

CURRENT EVENTS PASS IN REVIEW

RUSSIA APPROVES THE SECURITY PACT PLAN BUT POLAND REMAINS ALOOF.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
© Western Newspaper Union.

SOVIET Russia is ready to line up with Great Britain, France and Italy in promoting the general European security pact which is the basis of England's plan for peace. This was brought out by the visit to Moscow of Capt. Anthony Eden, British lord privy seal, and his conferences with Dictator Josef Stalin and Maxim Litvinov, Soviet foreign commissar. According to the joint communique given the press, these statesmen "were of the opinion that in the present international situation it is more than ever necessary to pursue the endeavor to promote the building up of a system of collective security in Europe as contemplated in the Anglo-French communique of the third of February, and in conformity with the principles of the League of Nations."

It was made clear that Germany and Poland would be welcome to enter the arrangement, but that it would go ahead even without them.

Captain Eden then went on to Warsaw to talk things over with the Poles; and even as he was departing from Moscow the Soviet press launched another fierce attack on Germany. Michael Tukhachevsky, vice commissar for defense, in an article in the newspaper Pravda, declared Germany would have an army of 849,000 by the summer, exceeding the French army by 40 per cent and almost equalling the Soviet army in size.

He charged Hitler with "lulling France to sleep" with anti Soviet war talk in the hope France would not realize her own peril. Tukhachevsky's view that Germany contemplates attacking France was supported by an authorized article in the weekly Journal de Moscou which asserted the leaders of the reich realized "the exceptional risk to which Germany would subject herself by invasion of the tremendous territories of the U. S. S. R.—a country possessing powerful armaments and unlimited opportunities for improving and increasing these armaments."

"It is almost probable," the Journal said, "that under certain circumstances Hitler will prefer other fields of aggression, and an intensified revision of the map of Europe will be started not in the east but in the west."

POLAND appears to have decided to play a lone hand in the European embroglio, though she remains friendly to Germany. It is reported that Captain Eden's visit to Warsaw was as disappointing as was that of Sir John Simon to Berlin. The Polish government is determined to sign no pact that would commit the nation to fight for Russia against Germany or for Germany against Russia and France, nor will it permit either German or Russian troops to be transported across Poland. The Polish statesmen say they will sign a series of bilateral pacts, and will go as far as any other nation in parallel disarmament. They assert that they have no alliance with Germany, though their mutual troubles have been settled for the next ten years, and that the alliance with France still holds good.

FROM Tokyo there came a statement indicating that Japan would give at least moral support to the European powers that are seeking agreements to counteract Hitler's move for the re-arming of Germany. It was given out by Eiji Amai, the frequently quoted spokesman for the foreign office. He said Japan will hold aloof from the European crisis and that there would be no far eastern Locarno pact, but that "we cannot think of any alliance with Germany." Tokyo, asserted Amai, is ready to discuss with Russia some degree of demilitarization of the eastern frontiers.

NINETEEN cardinals met with Pope Pius in a secret consistory, and to them he delivered an emphatic denunciation of war, which, he said, "would be so enormous a crime, so foolish a manifestation of fury, we believe it absolutely impossible." If, however, there is someone who wishes to commit "this nefarious crime," then, the holy father said, he could do nothing else than pray to God to "destroy those people who desire war." At this moment, he continued, the "clamor of war is universally diffused and the cause of agitation to all and arouses in everyone the greatest fear."

The consistory approved the canonization of Blessed Thomas More, King Henry VIII's chancellor, and Bishop John Fisher of England, who lost their heads for opposing Henry's marriage to Anne Boleyn.

OBVIOUSLY alleged directions from the yacht on which President Roosevelt was fishing in Florida wa-

ters, the majority in the house refused to accept the restrictions injected in the work relief bill and sent it back to conference to have these removed. The restrictions objectionable to the administration were those requiring senate confirmation of administrative officers of the program and that in loans and grants to states at least one-third of the money should be expended for direct labor. The latter requirement, according to Secretary Ickes and others, would result in the exclusion of rural electrification, slum clearance and similar projects.

Defending the move to send the bill back to conference, Buchanan of Georgia said: "The President is assuming responsibility. All we ask is to give him a bill that he can work on in shifting from dole to employment."

