

LOOKING AT WASHINGTON

By Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent

PAN-AMERICAN PARLEY. EUROPE INTERESTED. U. S. PRESTIGE HIGH. SOME DIFFERENCES. SEEKING COMMERCE. NEW FUNDS FOR FHA. EDEN'S VISIT. DANGERS OF WAR. ECONOMIC PROBLEM. RELIEF AND DEFENSE.

The Eighth International Conference of American States in Lima, Peru, last week attracted considerable interest, not only in the states represented in the meeting, but also in Europe where several nations have what they consider important interests at stake.

With every nation in the Western Hemisphere represented and apparently intent upon proclaiming to the world the solidarity of the Western

Hemisphere, the delegates face a difficult task in the framing of declarations to suit the individual peculiarities of the nations involved. There was evident a desire not to flaunt a spirit of isolation from world affairs and, on the part of several important South American nations, an anxiety not to offend European nations, heretofore closely attached by commercial interests and blood ties.

It is interesting to note that, for the first time, such differences of opinion as exist, do not involve the United States which, heretofore, has been the target of a Latin-American bloc usually led by Argentina. Some of the nations desired to proclaim immediately some form of agreement relating to the joint defense of this part of the world, but the Argentinians were strongly opposed to anything like an American League of

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An Eloquent Christmas Story



An Ancient Peasant Art.

FEW Christmas pictures have the appeal of this simple group. The carving is the work of mountain peasants self-taught by centuries of patient practice. The craftsmanship is primitive but the affection and devotion of the artists have created a little masterpiece of its kind.

The figures carved in wood with their black draperies are all readily recognizable. The peasant artist conception of the Madonna, the Child and the Apostles are all in character. Even the little sheep with the coats of wool assume a devotional attitude. It is impossible to conceive a simpler manger. The effect has been gained with a few pieces of wood practically in two dimensions. The art of wood carving is very an-

cient. Many examples of the work of these artists are very elaborate and have found their way into churches all over the world including the United States.

Working in the depths of the black forest the peasant artists create these delightful little biblical groups by slow and painstaking efforts. Thousands of them are prepared long in advance for the Christmas trade.

The group illustrated herewith was one of the hundreds assembled in the Grassi Museum at the Leipzig Fair which eventually find their way all over the world. The carvings inspired by the simple faith of these native artists are cherished for their sincerity and appeal far more than more sophisticated art.

Nations, a projected American Court of International Justice; and to anything like a continental alliance. The American delegation, for the most part, was not involved in the struggle between the opposing camps, but rather devoted its time to an attempt to find a common viewpoint.

The capital of Peru, now enjoying its summer season, was extravagantly decorated with flags as the delegates arrived. It is worth noting that every nation in the Western Hemisphere owes its origin to a revolution and most of the South American countries venerate common patriots. The general idea was that a defensive alliance in the form of a treaty was unnecessary. Much stress was placed upon the importance of developing trade and cultural relations between the two Americas.

At the same time, it was pointed out that there is considerable difference between the people of the United States and Canada, for example, and the inhabitants of the other nations. Most of them descended from Latin races, with the culture of old Spain as well as its religion. This is quite different from the Anglo-Saxon traditions of the English and American people, but, in the opinion of all speakers, a demonstration of the ability of nations to live together in peace and to develop their mutual interests.

One of the results of the conference will be to focus the attention of the people of the United States upon the nations of South America. Their importance in the future trade prospects of the United States receives new consideration. The standing of the United States has never been better. Since the conference at Montevideo, Uruguay, five years ago, when Mr. Hull convinced Latin-America that the Good Neighbor Policy was sincere, the prestige of the United States has grown immeasurably. In fact, some of the Latin-American delegates went to Lima with instructions to vote with the United States delegation on all topics. This is, indeed, an unusual condition.

