

# News Review of Current Events the World Over

Great Britain Lining Up the Nations Against Italy—More Trouble in the Orient—Death of Senator Schall.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



Anthony Eden

WAR clouds over Europe were growing denser and blacker during the Christmas holidays when all the Christian world was supposed to be singing "Peace on Earth, good will toward men." Under the skillful guidance of Anthony Eden, the new British foreign secretary, a solid front against Italy was being built up. There was no present talk of further sanctions against Mussolini, but it is expected added penalties will be put in force late in January. Meanwhile the general military and naval staffs of Great Britain and France concluded conversations which were declared "satisfactory," meaning that those nations were prepared to stand by each other in case a mad dog attack. In the capitals of other members of the League of Nations similar plans were being laid by military and naval attaches.

Turkey came into line with the other presumptive opponents of Italy, but is reported to have made a suggestion that France doesn't like. This is that it be permitted to fortify the Dardanelles, the strait between Europe and Asiatic Turkey which was demilitarized under the treaty of Lausanne after the World War. The Turks also, according to Paris advices, ask the eventual return of the Island of Rhodes in the Aegean sea, which has been under Italian sovereignty since 1923.

Eden is a firm believer in the League of Nations and, though he is moving with caution, is determined to bring Italy to terms through the sanctions provided the other members of the league give the necessary support. The British government certainly doesn't want war with Italy, but it is fast preparing for armed conflict if that shall prove to be unavoidable.

That Mussolini, too, is getting ready for extreme eventualities was evidenced by orders canceling all Christmas leaves of all officers and men of the army. The same orders directed the return to their units of the 100,000 army men demobilized in November in order that they might do the needed work on their farms. The Italian press ceased its attacks on Great Britain, and this was taken to mean that some peace move was on foot or that Mussolini had said his last word in that way and that he and his government were prepared to meet their fate. In Rome the hope is still entertained that Laval will not go all the way with Britain in the policy of extreme sanctions. The French themselves hope that the advent of the wet season in Ethiopia will halt the Italians there before it is necessary to impose the final penalties decreed by the league.

Egypt's cabinet was taking steps to protect the Libyan frontier against invasion by the Italians. The Egyptian leaders are urging the speedy conclusion of a treaty with Great Britain that will give the Egyptians the rights they claim, remove their resentment against England and enable them to line up with the British if war with Italy comes.

OUTER Mongolia is aroused by threats of invasion by the Japanese troops and their puppets, the Manchukuoans. Already the border has been crossed by the latter and five Mongol guards killed and eleven carried off by the raiders. The Mongol government has filed a strong protest, demanding an apology and the return of the captives. Most of this news comes from Moscow and naturally the Russian Soviet government is deeply interested, for this and similar incidents may bring on the long expected war between Russia and Japan.

The Japanese authorities in Tokyo let it be known that they are preparing, through the autonomy government in North China and hoped for cooperation by Chiang Kai-shek, Chinese dictator, to combat the spread of sovietism in China. In line with this is the proclamation of Prince Teh, Mongolian ruler, declaring the independence of the western part of Inner Mongolia, a vast territory with a population of two million pastoralists and rich mineral resources.

Chinese students continued their riotous demonstrations against North China autonomy, demanding that it be stopped by armed force. In Shanghai thousands of them took possession of the railway terminal, demanding free transportation to Nanking to present their protests to the central government. Chiang Kai-shek invited their leaders to confer with him on January 15.

The tenness in China was increased by the assassination in Shanghai of Tang Ya-chen, vice minister of railways and known as pro-Japanese. This and other anti-Japanese demonstrations led to the declaring of martial law in Shanghai and Nanking.

LIBERTY league has put out a 12-point program which it thinks the incoming congress should follow for the sake of the country. It is designed "to put the government's house in order."

In its statement the league accuses the New Deal of "doing violence" to the Constitution and charges the Roosevelt administration with "gigantic waste" in handling relief funds, "promoting pet theories of monetary cranks," responding to "socialistic influences" in competing with private industry, and capitalizing on the nation's emergency to make centralization of power in the federal government a permanent policy.

Continued deficit financing will destroy government credit and may lead to chaos and dictatorship, the league warned in demanding a balanced budget and repeal of tax laws aimed at "redistribution of wealth."

Emphasizing adherence to the Constitution will be the vital issue in next year's election campaign, the league called upon congress to defeat two "threatened" amendments which would bring about "a virtual change in our form of government." These proposals would create an "unhindered dictatorship," the league declared, by extending federal authority "to permit complete regimentation of industry and agriculture" and by taking away the Supreme court's power to declare laws unconstitutional.