In replying to Buchanan, Representative Robert Bacon (Rep., N. Y.) contended that the labor provision was needed in order to "kick out pet local projects" and afford as much direct relief of unemployment as possible. "Congress has reached a pretty low ebb," declared Minority Leader Bertrand Snell (Rep., N. Y.), "when it can't even pass on a conference report without receiving orders from the Chief Executive."

STANLEY REED, the new solicitor general, obtained from the Supreme court permission to dismiss the government's appeal in the Belcher lumber code case. Therefore there probably will be no decision as to the constitutionality of the national industrial recovery act by the chief tribunal before congress takes action on the bill to extend the recovery law.

Belcher was indicted for violating the hour and wage provisions of the lumber code but Judge W. I. Grubb of the Federal District court in Birmingham held against the government. The indictment was dismissed. Grubb ruled the NRA law unconstitutional. The government appealed to the Supreme court in an effort to expedite the decision.

REPLACEMENT of the AAA's system of crop control is seen as a future potentiality of a new organization established at the Department of Agriculture under Rexford G. Tugwell. The organization consolidates federal agencies dealing with soil erosion, and Tugwell is expected to direct the expenditure of about a billion dollars in public land program.

At present plans call for retirement of millions of acres of marginal lands now contributing to surpluses, which experts contend will prove a more effective way of dealing with overproduction than AAA's policy of taxing commodities for acreage slashes. The latter is meeting increased opposition, due to rising living costs and increasing competition from foreign powers. There will probably be little immediate change in crop control plans, since the Tugwell program will require considerable time before it can be operated effectively.

FOR the second time the United States Supreme court reversed the convictions and death sentences of two of the Scottsboro negroes who were accused of assault on two white girls. The court held that since negroes in Alabama are not permitted to serve on juries, they are denied "equal protection of the laws" in violation of the Fourteenth amendment. It declared the state court error in not quashing the indictments.

This was a big victory for the colored race, but in another decision by the Supreme court the negroes were the losers. The tribunal ruled that the Democratic party in Texas is a voluntary association, not subject to control by the state legislature, and as such may exclude persons from voting in its primaries.

THROUGH the efforts of Donald Richberg, chairman of the NIRE, an agreement was reached by the bituminous coal operators and the United Mine Workers, whereby the prevailing coal code is extended to June 16 and a threatened strike of about half a million miners averted. The present wages and hours of work are continued. President Lewis of the miners insisted the union had not yielded to the operators; but the fact remained that if it had not consented to the agreement Mr. Richberg could and would have extended the code by executive order. This would have placed the union in the undesired position of opposing and defying the administration, and would have weakened the effect of its advocacy of the Wagner labor disputes bill, the Black-Connery bill and the Guffy bill which would virtually convert the bituminous coal industry into a public utility.

THERE were further dust storms in the already severely afflicted plateau district of southwest Kansas, southeast Colorado and parts of New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma. In western Kansas the farmers began the construction of earthen breastworks against the wind, and a federal appropriation of \$250,000,000 for this work was received. Fears that the dust storms would cause an epidemic of pneumonia were allayed when it was found that there were no germs of that disease on laboratory plates exposed in the dust-filled atmosphere by aviators.

Tornadoes in Mississippi and Texas resulted in the deaths of at least half a dozen persons and the injury of many others.

WHEN the Illinois legislature, at the behest of Governor Horner and the federal administration, passed a state recovery act the New Dealers hailed this as an example that all states should follow. Now County Judge Homer W. Hall at Bloomington has held that the act is unconstitutional. He also declared the national automobile code inoperative as applied to Illinois.

Under the state recovery act, the judge remarked, an unlawful delegation of the authority of the state legislature has brought about a situation whereby violations of the state act can be prosecuted by the state only through the sanction and by the authority of the federal director of codes.

"Delegated authority may not be redelegated," the judge said. "Authority delegated by the people to the legislature permitting the making of laws may not be redelegated by the legislature to communities, bureaus, code authorities or executives, allowing these agencies to make rules with the effect of laws, the violation of which makes the individual amenable to the criminal statutes."