That one of the prime motives of the United States is to improve trade with these countries is apparent from the declaration in Washington that Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., is studying possible efforts to make available adequate exchange facilities with South and Central American countries. While none of the Latin-American countries owe the United States Treasury any money, several of them have borrowed extensively from private investors. The possibility of lending gold to these countries in order to stimulate their buying of goods from the United States is receiving attention. Before it can be done, however, Congress would have to authorize direct loans.

Trade figures for the first ten months of this year show that American goods to the amount of \$520,000,000 were sold to Latin-America and that the United States bought \$622,000,000 worth from Latin-America. This means that we are selling about one-fifth of our exports to the Latin-American countries, and buying from the nations of this hemisphere about one-fourth of our imports.

Acting according to an act of Congress, passed last February, President Roosevelt has approved an increase of \$1,000,000,000 in the capacity of the Federal Housing Administration to insure residential mortgages. The President's action was taken upon receipt of a letter from Stewart MacDonald, Federal Housing Administrator, who pointed out that

on December 1st, the FHA had insured mortgages amounting to \$1,585,000,000, leaving it an unobligated balance of \$415,000,000. The appraisals already were in progress on applications, amounting to \$115,000,000 and new applications were coming in at the rate of \$100,000,000 a month. Consequently, it was necessary, if the FHA was to continue its program, to have an authorization for more than the \$2,000,000,000 set by the Act of Congress.

The visit of Anthony Eden to the United States seems to have aroused some interest in Japan, where spokesmen recently announced that the Japanese Government had given up hope of driving a wedge between Great Britain and the United States. Henceforth, it was said, the island policy would become firmer against the United States. The British Government, some weeks ago, admitted that it had under consideration a loan to China, which would, of course, help her in her resistance to the Japanese.

Some years ago observers predicted that 1939 and 1940 would be years of danger, when Germany and Italy would reach the peak of their fighting strength before facing a steady decline of military power as Great Britain and France got their rearmament programs underway. Recent events, including the Italian agitation for French territory and the German attitude toward Memel, indicates that the leaders of these, two aggressive powers realize that their advantage is temporary. Whatever claims they have to advance might as well be set out now and if a war is to be fought, this is the best time for the battle, so far as German and Italian prospects are concerned with possible victory.

The big economic problem before the nation is the balancing of income between various population groups in order to facilitate the exchange of goods and services. The farm portion of the economic order has not been receiving its share of the national income and, inevitably, this produces complications that lead to depressions. From the farms of the nation come the buying power that makes industry hum and it is essential to the continued prosperity of the people of this country that farmers manage to secure a reasonable profit from their operations. The tariff, which holds up the prices of manufactured goods, is offset, to some extent, by governmental benefits to farmers under the AAA programs. That perfect equality has not yet resulted is apparent and further steps to this end are certain.

There is every indication that the rearmament program of the United States will proceed along sane and sound lines, without being mixed up in any "pump-priming" purpose and without extravagant expenditures to over-emphasize any particular defense unit. It is estimated that some three or four hundred million dollars, in addition to last year's billion dollars, will be necessary in the next fiscal year, but this, it is thought, can be secured without increasing total expenditures over this year. The improvement of business conditions, with consequent lessening of unemployment, may make possible smaller relief expenditures to offset increased defense costs.

Nuts To You

Supplies of United States hickory seed have recently been obtained by the Australian Forestry Bureau, and it is proposed that selected areas be planted.—Department of Commerce.

CROSS ROADS

Misses Annie Belle and Mary Privott are at home from E. C. T. C., Greenville, to spend the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Privott.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Perry entertained relatives and friends during the week-end at their home.

Miss Willetta Evans, of Gulf Park College, Gulf Port, Miss., and Miss Helen Evans, of Manteo, have arrived to spend the holidays with Mrs. Z. W. Evans.

Tyree Buck, of Greenville, spent the week-end as the guest of the E. L. Winslows.

Mrs. R. H. Hollowell and Norman Hollowell left Monday for Vanleet, Miss., to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hollowell.

Miss Dorothy Lee Savage, who is attending school at Mars Hill College, is spending the holidays with her father, J. L. Savage.

