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News Review of Current Events the World Over

Russian Conspirators Against Stalin Plead Guilty—Italy and France Sparring Over Spain—Roosevelt Primed for Drouth Area Tour.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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SIXTEEN men, arraigned in Moscow on charges of plotting the assassination of Dictator Josef Stalin and the seizure of power in the Soviet republic, calmly pleaded guilty. Two of them, Gregory Zinoviev and Leo Kamenev, were members with Stalin 13 years ago of a triumvirate that governed Russia and are well known to the outside world. The confessions did not end the trial, for the defendants contradicted and accused one another until the case was in a jumble. Some of them, like Zinoviev, proudly accepted responsibility for the plot, which was said to have been engineered by the exiled Leon Trotsky. It was believed all sixteen would face the firing squad.

Twelve more men and one woman, the government announced, were held for examination and probable trial. Some of these were involved by the confessions of the sixteen conspirators.

In the case on trial the defendants revealed the fact that not only were they plotting the assassination of Stalin and four others, but planned also to betray Trotsky and place Zinoviev and Kamenev in supreme power.

Trotsky, at Hoenefoss, Norway, scoffed at the Moscow proceedings as "humbbug." "For political vengeance," he said, "the trial puts the Dreyfus scandal and the reichstag fire in the shadow. The confessions were forced by the 'Ogpu' (secret police), which gives the accused a choice between confession according to the Ogpu's desires and taking lesser penalties or death."

PREMIER MUSSOLINI, insisting that neutrality in the Spanish war must mean absolute nonintervention, suddenly put Italy's air force of 1,500 war planes in readiness for flight to the aid of the Spanish rebels if France would not abandon her support of the Madrid regime.

News of this stirred the People's Front government of France to indignation. Officials in Paris said if Italy sent arms and munitions to the rebels in Spain or otherwise openly aided them, France would have to abandon her neutral position and help the socialists.

For a day this situation alarmed the statesmen of Europe, but soon it was stated in both Rome and Paris that negotiations for the neutrality accord were going forward nicely with prospects for a satisfactory agreement that would include both Italy and Germany. Whether Germany would come in, however, was still in doubt. Berlin was further provoked against the Madrid government by the stopping and search of the German steamer Kamerun by Spanish warships off Cadiz. German warships were ordered to protect German shipping "by all means" and the German charge d'affaires at Madrid was instructed to "protest immediately and in the sharpest form against the action of the Spanish warship, which constituted a violation of all international law."

DISPATCHES from the French border said Spanish rebel warships finally had begun the long threatened bombardment of San Sebastian and Irun, and that the loyalists were carrying out the threatened execution of the 1,900 Fascist hostages they were holding there. The battleship Espana fired a lot of heavy shells toward Fort Guadalupe but for a time at least was apparently not trying to hit that stronghold because many of their sympathizers were held prisoners in the fort. The Guadalupe garrison was hesitant in returning the fire for fear that shells would fall on French territory. Already the French government was angered by the dropping of bombs on French border towns, though it was disputed whether they came from loyalist or rebel planes.

The Fascists captured the important town of Badajoz, near the Por-

tuguese border, at the point of the bayonet, and were reported to have executed 1,500 government adherents taken there. The rebels also reported a victory near Zaragoza after a bloody battle. General Franco met General Mola and "President" Virgilio Cabanellas at the northern rebel headquarters in Burgos and planned for further advances of their southern and northern columns on Madrid.

CATALONIA, which for four years has been an autonomous region within the Spanish state, and which has been supporting the Madrid government against the Fascist rebels, sees in the present conditions the opportunity to establish its full independence. The generalitat or government council decreed confiscation of all private property; and then, "to eliminate dual control and place all responsibility in one place," all magistrates, judges and others appointed by the Madrid government were relieved of their duties. The council also announced it would act henceforth in complete independence in maintaining order.

The Catalonian decree promulgated plans for a single tax and speedy suppression of multiple taxation. The basis for the new tax plan, although undecided was presumed to be income, not land, as the large agricultural properties are to be collectivized.

