection of the United States any request for an advisory opinion on any dispute or question in which the United States has or claims an interest."

Of the Democrats on the committee Senators Lewis and Murray voted against the resolution; Republicans who favored it were Vandenberg and Capper.

PETROLEUM control provisions of the National Industrial Recovery act, specifically section 9 (c), are held by the Supreme Court of the United States to be invalid as unconstitutional abdication of legislative power to the President. Eight of the justices united in rendering this decision, Justice Cardozo alone dissenting, and the opinion was read by Chief Justice Hughes.

The section declared void authorized the President to ban interstate shipment of "hot" oil—that is, oil produced in excess of state quotas.

While the opinion did not deal with other phases of the recovery act, it aroused widespread speculation as to disposition of other cases. This was the first major "New Deal" case to come before the court.

Emergency legislation by congress to remedy the situation and to meet

the objection of the court was reported to be an immediate likelihood.

THOSE Democrats and Republicans, eminent and otherwise, who are banded together as the American Liberty league are now really getting into action against what they deem the radical features of the administration's program, and their executive council has put out a ten-point platform. It declares the league's opposition to such practices as sweeping delegations of legislative authority to the President, lump sum appropriations to be doled out by the White House, socialization of industry and regimentation of American life.

In the first plank of its platform the league pledged itself "to preserve American institutions which safeguard to citizens in all walks of life the right to liberty and pursuit of happiness" and at the same time "to combat the growth of bureaucracy, the spread of monopoly, the socialization of industry, and the regimentation of American life."

Invasion of the law making and law interpreting functions by New Deal administrators was also rapped by the league in promising "to uphold the American principle that laws be made only by the direct representatives of the people in the congress, and that the laws be interpreted only by the courts."

Other points in the 10-point declaration of policy pledged the league to fight for government economy, a sound federal fiscal policy, a stable currency, protection for investors, and individual liberties.

BECAUSE work relief must be carried on the federal budget will not be balanced for the coming fiscal year, and probably not for several years thereafter. In presenting the budget to congress, President Roosevelt admitted this, but without qualms. He estimated \$8,520,000,000 as the amount of money necessary to carry on the government's activities for the 1935 fiscal year beginning July 1 next.



President Roosevelt

The expenses for the current year, partly estimated, are \$8,581,000,000.

Total receipts for the same period are put at \$3,991,904,639, so the estimated deficit will be \$4,528,508,970.

Of the recovery and relief fund the President asked that \$4,000,000,000 be placed at his disposal to be allocated by him "principally for giving work to those unemployed on the relief rolls."

Here are some other vital things disclosed by the message:

The national debt will increase from \$31,000,000,000 at the close of this fiscal year to \$34,239,000,000.

No new taxes are requested. Congress is asked to continue the so-called nuisance taxes which expire soon and the 3-cent stamp rate.

A national defense appropriation of \$899,948,000—the greatest in the history of the country—is requested.

A total of 137,134 federal workers are to be dismissed.

Veterans pensions in 1935 will reach the staggering total of \$704,000,000. The accumulated New Deal deficit for three years on June 30, 1935, will total \$11,700,000,000.

While the trend of recovery and relief expenditures is downward, regular federal expenses will increase.

EX-PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER has been elected a director of the New York Life Insurance company, at the instance of Alfred E. Smith. He was first offered the place two years ago when the death of Calvin Coolidge created a vacancy. Mr. Hoover said: "I have accepted in the hope of contributing something to the protection and advancement of the interests of millions of policy holders, for in these great insurance trusts lies one of the most vital of personal securities to the women and children of the country."

MARY PICKFORD went before Judge Ben Lindsey in Los Angeles and obtained a decree of divorce from Douglas Fairbanks; and thus came to an end the union of the "royal couple" of moviedom, who for ten years were regarded as the model wedded pair so far as happiness and worldly success went.

Mary's suit, filed more than a year ago, charged Doug with mental cruelty, indifference and neglect. She told Judge Lindsey the charges were true and that a fair and just property settlement had been made; and after Elizabeth Lewis, Miss Pickford's secretary, had testified the decree was granted and Mary left the courtroom almost in tears.

Fairbanks, in St. Moritz, Switzerland, was informed of the divorce but declined to comment.

IN THE highly dramatized trial of Bruno Hauptmann for the kidnapping and murder of the Lindbergh baby the state continued to weave a strong net of circumstantial evidence around the defendant. Lindbergh first identified his voice as that of the man who received the ransom; next was Amanda Hochmuth, eighty-seven-year-old man who told of seeing Hauptmann driving a "dirty-green" car with a ladder in it into the Lindbergh lane March 1, 1932, the day of the kidnapping. Then John Perrone, Bronx taxi driver, identified him as the man who paid him \$1 to deliver a ransom note to "Jafsie."