SENATOR THOMAS D. SCHALL of Minnesota, who was struck by an automobile as he was being conducted across the highway near his residence in Maryland, succumbed to his injuries. The blind statesman had been one of the bitterest opponents of the New Deal and President Roosevelt. He had started his campaign for re-election, and Gov. Floyd Olson of Minnesota had announced he also would seek the nomination for Schall's seat. The governor said after the senator's death that he would appoint his successor; that he had no intention of resigning in order to be himself named to fill Schall's place.

Mr. Schall, who was born in 1878 in Michigan, lost his sight in an accident after he had been practicing law in Minnesota four years.



Senator Schall

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT declared himself satisfied with the progress made by Harold Ickes and Harry Hopkins in carrying out the relief program. He said that the Works Progress administration had come within 20,000 of reaching its goal of 3,500,000 men at work, and that 77 per cent of public works projects were under way. By January 15, he predicted, PWA will be functioning 100 per cent.

Mr. Roosevelt repeated that the government assumed no responsibility for those not hired under the program. He had asked congress for four billions last January, he said, based upon an estimate that there were 3,500,000 needy men who could work. He got the four billions and the 3,500,000 have been put to work, he said. The remaining unemployed must be cared for by "states, municipalities, counties, and private charity," he added.

When reporters said that some estimates placed the total of unemployed at 11,000,000, the President held that it was often difficult to say whether a person should be classed as unemployed. He cited the case of people who have resources, but desire part-time employment for supplemental income.

He also said, in discussing unemployment further, that 5,000,000 persons had found employment since the spring of 1933 in industries which report such statistics.

UNEXPECTEDLY early decision as to the validity of the Guffey coal act was assured when the Supreme court agreed to pass on the constitutionality of the law without waiting for a ruling by the Federal Court of Appeals. Both the government and Kentucky soft coal producers had asked the Supreme court for this "short cut."

REPEATED threats of kidnaping and even murder for their little son have driven Col. and Mrs. Charles A. Lindbergh from the United States. They have sailed with their boy, Jon, for England, and plan to establish a residence there, though they will not give up their American citizenship. Where they will live has not been revealed to even their closest friends. It is believed the colonel will not sever his relations with the two air transport companies for which he is a technical adviser.

HARVARD university received a handsome Christmas present from Thomas W. Linton, one of the partners in J. P. Morgan & Co. It was \$500,000 for the establishment of a new chair in political economy, one of the "roving" professorships to be created by gifts from alumni in recognition of the university's three-hundredth anniversary that comes in 1938.

WHEN the Supreme court passes on the constitutionality of the Tennessee Valley act, its opinion will not be unanimous, is the prediction of those who were present during the oral arguments. The case was taken up to the highest tribunal by fourteen preferred stockholders of the Alabama Power company.

During arguments by Forney Johnson, Birmingham, Ala., attorney for the stockholders, and by John Lord O'Brian, New York attorney, for TVA, justices shot many questions at the lawyers.

Justice McReynolds, known as a "conservative," appeared to challenge the TVA lawyer to defend the right of the government to sell surplus power produced by Wilson dam at Muscle Shoals.

On the other hand, Justices Brandeis and Stone, who are known as "liberals," inquired into the right of minority stockholders of the Alabama Power company to bring the suit which led to the Supreme court test. The stockholders sought to enjoin performance of a contract under which the company was to sell lines to TVA for transmission of power.

FEDERAL Judge Merrill E. Otis at Kansas City has held unconstitutional the Wagner labor dispute act which gives employees the right to organize and bargain collectively. The judge granted the Majestic Flour mills of Aurora, Mo., a temporary injunction against a National Labor board complaint which cited it for alleged refusal to bargain concerning a wage and hour agreement with a union of its employees.

TWO grand juries, a house committee and an army court martial have been investigating lobbying at the War department for two years. The climax came with the indictment in Washington of a dismissed army officer, a former member of congress, and two alleged lobbyists on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government.

Those named were former Brig. Gen. Alexander E. Williams, one time acting quartermaster general of the army, who was convicted by a military court last spring of accepting an improper loan and ordered dismissed from the service; Thomas Jefferson Ryan, lawyer and former representative from New York, and the well known Silverman brothers, Joseph, Jr., and Nathan, surplus army goods dealers.

The four men were charged with conspiring to prevent the house military affairs committee from questioning Frank E. Speicher, "mystery witness" of the long inquiry by hiding him out in New York city while federal agents were hunting him throughout the nation.

GOVERNMENT ownership of America's railroads is the objective in a campaign which has been started by the Railway Labor Executives' association. Describing the carriers as "chips in a financial poker game," the executives, in a circular to members of congress, ask for government ownership as "the only way out of the morass in which the roads have been placed by the bankers."

The financial practices, the circular said, "endanger the equities in the roads of insurance companies, educational institutions, mutual savings banks, philanthropic institutions, and last but not least, the individual investor who, in many instances, has his all in the securities of railroads."