CREATION of a new relief bureau in New York was demanded by Bernard S. Deutsch, president of the board of aldermen, who asserted that twenty millions of dollars a year in relief funds has been wasted through the incompetency, red tape, bureaucracy, and the domination by professional social service workers of the emergency relief bureau and the state temporary emergency relief administration.

BELGIUM'S new deal program, derived from President Roosevelt's policies, was launched by the young premier, Paul Van Zeeland, and he was given an overwhelming vote of confidence by the senate and chamber of deputies. The effect of going off the gold standard already is being felt, for prices of food staples are going up. The government warned traders that any undue increases in prices would be punished severely. Premier Van Zeeland said:

"I am a keen admirer of President Roosevelt, who obtained essential results mainly in allowing his country to work in peace. He certainly committed errors. Had he based his program of economic expansion upon gold the world crisis would be ended now. But I apply those Rooseveltian measures to Belgium which I consider good."

INVESTIGATION of the administration of the Virgin Islands by Gov. Paul Pearson was ordered by the senate, five of whose members will conduct the inquiry. The sum of \$12,000 was appropriated to cover their expenses. Pearson is a holdover from the Hoover administration and charges against him were made by Paul Yates, formerly his administrative assistant.

DIRECT negotiations with Italy over the border dispute were broken off by the Ethiopian government, which sent a new note to the League of Nations. Special measures were taken to protect foreigners in Addis Ababa. The Italian government did not take this rupture seriously, still hoping a peaceful arrangement might be reached without the intervention of the league. It was reported in Paris that most of the Italian troops that started for Eritrea and Italian Somaliland have been diverted to Rhodes and Libya because of Germany's sudden rearmament plan.

FOREIGN SECRETARY SIMON returned to England from his historic talks with Chancellor Hitler, and reported to the cabinet that Germany is seeking return of the colonies she lost in the war and a greatly increased navy. He said that Hitler admits Germany's air force equals that of Britain. Prime Minister MacDonald then called on King George to whom he gave a preliminary report of Simon's talks, which have been described as "disappointing."

Hitler made a bold play for Anglo-German understanding, declaring both nations should unite to defend western civilization against Communism and the colored races. Briefly, his demands were:

First—Germany must have an army with a minimum of 38 divisions—500,000 men—as decreed.

Second—Germany wants parity in the air with Britain. Hitler admitted that Germany now possesses equality with Britain. Hitler stressed the danger to which Germany is exposed in the air. He declared that Russia is using Czechoslovakia as a European air base. He demanded return of certain Czechoslovakian territory and repatriation of 3,500,000 German residents there.

Third—Hitler wants a navy equal to one-third of the British fleet, which is tantamount to 400,000 tons. The British admiralty is opposed to such a ratio and Germany has been invited to bilateral naval discussions in London.

Fourth—Germany wants return of her former colonies. Little encouragement was given Hitler on this score.

Fifth—Hitler refused to have anything to do with an eastern pact, though he is willing to enter non-aggression pacts with Germany's neighbors, as he did with Poland.

Sixth—Hitler is prepared to sign a pact of non-interference in the affairs of Austria, but only if it means non-interference by all powers.

Points in Flat Silverware

Important Features to Keep in Mind Before Purchaser Should Be Satisfied She Has Made Selection That Will Give Best Results.

There are some points of interest to the homemaker who is selecting flat silverware for her house. This silverware may be sterling or plated. The considerations hold true with both. The design may be simple or elaborate, whichever the person prefers. It is not with patterns that we are concerned except when they affect the weight of pieces, or the extra work necessitated to keep intricate designs clean.

Knives and forks should be selected in reference to each other in relation to their weight. A light fork and a heavy knife give the user an unpleasant appreciation of the lack of balance of the pieces. This does not always mean that either the knife or the fork is too small or too large to be used with the other. It is assumed that dinner sizes will be used together, if the homemaker has more than the medium size sets which can be used for any regular meals.

A difference in weight may be caused by designs, as well as sizes. Patterns which match in knives and forks are assumed to be of proper weight to accord, but it is well, nevertheless, to balance one of each in right and left hand when picking out patterns. When they are not identical in design this trial is valuable.