"Jafsie," otherwise Dr. John Condon, the aged Bronx educator who undertook the negotiations with the kidnaper, next went on the stand and in his garrulous way identified Bruno as the man with whom he dealt and to whom he handed the \$50,000 ransom money. His long and somewhat rambling story was bitterly assailed in cross examination by E. J. Reilly, chief of defense counsel, but seemingly the great value of his evidence was not much shaken.

Detective Arthur Johnson of New York was on his way home from Europe bringing relatives of the late Isadore Fisch to testify for the state. Hauptmann claimed in his defense that the ransom money found in his possession was given to him by Fisch, a business associate in New York. Fisch later returned to his home in Germany, where he died.

AN APOLOGY to the Canadian government and payments of \$50,000 damages is the penalty imposed on the United States for sinking the rum running schooner I'm Alone in the Gulf of Mexico in March of 1929. This decision was announced by Willis Van Devanter, associate justice of the United States Supreme court, and Sir Lyman Poore Duff, chief justice of Canada, who were the commissioners of arbitration under the ship liquor treaty of 1924 between the United States and Great Britain for controlling liquor smuggling.

Of the damages awarded, \$25,000 is to be paid as compensation to the Canadian government and \$25,000,50 to the master and members of the crew of the I'm Alone or their families. Included in the latter is \$10,185 to the widow and children of Leon Maignay, a French citizen of St. Pierre, Miquelon, who drowned when the schooner was sunk by the coastguard.

The commissioners found that the master and members of the crew were not parties to a liquor smuggling conspiracy.

THERE were huge sighs of relief in the chancelleries of Europe when the success of the conversations in Rome between Foreign Minister Pierre Laval of France and Premier Mussolini was announced informally. For two days the two statesmen discussed the points at issue between their nations and conditions in general in central Europe. Emerging from the last of their meetings, Laval, smiling broadly, said to a group of French and Italian war veterans.



Pierre Laval

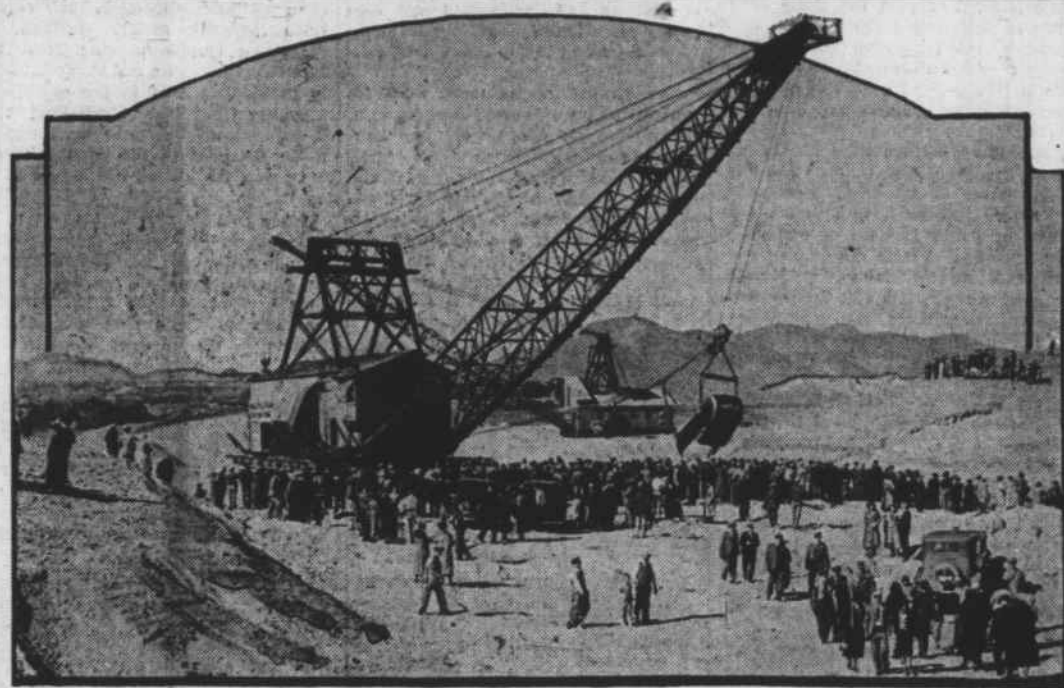
"I am glad to tell you that Premier Mussolini and I are now in complete accord."

Without waiting for an official communiqué, those best informed said Laval and his duce had reached a full agreement, the principal features of which are a joint declaration to preserve the independence of Austria, a five or six power pact of noninterference, and provisions for colonial concessions in Africa. The pact agreeing not to interfere with one another's internal affairs presumably will include Italy, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Austria, and Hungary; and later England, France and Rumania may be asked to adhere to it.

SENATOR HUEY P. LONG, after attacking the administration on the floor of the senate, betook himself to the radio and continued the assault. He declared the Roosevelt policies were hopeless, and summoned all the people to flock to his banner and help wipe out all fortunes above three or four millions, "making every man a king."

Meantime the revolt against the kingfish in Louisiana was growing. Citizens by the hundreds were joining the Square Deal association which is pledged to march on the capitol in Baton Rouge unless the legislature repeals certain of Huey's dictatorial laws.

