

News Review of Current Events the World Over

France and Italy Reach Agreement as to Their Naval Strength—Seventy-First Congress Comes to an End.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



A. Henderson

DIPLOMATS and financiers, working steadily and persistently, have brought about an accord between France and Italy on the question of relative naval strength, and the probable result will be that the three-power London naval treaty will become a five-power pact. Thus the French and Italians will give up the idea of starting a building program that would compel Great Britain to increase her naval forces under the "escalator" clause of the treaty, and the United States and Japan would be relieved of the fear that their relative strength would not be maintained without a lively resumption of building.

Arthur Henderson, British foreign secretary, was most active in the final stages of the negotiations between France and Italy, making trips to Rome and Paris, and is given credit for excellent work. But it is admitted that the groundwork for the agreement was laid by Hugh S. Gibson, American ambassador to Belgium, who for several months had been laboring to bring the dispute to an end. Acting under personal orders from President Hoover, he held a series of private talks with Mussolini, Tardieu, Briand and others, and transmitted their various proposals to Rome and Paris and finally to the British.

The financial end of the accord consists in a long term loan to Italy, to be made by French and American bankers, which will really be a war debt moratorium in disguise. The Fascist government will receive perhaps three and a half billion dollars, which sum, it is said, will "save Italy from bankruptcy and put the country on its feet." Specifically, the loan will be used to retire and convert internal debt obligations, \$1,520,000,000 of which fell due on October 1 last. Mussolini's previous efforts to obtain long term loans from American and French bankers had failed because, largely, of the naval dispute with France.

While the terms of the Franco-Italian agreement were temporarily withheld from the public, it was learned in Paris that it provides that French naval superiority over Italy be reduced from 240,000 tons to 190,000 tons, most of the reduction coming from projected submarines and super-submarines. It was agreed that the battleship tonnage allotted at the Washington naval conference would not be used for ships of more than 25,000 tons. France obtained the right to build three 23,300-ton vessels of the super-cruiser type.

In return for superiority in global or total tonnage, it is believed that France gives Italy a slight superiority in light cruisers and torpedo destroyers, but retains supremacy in submarines. It was understood that Italy demanded the sacrifice of super-submarines in the French program and that France made the concession because its coastal submarines are sufficient for its present needs. France and Italy, it is understood, agreed on parity in 10,000-ton cruisers.

LEGAL proceedings are under way in Washington in the contest between President Hoover and the senate over the right of Chairman George Otis Smith of the power commission to hold that office, and the senate is represented by John W. Davis, who was Democratic candidate for the Presidency in 1924. He was selected for the job by a subcommittee of the Judiciary committee composed of Senators Norris, Walsh and Steiwer. The proceedings are expected to add another chapter to the history of constitutional clashes between the executive and legislative branches of the government.



John W. Davis

Selection of Mr. Davis as counsel for the senate assures a spectacular court test, with the former Presidential candidate on one side and possibly Attorney-General Mitchell on the other. The final decision probably will be rendered by the Supreme court.

WITH a filibuster in the senate and rather uproarious gaiety in the house, the seventy-first congress came to an end at noon, March 4. During its life it carried out fairly well President Hoover's program of legislation, despite frequent acrimonious clashes with the Chief Executive since last December. It is unnecessary to recount these disputes, for every one is familiar with them. In only two major affairs—the nomination of Judge Parker to the Supreme court and the recent veterans' bonus loan act—was the President defeated.

The important items of legislation during the third session included these: Routine annual appropriation bills carrying more than \$5,250,000,000. Emergency construction program,

providing \$116,000,000 for speeding up public work, including rivers and harbors, highway construction and other federal improvements.

Relief for drought-stricken areas, including \$20,000,000 for food loans, provided in measures embodying a \$65,000,000 loan fund; \$2,000,000 for rural sanitation activities; and \$3,500,000 of unexpended balances in funds for relief of flood-stricken states.

Program of federal public building construction increased by \$100,000,000. Series of unemployment relief measures enacted, contemplating federal unemployment census, long-term planning of public construction to meet emergencies and federal co-operation in unemployment agency activities.

Additional soldier hospitalization facilities afforded in \$20,000,000 program. Naval modernization bill, authorizing \$30,000,000 to remodel battleships Louisiana, Idaho and New Mexico, to meet standards prescribed by the 1922 Washington arms conference.

The seventy-first congress earned the one distinction of being the heaviest spending of all peace time congresses. In all, it appropriated approximately \$10,000,000,000 for government uses.

IN ITS closing days the congress enacted the Muscle Shoals legislation which would put the government into the power business, but President Hoover vetoed the measure, sending in a long and well argued message. The senate sustained the veto, the vote being 49 to 34, and the bill was dead. Mr. Hoover had predicted he would be accused of favoring the power trust, and members of congress did accuse him of this, and the incident, it was said, made it certain that the power controversy would be one of the major issues of the next Presidential campaign.