PREPARATIONS for President Roosevelt's trip through the drouth region of the Middle West were practically completed and the Chief Executive was supplied with all the facts and figures needed to give him a comprehensive understanding of the situation before starting. This information was furnished mainly by WPA Administrator Harry Hopkins, who was selected to accompany Mr. Roosevelt on the tour. Mr. Hopkins told the President that in the drouth area 90,000 persons already are on the WPA payrolls and that the number eventually will be 120,000 to 150,000, the relief work being continued through the winter. At this time the cost per man is about \$50 a month. Estimates of the amount of money deemed necessary to meet the situation in the "dust bowl" were given the President by Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau and Acting Budget Director Daniel Bell.

NEITHER Fascism nor Communism will be tolerated in Czechoslovakia, which is "a firm, indestructible lighthouse of democracy," said President Eduard Benes in a speech at Reichenberg. But he told the German minority which he was addressing particularly, that he hoped that in the fall "the Locarno powers will be able to work out a plan for general European co-operation and that good neighborly relations will be established between Germany and Czechoslovakia."

Leaders of the German minority in Czechoslovakia charge that unemployment in their part of the country is greater than anywhere else in Czechoslovakia—73 unemployed per 1,000 population, compared with the state average of 38 per 1,000. They charge that this is partly the result of the government's failure to place orders in German Bohemian factories and failure to give state jobs to members of the German minority.

SOIL conservation compliance is to be checked by a system of aerial photography, if the experiments now being carried on by the AAA are satisfactory. The plan is still only on trial but several millions of acres have already been photographed, it was learned today. So far it is proving cheaper and more efficient than the usual way of checking farmers' soil conservation compliance.

SEVEN minutes of lively fighting put Joe Louis of Detroit once more on the road to the heavyweight championship. He made his come-back by knocking out Jack Sharkey, one time title holder, in the third round at New York. The Lithuanian sailor from Boston was plucky enough but proved no match for the much younger negro.

THERE is enough wheat in the United States for the usual domestic requirements of the season of 1936-37, according to the mid-summer report of the bureau of agricultural economics, but the supply of red spring wheat and durum is short and consequently importation of those varieties will be continued. The amount, however, will not be large, Secretary Wallace stated.

"It is probable the spring wheat mills in the 1936-37 season will use a larger percentage of hard red winter and Pacific northwest wheat than last year," said the report. "A larger than usual quantity of soft red winter wheat is also likely to be used in bread flour. As a result, imports of milling wheat may be less than in 1935."

Wheat prices in the United States may be expected to average about as high relative to world price levels as during the 1935-'36 season, when the price of No. 2 hard winter at Kansas City was 15 cents over Liverpool, the bureau said. During the last three years short crops together with other influences resulted in wheat prices in the United States being maintained unusually high relative to the world market price.

"Farm prices probably have been 20 cents to 30 cents higher than might have been expected with more nearly normal yields in the United States," the report continued. "A return of average or greater than average yields in the United States would result in an export surplus and prices would adjust toward an export basis."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT was at his best as a radio orator when he addressed the summer camp at Chautauqua, N. Y., on foreign relations. He expressed his deep concern about tendencies in other parts of the world and spoke bitterly about the violation of both the letter and the spirit of international agreements "without regard to the simple principles of honor."

"Our closest neighbors are good neighbors," the President said. "If there are remoter nations that wish us not good but ill, they know that we are strong; they know that we can and will defend ourself and defend our neighborhood."

Mr. Roosevelt said he had seen war on land and sea. "I have seen blood running from the wounded," he said. "I have seen men coughing out their gassed lungs. I have seen the dead in the mud. I have seen cities destroyed. I have seen 200 limping, exhausted men come out of line—the survivors of a regiment of 1,000 who went forward forty-eight hours before. I have seen children starving. I have seen the agonies of mothers and wives. I hate war!"

Germans felt that Mr. Roosevelt's speech was aimed at them and resented his criticism. A Mexico City newspaper saw in it evidence that the Monroe doctrine was to be revived.

