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Current Events in Review

By Edward W. Pickard

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Italy Annexes Ethiopia, Defying the League

TRIUMPHANTLY and defiantly, Benito Mussolini formally proclaimed the annexation of conquered Ethiopia by Italy and the restoration of the Roman empire. As did Israel in the case of India, he made his monarch emperor of the African realm, and Marshal Badoglio was appointed viceroy.

The duce did not know and apparently care what the League of Nations would think about this swallowing of one of its members by another member. The league council met in Geneva to deal with the question and seemingly intended merely to condemn Italy's action and then adjourn until June, when France's new leftist government will be in power. First, however, it decided, over the protest of Baron Pompeo Aloisi of Italy, to keep the question on the agenda; and because Wolde Mariam, representative of Ethiopia, was permitted to take his seat at a closed sitting of the council, Aloisi stalked out of the room. This was his statement to the delegates:

"I have the honor to declare that the Italian delegation cannot admit of the presence at the council table of the so-called Ethiopian delegate. There exists, indeed, no semblance of organization of the Ethiopian state. The only sovereignty existing in Ethiopia is that of Italy. All discussion on the subject of the Italo-Ethiopian difference would, consequently, have no object. Therefore I find myself obliged to refrain from participating in the discussion."

Mariam told the council the greater part of the country west of Addis Ababa remains free and independent and continues to defend itself, and the council still considers that Emperor Haile Selassie's government is in existence. For the present, apparently, there will be no move to lift the sanctions against Italy.

Prime Minister Baldwin of Great Britain refused to let questioners in parliament what attitude his government would take now in the matter of recognizing Italian sovereignty over Ethiopia.

Leon Blum's Program for France Given

LEON BLUM, leader of the National Socialists and organizer of the "popular front" of leftists that won the recent French elections, will be practically the dictator of France when Premier Sarroult and his cabinet resign on June 2 and the new government takes office. Blum laid down this four-point foreign policy program which he said the nation would follow at least until the next election in 1940:

1. Adherence to the League of Nations.
2. Consolidation of European peace.
3. Promotion of mutual assistance pacts.
4. Progressive disarmament.

Speaking to the national Socialist council Blum said: "We must consolidate the country against Fascist attacks. We must put the republican spirit in all high administrations, and we will deprive the Fascists of all secret means of propaganda."

Ickes-Hopkins Feud Moves to Senate

SECRETARY ICKES' supporters were easily defeated by the Harry Hopkins forces in the house fight as to whether the Public Works administration should share in the handling of next year's relief funds. But it was understood the feud would be revived in the senate under the leadership of Senator Hayden of Arizona, Democrat and a member of the appropriations committee.

The house majority voted according to the wishes of the administration on the relief bill, which is a \$2,364,229,712 measure carrying 1,425,000,000 to finance the Works Progress administration after July 1.

In addition to the relief appropriation, the bill carries \$458,631,890 for the social security program, \$30,000,000 for the Tennessee Valley Authority, \$400,000 for continuing the communications commission's telephone inquiry, and various new and deficiency amounts for other agencies.

The most important amendment permitted to be added to the bill by the house leaders was one submitted by Representative William P. Conner providing that the prevailing wage in

communities be paid to WPA workers. The Hopkins organization will pay out approximately the same sum per man per year, it was explained, but will work the men only one, two, or three days a week where they formerly worked four, five and six days each week.

In a surprise move the house also voted to bar aliens "illegally within the limits of the United States" from receiving jobs under the WPA program. Most of the opposition came from two radicals, Vito Marcantonio of New York city and Gerald J. Boleau of Wisconsin.

Ickes signified his acceptance of defeat in the battle for funds by ordering an immediate cut of 25 per cent in WPA personnel in Washington and throughout the country. This affects 2,000 persons.