IF WISCONSIN Republicans wish to make Senator Borah their candidate for the Presidential nomination, it is all right with the veteran from Idaho.

State Senator P. E. Nelson of Maple, Wis., and former State Senator Bernhard Gettelman of Milwaukee called on Mr. Borah in Washington and asked permission to circulate nominating petitions for him in their state. This was granted.

Mr. Borah told reporters that Nelson and Gettelman had suggested a campaign for "a delegation representing the liberal forces in the party out there, and in my name." He had agreed, he said, to "go along with them."

Later Mr. Borah issued this statement:

"My primary objective is a convention of liberal delegates which will write a liberal platform and name a liberal candidate. To that end I shall devote my efforts. If in any state or district the liberal forces think that it will help the liberal cause to pledge delegates to me, I shall co-operate fully with that plan. If, however, it is thought better to pledge the delegates to some other liberal, I shall co-operate just as fully. In other words, inflexible as to the objective, flexible as to the tactics."

"As I see the political situation in this country, a man would be seeking political immolation to take a nomination upon any other than a liberal platform. So the first thing to do is to get a convention committed to liberal principles. So far as my efforts count, I am not going to permit personal matters, either my own or those of others, to interfere with the main purpose."

CONTRACTS have been awarded for 108 new bombing planes for the army air corps. The Douglas Aircraft company, Inc., of Santa Monica, Calif., was given an order for 80 all-metal, low wing, twin-engine monoplane, costing a total of \$2,498,000.

Thirteen giant four-motored "sky cruisers" were bought from the Boeing company of Seattle, Wash. The price for the Boeing craft was not given in the announcement by Harry H. Woodring, assistant secretary of war.



On His Way to the Dining Table.

Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

ONE of the largest of wild game birds which has been domesticated, the turkey has become "the national festival bird" of various countries. As a wild bird in North America, the turkey supplied the numerous tribes of Indians and the early white settlers with "game" fowl in great abundance, whereas in later times the domesticated turkey has provided kings and presidents, as well as the more lowly in rank, in various nations with a class of meat that has come to be regarded as essential in the proper celebration of certain holidays.

The turkey is the only race of poultry that originated in the United States. When Francisco Fernandez, under the patronage of Philip II of Spain, arrived at the northern coast of Yucatan in 1517, turkeys were observed to have been domesticated by the natives. In 1518 Grijalva discovered Mexico and found domesticated turkeys in great numbers. Gomara and Hernandez refer to wild as well as domesticated forms.

Various Indian tribes fed freely upon turkey meat, obtained from both wild and domesticated flocks. The Aztecs were more inclined to domesticate the turkey than the northern Indians, but all tribes hunted the wild birds.

The flesh was not the only part of the turkey used by the Indians. Feathers served to adorn the wearing apparel, and they were also made into robes and blankets, being twisted separately into strands of wild hemp and then woven together.

In its original habitat the wild turkey ranged from the Atlantic coast to as far north as the Dakotas, and from southern Ontario to southern Mexico. It was not a native of the three Pacific coast states, nor of Idaho, Montana, Utah, Nevada and Wyoming.

With practically a whole continent for his home, the more favored haunts of the wild turkey were the forests and brush lands, where food was abundant and there was some protection from natural enemies. He fed on acorns, seeds, berries, grass and insects, especially grasshoppers.

Found Wild in Southern States.

The clearing of the forests and brush lands for agricultural purposes and the shooting of thousands of birds by hunters were two of the most important factors contributing to the gradual retreat of the wild turkey from northern and eastern states.

It is still to be found in Arizona, New Mexico, Kentucky, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Arkansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Mexico. Various state game departments are reintroducing the bird, and restocking depleted areas.

Although there is no doubt that the wild turkey originated in America, there is much doubt as to how it got its name. Some early writers have suggested that the name "turkey" was adopted because of the supposed resemblance between the adornments of the fowl's head and the fez worn by Turkish citizens. But the most widely accepted explanation is that the name bears some resemblance to the bird's repeated call-notes—"turk, turk, turk."

The turkey is not a migratory bird in the sense that ducks and geese migrate hundreds of miles from the south to the north in the spring and return in the fall, much to the delight of thousands of hunters.

The wild turkey is a handsome bird of stately carriage. His glossy plumage is mostly greenish bronze, with gold and copper reflections. In the sunlight the effect is a delight to the eye. The feathers of the neck, breast, body, and back are tipped with a band of velvety black, thus accentuating the glowing sheen of the remainder of the plumage.

One outstanding characteristic of the turkey is that the upper portion of the neck and the head is bare of feathers, the skin being rich purple or blue. The folds or lumps of bare skin are called caruncles. There is a single wattle, and from the crown of the head there hangs a pencil-like projection of the skin, which reddens when the gobblers make love to the hens.