STARTING its 1937 building program, the Navy department opened bids on twelve new destroyers and six submarines. The bids came from private shipyards and estimates were submitted by navy yards, according to law. The latter were not made public.

It was found that the cost of construction has advanced approximately \$1,000,000 per vessel in the last year. A year ago contracts for destroyers averaged \$4,000,000, and \$2,500,000 for submarines. Present bids were about a million dollars higher on each type of craft.

FOLLOWING the recommendation of Father Charles E. Coughlin, the National Union for Social Justice, in convention in Cleveland, endorsed the candidacy of Representative Lemke and O'Brien, heads of the Union party ticket. But, also on the advice of the priest, the Lemke platform was not endorsed. The 25,000 members of the N. U. S. J. present enthusiastically and unanimously elected Father Coughlin president of the organization.

AN EQUITY suit attacking the constitutionality of the commodity exchange act, chiefly on the ground that it seeks to regulate interstate rather than intrastate commerce in violation of the Constitution, was filed in the federal district court in Chicago.

The suit was instituted by William S. Moore, a member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, and names the exchange, its board of directors, and the following as defendants: Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture; Leslie A. Fitz, supervisor of the commodity exchange administration in Chicago; Daniel C. Roper, secretary of commerce; Homer S. Cummings, United States attorney general; Michael L. Igoe, United States district attorney of the northern Illinois district, and Ernest J. Kruegen, Chicago postmaster.

Norwegian Scouts Honor Unknown Soldier

Gunnar H. Christensen, scoutmaster of the Oslo (Norway) troop No. 31, is shown placing a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington cemetery, Washington. The Oslo troop has been on a tour of the United States, the trip being sponsored by the International League of Norsemen.



by Thornton W. Burgess

JERRY MUSKRAT NURSES A SORE TAIL

JERRY MUSKRAT was caught in a cruel steel trap. He was caught by his tail. It was a fortunate thing for him that it was by his tail and not by a leg. But right at this time Jerry couldn't see anything fortunate in it. In fact, to Jerry's way of thinking it was unfortunate.

Now Jerry Muskrat is much more at home in the water than on land, and his first impulse in



So He Pulled and Pulled and Pulled

time of danger is to get into the water at once if he is not already there. So when that cruel steel trap caught him by the tail in its wicked jaws Jerry plunged back off the old log into the water and tried to swim away.

If he had only known it, this was just what the trapper had expected him to do and hoped he would do. That trap had been fastened with a chain in such a way that Jerry could get into deep water. You see, the trapper hoped that Jerry would drown himself, and Jerry did come pretty near doing just that thing. He swam with all his might, but the trap held him, and as he struggled he lost his breath, and water got up his nose in such a way that he choked.

It didn't take him very long to realize that he couldn't pull himself free in the water. At first

he was in such a panic of fright that he didn't use his wits at all. But after he began to realize that by struggling in the water he would simply drown himself, Jerry's wits began to work. He turned about and swam back to that old log and climbed out on it. There he squatted down and rested to regain his strength and get his breath.

"It's of no use for me to try to pull myself free by swimming," thought Jerry. "I'm a pretty strong swimmer but not strong enough to do that. Perhaps I can pull myself free up here."

So when he had rested, Jerry dug his claws into the old log and pulled and pulled. It seemed to him that he certainly was pulling his tail out by the roots. But it would be better to do that and have no tail at all than to lose his life. So he pulled, and pulled, and pulled. By and by it seemed to him that he felt his tail slip a little. That gave him courage and he pulled harder than ever.

Suddenly he pitched right over on his head, and at the same time there was a little snap behind him. He had pulled his tail free and the jaws of the trap had come together. You see, Jerry's tail tapers, and he had been caught not very far



"One thing about a woman," says Reno Ritz, "the better her line—the better her catch."

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from the end of it. It was this which had saved him.