Senators Seek Compromise Corporate Tax Bill

OPPOSITION in the senate finance committee to the corporate profits tax in the administration's \$803,000,000 revenue bill was so strong that both Democrats and Republicans sought for some compromise. Treasury officials were heard in favor of the measure as passed by the house, but former treasury officials and various business and industrial leaders speaking in opposition were seemingly more persuasive. Senator Tom Connally of Texas put forward a plan he thought all might agree upon. It would retain the 15 per cent corporation income tax and repeal only the capital stock and excess profits taxes, instead of repealing all corporation taxes as proposed in the house bill. In addition it would superimpose a graduated tax on undistributed earnings, exempting the first 20 per cent on the amount retained. The house bill reaches a maximum of 42 1/2 per cent of the total income if none is distributed.

Senator Byrd of Virginia, another of the Democrats opposed to the house bill, showed, in a letter to Secretary Morgenthau, that 11 of the largest corporations in the country would pay no taxes under the Roosevelt bill.

Landon Ticket Loses in California Primary

CALIFORNIA'S Presidential Republican preference primary, eagerly awaited by the whole country, resulted in the defeat of the Landon slate of delegates that was put forward by William E. Hearst and Governor Merriam, with Landon's tacit consent. The winning delegates, backed by Herbert Hoover and nominally pledged to Earl Warren though uncommitted, carried the state by a majority of about 90,000. Mr. Warren announced at once that he released them from their pledge, to vote as they see fit in the convention.

This looked like a blow to Governor Landon, and to a certain extent it was; but his managers claim at least 18 of the delegates will go over to the Kansas on an early ballot. Moreover, many friends of Landon deprecated the fact that Hearst was supporting him, believing it would do him more harm than good; and they were glad to see him freed in part from what they consider an incubus.

Democrats voted almost solidly for Mr. Roosevelt. Upton ("Epic") Sinclair's ticket received something over 100,000 votes, and that of John S. McGroarty, Townsend plan supporter, about half as many.

In South Dakota a slate of uncommitted delegates favoring Landon won over a ticket pledged to Senator Borah, though the margin was slender.

American Red Cross Meets in Chicago

SOME two thousand delegates were present when the annual convention of the American Red Cross was opened in Chicago by Admiral Cary T. Grayson, the national chairman. Speakers at early sessions included Mayor Ed Kelly, and Ralph Christian, schoolboy of Birmingham, Ala., representing the Junior Red Cross. Mrs. Elizabeth H. Vaughan, a nurse of St. Louis, was awarded the Florence Nightingale medal for her long record of service.

Dr. Thomas Parran, Jr., the new surgeon general of the United States public health service, was present and made a speech, and talks were delivered by Robert E. Bondy, director of national disaster relief, and others who directed activities in the flood and storm areas.

Huge German Dirigible Arrives and Departs

HINDENBURG, the immense dirigible, carrying 107 persons, mail and freight, made the flight from Friedrichshafen to Lakehurst, N. J., in 61 hours and 57 minutes and was welcomed by thousands of Americans, including E. Walton Moore of the State department who brought the greetings and congratulations of President Roosevelt. Three days later the airship started back to her new base at Frankfurt-on-Main. The dirigible was in the command of Capt. Ernst Lehmann, but he received far less attention here than did Dr. Hugo Eckener, the veteran skipper of Zeppelins. Eckener, in bad with the Nazis at home, was permitted to be aboard the ship as an "adviser." He and Captain Lehmann went to Washington together, while the ship was being groomed for the return flight, to call on President Roosevelt and other officials and return their greetings.

Hull Negotiates Trade Agreement With France

SECRETARY OF STATE HULL has successfully negotiated another reciprocal trade agreement. It is with France and was signed at the State department by Mr. Hull and Andre de Laboulaye, the French ambassador. It will become effective on June 15, and the details of the pact were not immediately made public. It is believed the terms include duty concessions by the United States on French wines, cigarette papers, and luxuries such as laces and cosmetics, and by France on American exports of agricultural and industrial products. The agreement is also understood to contain increases in French quotas on American exports of fruits, and possibly other products.

Sec'y Hull Forms New Cabinet

MUSTAPHA NAHAS PASHA, leader of the Wafd or Nationalist party in Egypt, has become premier and formed a new government in which he holds also the post of minister of the interior.

Premier Ali Pasha Maher and his cabinet resigned following the appointment of a regency to serve until young King Farouk reaches the age of eighteen.