Mr. Hoover also failed to sign the Wagner bill for federal co-operation with the states in establishing a national system of employment exchange. It was understood he would "pocket veto" this measure, which would bring the number of his vetoes to fifteen.



H. H. Curran

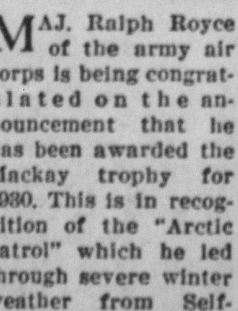
IF YOU are to take the word of Henry H. Curran, president of the Association Against Prohibition, a majority of the people of the United States are now ready and willing to vote for the repeal of the Eighteenth amendment. In his annual report to the directors and 300,000 members of the association, Mr. Curran declared that the dry cause had not advanced an inch during 1930, while the wet movement had registered important gains. He asserted that the November election doubled the wet representation in the house and raised the senate wet group from 15 two years ago, to 22 at present. He said the house now has a wet vote of 100, compared with 78 in 1928.

SECRETARY of Agriculture Hyde denies that he is to blame for delay in distributing the \$20,000,000 drought relief fund. In a letter replying to a resolution introduced by Senator Caraway asking why Mr. Hyde had not begun the distribution, the secretary said:

"I have the honor to inform the senate that because of the extended debate upon the appropriation of \$20,000,000 contained in the Interior department bill, and because of the uncertainty as to the provisions of the act, it was not possible to work out the administration and accounting problems entailed until the act was finally passed and its provisions definitely known."

He explained the machinery which the department had set up in order to distribute loans through intermediate credit organizations and directly to the farmer.

"There exists now no reason why application for loans may not now be received and payment made shortly thereafter," he concluded.



Major Royce

MAJ. Ralph Royce of the army air corps is being congratulated on the announcement that he has been awarded the Mackay trophy for 1930. This is in recognition of the "Arctic patrol" which he led through severe winter weather from Selfridge field, Michigan, to Spokane, Wash., and return, in January, 1930. It was a severe test of the skill and stamina of the pilots and the stability of the plane, and was successfully carried through.

The trophy, which is competed for annually by United States army officers under War department rules, was first presented 18 years ago to the Aero Club of America by Clarence H. Mackay. The National Aeronautical association, successor to the Aero Club

of America, is present custodian of the trophy for the War department.

CHAIRMAN RASKOB told the Democratic national committee at its meeting in Washington all about the wet policy which he thought the party should adopt, but said he would not ask action on his suggested platform until the next meeting. Dry members from the South vigorously opposed Raskob's views or any consideration of them by the committee. It was decided that a \$10,000,000 campaign fund should be raised.

LOW bid for the general contract on the Hoover dam and power plant in Boulder canyon was submitted in Denver by a combination of western construction firms—the Six Companies, Inc., of San Francisco, and the government engineers recommended that this bid of \$48,890,995.50 be accepted by Secretary of the Interior Wilbur. Work on the project, the biggest engineering job ever undertaken in this country, probably will be started before the end of March.

Government officials, although asserting work would be hastened so unemployment conditions in the Southwest would be relieved, warned workers against a general migration to the Nevada-Arizona line dam site as there were 10,000 laborers on hand at Las Vegas, Nev. Estimates for construction forces ranged from 2,000 to 2,500 men at work at one time when the program gets into full stride.



Gen. Jadwin

ONE of the most eminent engineers of the American army, and indeed of the nation, passed on when Lieut. Gen. Edgar Jadwin, retired chief of the army engineering corps and chairman of the intercanal commission, died at Gorges hospital in Panama City, while in Ancon preparing to go to Nicaragua to survey the possibilities of a Nicaraguan canal. He was stricken with apoplexy, and a cerebral hemorrhage ended his life.

General Jadwin, who was born in Honesdale, Pa., in 1865, was graduated from West Point in 1890 and had a brilliant career in the engineering corps for nearly forty years, retiring in 1929.

He served in the Spanish-American war and the World war, but was best known for his peacekeeping work in the United States and in the Canal Zone. The Jadwin plan of food control formulated after the disastrous Mississippi valley floods of 1927 was the army officer's most important work. The plan called for expenditure of \$25,000,000 and was opposed in congress, but finally passed with administration support.