As soon as he felt himself free Jerry plunged into the water and swam over to his house. Not until he was safely inside his bedroom did he look at his tail. The skin had been torn by the jaws of that trap, and the end of his tail was raw and bleeding. It was dreadfully sore and ached. Jerry began to lick it very gently. For the rest of that day and the following night Jerry stayed right in his house and nursed that sore tail. But he had saved his life, so a sore tail didn't matter much.

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MOTHER'S COOK BOOK

HINTS FOR HOUSEWIVES

IT IS generally conceded an efficient housekeeper is one who cannot be moved from her serenity by an onslaught of unexpected company.

The hostess who tries to be cordial and hospitable while her mind is traveling in circles as to what she is going to feed them, should after one experience learn to provide for the unexpected.

With a well-stocked emergency shelf (if she hasn't a corner grocery at her finger's end), she may be serene and happy with no strain on her hospitality.

The list of staples to be kept for such occasions will vary with the taste of the housewife; however, there are some things which are always in order, such as cheese, crackers, cookies, pickles, olives, as well as the good things from the fruit shelf. Desserts and salads may be quickly prepared from a can of peaches or pears.

Did you ever add coconut (washing off the sugar if it is the dried kind), with a few chopped pickles—sour ones, to a salmon salad, in a nest of shredded cabbage or lettuce. It is good and not common.

A farmer's wife, though she is far from the corner grocery, has much the advantage of a city dweller. She will have chicken, canned, fried and stewed; hams from her own smoke house and such foods, though common enough to her will be most appreciated by her city guest. From her fruit closet she will bring canned corn and other vegetables that are so much like the fresh ones that they are most welcome. Fruits and berries, jams and jellies, are always provided in the farmhouse. With the fresh thick cream, an omelet

or scrambled eggs, a slice of nicely cooked home-smoked ham, hot biscuit, berries, either fresh or canned—could anyone ask for a daintier or more appetizing meal? If the farm wife would just remember what is common to her is a treat to her city friend, her meals would lack that "trying to do something and can't" effect so often given.

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ONLY ALONE

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

ONLY alone man ever knows the truth,
Too many friends to flatter us in youth,
Too many foes to criticize in age,
For us to really read life's open page.
Only alone a man admits his sin
And ever dares condemn the man within.
At other times he listens to his friends,
Among his foes too much himself defends.

Only alone a man is ever fair,
Fair to his foes, whatever faults they wear,
Fair to himself, his virtue may admit,
The greatness or the littleness of it.
Only alone a man can weigh the sweets
Of flattery, if flattery he meets,
Knows which was admiration, which was guile,
What flow'rs will wither, which will last awhile.

Only alone a man is ever true,
True to himself, and all the whole world through.
There he will know the rightness of his cause,
Unswayed by criticism, or applause.
Only alone, and this the reason is:
Because a time alone is never his.
Apart from men, he kneels upon the sod,
Only alone in company with God.

© Douglas Malloch.—WNU Service.

Chic Mink Coat



Here is a mink coat that is very young in style. It is swagger-length with a flaring line in the back fullness. The sleeves are set in raglan effect. The collar is the Peter Pan type.

No Mound Builders' Notes

It is not believed that the mound builders had any written language, as no inscriptions or tables indicate this, the inscriptions on rocks so common in the country they occupied being regarded by the highest authorities as of "doubtful parentage."

Barnegat's Pet Deer Sick in Bed



Pete, a one-year-old buck deer orphaned by one of last year's forest fires in Ocean county, N. J., and since adopted as a pet by the entire community of Barnegat, is sick in bed—pining for local school children on vacation. Pete follows the children to school every day. He sleeps in a regular bed, and is here shown being attended by Miss Dolores Madden, county nurse.

ANNABELLE'S ANSWERS

By RAY THOMPSON



DEAR ANNABELLE: A WRITER RECENTLY SAID A WOMAN'S CLOTHES SHOULD BE LIKE AN EDITORIAL. CAN YOU TELL US WHAT HE MEANS? RUZZLED.

Dear "Puzzled": PROBABLY THAT THEY SHOULD BE LONG ENOUGH TO COVER THE SUBJECT BUT SHORT ENOUGH TO SUSTAIN INTEREST!

Annabelle.