It is important to have the shanks of forks and spoons wide and thick enough to stand the strain of usage. The shank is the part of the spoon which connects the bowl with the larger handle part, or the tined portion of a fork with the handle. It is made in one with the other parts, but is, none the less, the shank. In a knife the shank is expected to be strong. In this era when forks are so commonly used to do the duty o-

knives as well, the strain on the shanks is great. I have known several instances where the fork or spoon has snapped in two, much to the discomfort of the guest. The shape of the silver was partly a fault.

Forks should be well balanced themselves. It is annoying to have a fork turn times up when they are wanted down to pierce a piece of meat or some bit of food. Yet such instances are not rare. The balance of the fork is so poorly adjusted in the making that it is difficult to keep the tips down. Avoid selecting such forks.

© Bell Syndicate—WNU Service.

Tax Paid in Art

While the treasury of Szekszard, Hungary, will not show that Odon Miklosi, an impoverished artist, has increased the tax fund, the proof that he paid may eventually be found in the municipal offices. Miklosi owed a great deal for taxes and arrears and had no cash with which to pay. The council considered the matter at length at their last meeting and at last a solution has been found. The artist is to be requested to paint the portraits of the mayor and leading members of the council and present the results instead of the money he owes. This was agreed upon unanimously. The council further authorized the supply of all necessary materials, including paint and canvas, to Miklosi, all at the expense of the city.

Illiteracy in India

India's population, equal to all of Europe, exclusive of Russia, is still 90 per cent illiterate.

Housewife's Idea Box



An Ironing Help

Do you have difficulty in ironing tiny garments on your regular ironing board? Did you ever stop to think that the sleeve board would be a great help to you? The next time you have any dresses or rompers to iron, try using the sleeve board and see how much trouble it will save you.

THE HOUSEWIFE.

Copyright by Public Ledger, Inc. WNU Service.

Man's Antiquity

Anthropologists from forty-two nations, meeting in London at the congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, have been told that the period of man's habitation of the earth is much longer than previously believed, extending perhaps, to some 16,000,000 years into antiquity. Sir Grafton Elliot Smith, British anthropologist, explained that diverse opinions still prevail regarding the origin of civilization, "but we now have evidence to show that, whether it was Egypt, Sumeria, India or elsewhere, it was the work of the Mediterranean race." This fact is not necessarily indicative of superior qualities of skill or initiative on the part of this race, he said, but is due to "historical circumstances" that impelled these people "to embark on those pursuits which led inevitably to the upbuilding of civilization."



★ DEEP-CUT HEAVY TREAD—MORE TRACTION . . .

★ SELF CLEANING . . .

★ DOES NOT BUMP ON PAVED ROADS . . .

★ NO CHAINS NEEDED

★ A SIZE AND TYPE FOR YOUR CAR, TRUCK and TRACTOR

THE
New

GROUND GRIP TIRE FOR EVERY FARM NEED

If you have ever been stranded with your car, truck or tractor in mud or soft ground, you will welcome this new line of Firestone Ground Grip Tires. This big, heavy, extra rugged, specially designed tread that cleans itself, required 54% more rubber to give you traction without chains.

It will pull you through any muddy road or soft ground. This heavy traction tread is securely held to the Gum-Dipped cord body by the patented construction of two extra layers of Gum-Dipped cords under the tread.

See your nearest Firestone Service Store, Firestone Tire Dealer or Implement Dealer today! Equip your car, truck and tractor with these new, Super-Traction tires for more economical year-round service.

Remember! This heavy, Super-Traction tread is guaranteed not to loosen from the tire body under any conditions, and all other parts of the tire are fully guaranteed to give satisfaction in every respect.

Firestone
EXTRA BATTERY
POWER FOR 20% MORE POWER



Firestone
SPARK PLUGS



Firestone
AQUAPRUF
BRAKE LINING



Firestone
FAN BELTS



Firestone
RADIATOR HOSE

Listen to the Voice of Firestone—featuring Richard Crook, Gladys Swarthout, or Nelson Eddy—every Monday night near N. C. —WEAF Network . . . A Free Star Program

Firestone
© 1935, F. & O. Co.