Senator Park Trammell of Florida Is Dead

PARK TRAMMELL, veteran United States senator from Florida and a staunch supporter of all New Deal measures, died in Washington of a cerebral hemorrhage which followed an attack of influenza. Though ill, he tried to remain on the senate floor long enough to vote for a proposal to include \$12,000,000 in the War department appropriation bill for continuation of the Florida ship canal. This effort probably cost him his life.

Manuel Azana Is Made President of Spain

MANUEL AZANA was advanced from the premiership to the presidency of Spain by almost unanimous vote of the 874 electors gathered in the Crystal palace at Madrid. He succeeds Niceto Alcalá Zamora who was removed from office on a charge of malfeasance after the Leftist victory in the recent elections.

Azana, fifty-six years old, is a lawyer, orator and playwright and is regarded as the most astute politician in Spain. To the notification committee he said: "Spain may rest assured that I will be loyal to the principles of democracy and that the welfare of the nation will be my constant concern."

Shifts in Population Shown by Census

ELEVEN states have fewer residents now than in 1930, although many other states have made decided gains in the last five years. These shifts are shown in statistics presented by the census bureau.

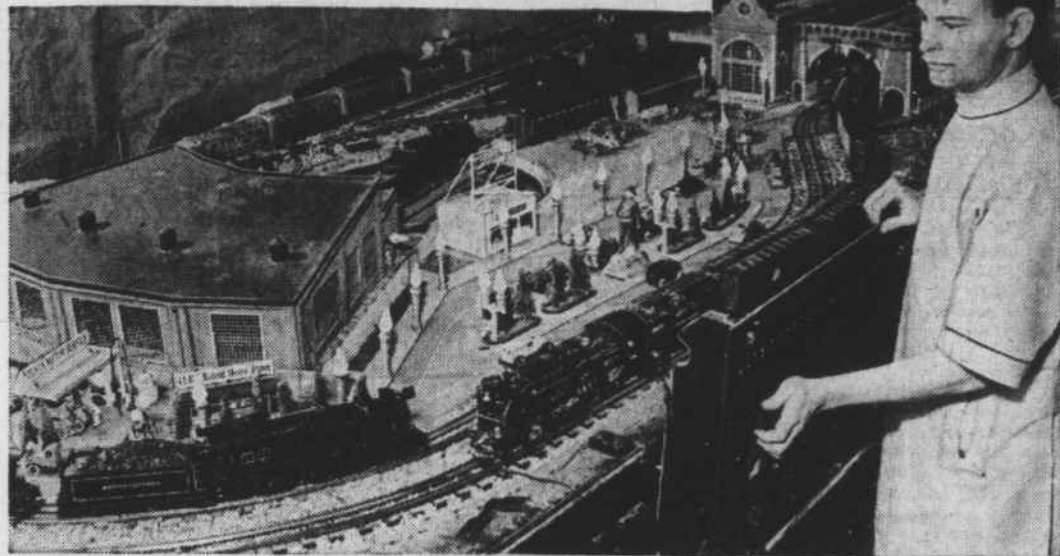
From 1930 to 1935 the population of the country gained from 122,775,946 to an estimated 127,521,000 or nearly 5,000,000.

New York, with 12,889,000 persons as compared to 12,588,066 in 1930 remained the nation's largest state. Pennsylvania was second, with 10,066,008 as compared to 9,631,350. Illinois was third with 7,817,000 as compared to 7,630,000.

The eleven states which lost through population shifts, and the estimated percentage of loss are: Michigan, 3.7; Wisconsin, 1.1; South Dakota, 2.6; Rhode Island, .9; Nebraska, 1.9; Kansas, 1.8; Mississippi, 2.4; Montana, 1.2; New Mexico, 5.0; Arizona, 11.4, and California, 0.7.

California Barber Is a Railroad Builder

HERE is Leo P. Ridgman, a barber of Hawthorne, Calif., with the model railroad which he built as a hobby. It represents an investment of \$1,400 for parts alone. Ridgman is secretary of a club of model railroad builders. The road illustrated has 166 feet of intricately-laid track and all modern equipment. There are streamlined trains and engines of latest patterns, switch towers, roundhouses, stations and bridges, and the whole affair is attractively landscaped.