Miss Frances Evans, of Woodland, and Miss Esther Evans, of Hertford, spent the week-end with Mrs. Z. W. Evans.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Perry spent Thursday morning in Edenton.

Miss Sarah Winborne, a student at W. C. U. N. C., Greensboro, and Hutchings Winborne, a student at Oak Ridge Military Institute, have arrived to spend the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Winborne.

Earl Privott, of Rocky Mount, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Privott.

Miss Marguerite Etta Evans has returned from Greensboro College, Greensboro, to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Evans.

Mrs. Belle W. Parker and Miss Nina Moore visited Mrs. C. H. Carter, of Gatesville, Sunday afternoon.

Miss Alma Winslow, of the Chicod school faculty, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Winslow.

Misses Marguerite and Kathleen

Asbell, students at E. C. T. C., Greenville, are with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Asbell, for the holidays.

Mrs. J. D. Hobbs visited Mrs. Leslie Blanchard Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Coke Nixon moved Monday into the M. M. Nixon home.

Alvin Byrum, of Focky Hook, spent the week-end with Carrol Byrum.

Miss Orene Hollowell, of the Reidsville school faculty, and Weldon Hollowell, a student at Wake Forest College, have arrived to spend the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Hollowell, Sr.

David and Porter Byrum, students at Wake Forest College, Paul Byrum, of the Red Springs school faculty, and Conwell Byrum are spending the holidays with their parents, Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Byrum.

Miss Marguerite Dail has returned from Durham, where she received treatment at Duke Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Dail spent Thursday in Norfolk, Va.

J. P. Barnett has gone to his home at Lebanon, Ind., for the holidays.

B. & L. League Annual Convention June 27-29

The North Carolina Building and Loan League will hold its 1939 Annual Convention at the Ocean Terrace Hotel, Wrightsville Beach, on June 27th, 28th and 29th, it was announced by John B. Craven of Lexington, President of the League. Plans are being made to hold one of the largest annual meetings ever held by the League, with special attention being given to the subject of construction loans.

BULL CAUSES TROUBLE

Laporte, Ind.—When a 1,500-pound shorthorn bull walked on a railroad track, he was killed by a freight train. The impact of the collision derailed the engine and fifteen cars. A passenger train, detouring around the wreck, backed into an open switch and three cars turned over.

HOW DO YOU GET SO MUCH WORK DONE? MY NERVES WOULD BE A WRECK

EVER SO OFTEN, I LET UP—LIGHT UP A CAMEL

SMOKERS FIND CAMEL'S COSTLIEST TOBACCOS ARE SOOTHING TO THE NERVES

TAYLOR THEATRE

EDENTON, N. C. — WE HAVE THE SHOWS

Wish You All a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Thursday, December 22—Return Engagement—
Dorothy Lamour and Ray Milland in "HER JUNGLE LOVE"

Friday, December 23—
THE JONES FAMILY in "DOWN ON THE FARM"

Saturday, December 24—
Gene Autry and Smiley "Frog" Burnette in "WESTERN JAMBOREE"

"DICK TRACY RETURNS" No. 8 — OUR GANG COMEDY

Sunday, December 25—Christmas Day—
Dick Foran, Gloria Dickson, Gale Page, Allen Jenkins and Janet Chapman in "HEART OF THE NORTH"

A TECHNICOLOR PICTURE
Also Captain and Kids Cartoon, a Merry Melodie Cartoon and Busse Rhythm Orchestra
Matinee—3:30 NIGHT—9:15

Monday and Tuesday, December 26-27—
Tommy Kelly, Ann Gillis, Spanky MacFarland Benita Hume, Edgar Kennedy, Louise Beavers in "PECK'S BAD BOY WITH THE CIRCUS"

Wednesday, December 28—
Ronald Reagan and Jane Bryan in "GIRLS ON PROBATION"

Coming December 28-29—
James Cagney and Pat O'Brien in "ANGELS WITH DIRTY FACES"