Another outstanding character of the turkey is the tuft of wiry, hairlike "beard" springing from the center of the breast. In some old male wild turkeys, the beard trails to the ground.

The feet of the wild turkey are light purple. They are equipped with short, heavy spurs, but while the male chicken fights principally with his spurs, the turkey fights almost entirely with his beak.

Gobbler's "Breast Sponge."

The wild gobbler is provided with an interesting appendage, which is not

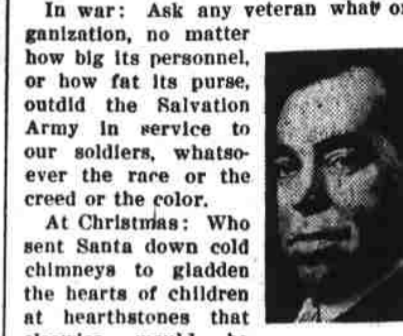
what Irvin S. Cobb thinks about:

The Lord's Shock Troops  
WESTWOOD, HILLS, CAL.  
—In peace: I knew streets in New York where citizens went at their own risk, and policemen walked in pairs. But some were as safe as though they'd been in church—a doctor with his kit; a nurse in her uniform; a priest or a nun; a preacher or a rabbi, and always a Salvation Army worker.

In war: Ask any veteran what organization, no matter how big its personnel, or how fat its purse, outdid the Salvation Army in service to our soldiers, whatsoever the race or the creed or the color.

At Christmas: Who sent Santa down cold chimneys to gladden the hearts of children at hearthstones that elsewhere would be desolate? Who brought a measure of holiday cheer to the misery-laden, putting clothes on the backs and dinners in the stomachs of the naked and the hungry?

So, for their eleventh-hour drive for their Christmas fund, thank God for the Salvation Army. Every cent went where it should have gone when you gave it to them, for verily I tell you, as one who knows, these are the shock troops of the Lord.



Irvin S. Cobb

That Marvelous Hen  
WHATSOEVER became of the hen which from time to time hauled off and laid an egg with mysterious initialing on it? In my days on a country newspaper this gifted fowl was a regular journalistic feature. Her output might be soft-shelled and shy a yolk, but always the cryptic writing was there.

Once she produced an egg bearing letters which many translated as prophesying "war." But somebody pointed out that if you read the message the other way it spelt "raw," which also seemed to cover the case.

This barnyard phenomenon died too soon. How the New Deal boys could use a hen capable of turning out weird alphabetical combinations and then going off and forgetting them!

Afterthought—Among all the office seekers or office holders who have been or may be mentioned for a Presidential nomination next year—or even for Vice President—you will search in vain for the name of Governor Hoffman of New Jersey.

Destroying a Skunk  
I'VE just been reading—until I stopped to gag—the latest novel of one of the new school of authors; you know, those so-called realists who mistake filth for fiction and lewdness for literature. I wouldn't say this person was much of a writer, but he certainly is a practical dirt-farmer.

I've never believed in censorship for creative work; and as regards this group, I've always gone on the theory, paraphrasing an old line of an old ballad, that they were more to be pitied than censored.

But for the individual offender against common decency—well, when I was a youngster down South, they told me the surest way to destroy a skunk was to pen him under a barrel and just let him smell himself to death on his own personal perfumes.

Our Younger Generation.  
IN THE paper I see where, for their Sunday sermons, three ministers preached on modern youth—with particular references to the shortcomings of same.

I haven't a doubt that the first cave-man, surveying the antics of his coltish brood, remarked in tones of gloomy resignation to his hairy mate:

"Well, mommer, the world's done pretty well while we ran it. Look at the hole in the roof to let the smoke out, that I thought up right out of my own head, be-gee! And now when I get the trick of this new throwing-stick worked out, civilization will just about have reached her peak. But heaven help the poor old earth when that bunch of crazy kids yonder takes hold!"

Before we start blaming the oncoming generation for everything, including its own sins, which are sufficiently manifest already, let's go back to where this buck-passing habit started. Let's go back to Adam, the derved old experimentalist!

IRVIN S. COBB.  
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Fish Wanted  
There are fish in Lake Titicaca, the highest in the world, but not enough, says the Philadelphia Inquirer. They are of a coarse, native variety, and the larger number of natives who live on the lake's shores would like more refined fish, although the water is said to be too cold for most European varieties. The Bolivian and Peruvian governments have therefore signed a "formal diplomatic agreement" whose object is to create a fishing industry on this sheet of water set in the Andes 12,000 feet above sea level and 5,000 square miles in area, and re-stock it. It is confidently expected that foreign experts will find some species of fish that will be able to bear the intense cold, even though the natives, who from time immemorial have fished from frail boats made of reeds, refrain from learning to swim because they cannot stand the cold themselves.