Veteran Dredge Is Busy on Another Big Job



WHEN throngs gathered at Pot Holes, near Yuma, Calif., to celebrate the starting of the All-American canal they watched with interest the operation of the walking bridge dredge shown in the illustration as it shoveled up ten cubic yards of earth at each swoop. The dredge is a veteran on big projects, having been used first on the Panama canal and later in Mississippi flood control work.

Bedtime Story for Children

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

PETER FINDS ANOTHER FRIEND

"DID you and your relatives come down from the Far North alone?" asked Peter of Doty the Tree Sparrow.

"No," was Doty's prompt reply "Slaty the Junco and his relatives came along with us so that we had a very merry party."

Peter pricked up his ears. "Is Slaty here now?" he asked eagerly.

"Very much here," replied a voice right behind Peter's back. It was so unexpected that it made Peter jump. He turned to find Slaty himself chuckling as he picked up seeds. He was very nearly the same size as Doty but trimmer looking. There was no mistaking Slaty the Junco for any other bird. His head, throat, and breast were a clear slate color. Underneath he was white. His sides were grayish. His outer tail feathers were white. His bill was flesh color; it looked almost white.

"Are you here to stay all winter?" cried Peter.

"I certainly am," was Slaty's prompt response. "It will take pretty bad weather to drive me away from here. It the snow gets too deep I'll just go up to Farmer Brown's barnyard. I can always pick up a meal there, for Farmer Brown's Boy is a very good friend of mine. I know he won't let me starve, no matter what the weather is. I think it is going to snow. You know I am sometimes called the Snowbird."

Peter nodded. "So I have heard," said he.

"By the way, Slaty, what do you make your nest of and where do you put it?" asked Peter.

"My nest is usually made of grass and moss and rootlets," replied Slaty. "Sometimes it is lined with fine grass. When I am especially lucky I line it with long hairs. Often I put my nest on the ground and never very far above it. I am like my friend Doty the Tree Sparrow in this respect."

Do YOU Know—



That Panama hats, contrary to popular belief, are not made in Panama. They are made in Ecuador and Colombia, but are known as Panama hats because they are brought to Panama and there traded.

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WITTY KITTY

By NINA WILCOX PUTNAM



The girl chum says if these international bridge tournaments keep up, all hope of world peace will be shattered.

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looked over I saw him skipping around the yard and still drinking from the same medicine bottle. Can you account for these strange actions? Yours truly, V. GATES.

Answer: The man you refer to is evidently a very sick man and his doctor must have told him to take his medicine two days running and then skip a day.

Dear Mr. Wynn:

My brother is in the regular army and I have decided to enlist in the army also, but do not know what to do. You see the only condition under which I will join the army is that I must be near my brother. How shall I go about joining the army and being close to my brother? He is in the Seventy-fourth regiment.

Truly yours,

D. ZERTER.

Answer: Yours is a difficult problem, but I will help you: First, write to the United States government and tell them you wish to enlist in the army and, as you want to be near your brother, who's in the Seventy-fourth regiment, you wish to be put in the Seventy-fifth.

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Green Wool Coat

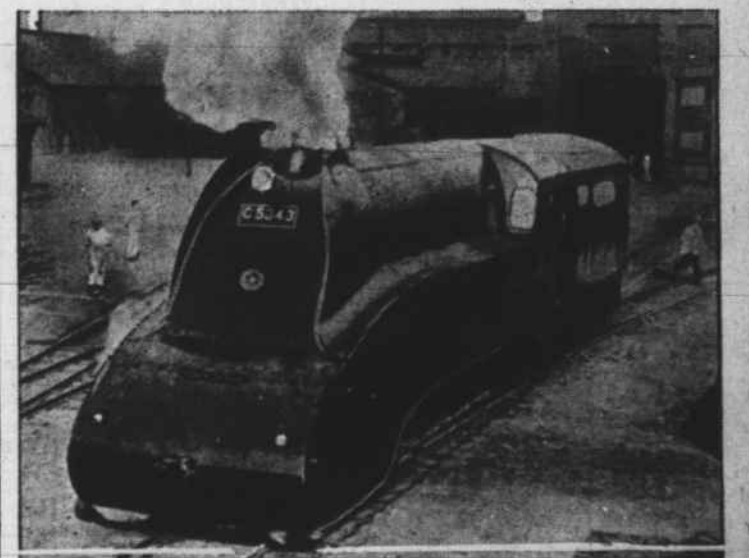


This coat by Chanel is made of bright green wool. Its handsome lines give elegance to the form, and the high-low treatment at the waist makes it suitable for large women as well as small.

Perfect Commonweath

The perfect commonwealth is a society of free men and women, each at once ruling and being ruled.

Japan Also Adopts Streamlines



THIS is one of the new streamline locomotives now being tested on the Japanese governmental railways for the purpose of speeding up service on the lines.