BEDTIME STORY FOR CHILDREN

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

BILLY MINK FINDS A TRAP

FOR two days Billy Mink saw nothing more of the man who had made him suspicious. But this didn't make Billy feel any easier in his mind. He had a feeling that that man had visited the Laughing Brook for no good purpose. He had a feeling that that visit had something to do with himself. So Billy became more watchful than ever and traveled up and down the length of the Laughing Brook more often than ever, trying with eyes and nose to find out just what that man had been about.

The third day after that first visit the man came again. Billy saw him



He Crossed Back and Forth From One Bank to Another.

almost as soon as he reached the Laughing Brook, but not quite. The man had come down the Laughing Brook a little way before Billy discovered him. Just as he had done the first time, Billy followed the man down the Laughing Brook. Just as before, the man seemed to be looking for some-

Chinese Print



A Chinese floral print on a lacquer red background is cleverly fashioned by Schlaparelli. The belt is royal blue belting ribbon. The Tuscan straw hat trimmed with red and blue veiling is crownless.

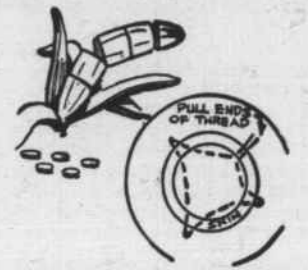
Gold Belt

Much of Australia's gold belt, which is 2,000 miles long and 300 miles wide, has never been touched, according to a government report.



TRY THIS TRICK

By PONJAY HARRAH
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THE BANANA MYSTERY

THE magician says that the price of a banana is 5 cents. He lays a nickel on the table and peels a banana in the customary way. Then he puts down 5 pennies and peels a second banana.

Since five coins were paid for this one, the banana is found to be divided into five separate sections. Yet it appeared to be in its natural state before the peeling.

The banana is prepared. Push a needle under the skin and out at the side. Thread it back through the same hole and continue around the banana until the needle finally comes out at the starting point. Pull out the thread. This slices the banana.

Perform the operation at four points to divide the banana into five pieces. The banana will pass inspection prior to the peeling.

WNU Service.

Eve's Epigrams

Many a close-fisted man becomes open-handed to close a woman's open mouth.

ANNABELLE'S ANSWERS

By RAY THOMPSON



DEAR ANNABELLE: CAN YOU TELL ME HOW A GIRL FEELS AFTER LOSING TWENTY POUNDS?

FAY T.

Dear "Fay T.": WONDERFUL! IN FACT, SHE USUALLY FEELS LIKE A NEW MAN!

Annabelle.

REPENTANT SUNS

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

DAY, and the bright intensity of sunlight on a summer sea, That lays a path of burning brass Across a waste of molten glass. The day so often is too bright, Too full of passionate delight, Of blazing brass we think is gold, We think that happiness will hold.

But not until the day is done One knows the glory of the sun, And only at the edge of eve His tender glances shall receive. He turns as some one who departs Turns always to neglected hearts, And gives the world a look at last Of kindness, when his day is past.

For suns, and men, and all things great, With gentleness will always wait. Yes, not until the day is done, Another's battle lost or won, We turn to give him words of praise—

As suns repentant end their days With purple seas and rosy skies Almost too late for weary eyes. © Douglas Malloch—WNU Service.

GIRLIGAGS



"After all it makes but little difference how the world goes," says pessimistic Polly, "in bad times we have our backs to the wall and in good times our noses to the grindstone."

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Wheelhouse Home



Capt. Robert L. Edwards of Seattle Wash., always did like that wheelhouse of the ferry boat Commander and when the old boat was sold to a wrecking company to be broken up, he bought the wheelhouse for a home. It was deftly sliced off the ferry and moved by barge to Magnolia Bluff where Captain Edwards has placed it overlooking Puget sound.

Garage That Is 3,000 Years Old



HERE, at Pepperwood, Calif., is the stump of a giant redwood tree over 3,000 years old in which J. T. McCarthy keeps his automobile. The stump is 24 feet wide and was burned out by the Indians who lived in it hundreds of years ago.