VICEROY LORD IRWIN and Mahatma Gandhi, both making concessions, reached an agreement for peace in India, and the civil disobedience movement that had lasted for a year came to an end. The Nationalists looked on the pact as a triumph for the doctrine of non-violence. The British government, though it yields considerable, probably gets none the worst of the bargain. By the terms of the agreement, it is understood, the Nationalists abandon their resistance movement and will work for qualified dominion status in the second round table conference. In return, their imprisoned members will be released and most of the confiscated property will be returned; they are permitted to conduct boycotts that do not aim specifically at British goods, and the poor natives along the coast are given the right to make their own salt.

The most important gain for the British was the point in which the Nationalists agreed to confine themselves at the next round table conference to the specified scope of constitutional questions elucidated by the first round table meeting in London. This commits Gandhi to the principle of a federation of Indian responsibility, but with British safeguards covering finance, defense, foreign affairs, the position of minorities and the discharge of India's national debts.

SIR OSWALD MOSLEY, wealthy British socialist, and his wife, Lady Cynthia, have broken with the Laborites and formed a new party of their own which asks for 400 candidates in the next election. The Mosleys especially attack the unemployment policy of the MacDonald government.

AL CAPONE, Chicago's public enemy No. 1, did not fare so well when he ran afoul of the federal judiciary there. Judge Wilkerson sentenced the notorious gang leader to six months in jail for contempt of court in excusing his non-appearance in court some time ago by pleas of illness at Miami. The case was appealed, Capone being released under bond.

SENATOR Arthur Capper's committee on food prices reported that it found "an alarming tendency toward the monopolistic control of the food of the nation by a small group of powerful corporations and combinations," the tendency being especially strong in the case of bread and milk. A careful scrutiny by the federal trade commission and the Department of Justice was recommended.

TWO new governments within a week for Peru! First a navy group forced Sanchez Cerro to resign and named Chief Justice Ricardo Elias provisional president. Then along came a bunch of officers and troops loyal to Cerro and out went Elias and his friends. The new army junta was headed by Col. Gustavo Jimenes.

Facing National Erosion Problem

Rapid Depletion of Fertility of Farm Soils Seen as Big Evil.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)—WNU Service.

The most serious problem which confronts American farmers today is the rapid depletion of the fertility of their soils by man-induced erosion, which has come to be recognized as an evil of such national proportions that the government, through the United States Department of Agriculture, has within the past two years established seven regional experiment stations to work out practical methods of erosion control, members of the Association of American Geographers were told at their annual meeting in Worcester, Mass., by H. H. Bennett, in charge of soil-erosion investigations of the bureau of chemistry and soils of the department.

Much Land Suffering.

"Not less than 75 per cent of all the cultivated land of the United States is suffering from erosion in some degree—much of it seriously," said Mr. Bennett, quoting from data compiled from topographic maps, soil surveys, and erosion surveys which show that in certain major farming regions more than 90 per cent of all the cultivated land of some counties is being impoverished by sheet erosion.

"The top soil of the uplands of the country is not nearly so deep as commonly supposed. This was recently discovered when the average depth of a large number of representative upland surface soil samples, collected from 34 states, was found to be only 8 inches.

Material Less Productive.

"When this vital layer is removed the material left for crop production is much less productive. This frequently consists of clay, which is more difficult and costly to till, is less absorptive of rain water, and dries out more quickly in periods of drought. It is at this stage when the surface soil is washed off, that gully development usually sets in," said Mr. Bennett, who pointed out that sheet erosion, though less conspicuous than gully, is by far the more damaging form of soil washing. These two forms of erosion, he said, annually remove from the farm lands of the United States plant food with an estimated value of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Stations for soil-erosion prevention have been located in Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Texas, and North Carolina. Many farmers have already studied erosion-prevention practices at the stations in Oklahoma and Texas. Mr. Bennett says that the national program for erosion prevention calls for such experiment stations in 20 or more of the major regions in which the excessive soil washing is known to be costly.

Co-Operative Spraying Profits in Wisconsin

Farmers are losing millions of dollars yearly through small crops of fruit and inferior fruit, caused by lack of spraying and other attention, says the Farm Journal.

In 16 counties of Wisconsin, the problem is being solved by spraying rings of eight or ten farms, with 800 to 1,500 trees. Each ring purchases a sprayer producing at least 300 pounds pressure, a tank, hose, etc.

A reliable operator is hired and trained, and trees are given six sprays each season. In addition, the trees are properly pruned and commercial nitrogen applied.

Results have been most satisfactory. Apples which formerly were sold with difficulty for 25 cents to 30 cents a bushel, now are in big demand at \$1.50 to \$2.50 a bushel. Yields have been increased to an average of seven bushels per tree.

After paying all expenses, profits have been increased \$100 to several hundred dollars per farm. A survey of rings in Racine county showed that all farms with over 48 trees made sufficient net profits to pay all the farm taxes.

Cost of supplies have been reduced through co-operative buying and profits increased through co-operative selling.

Care in Feeding Silage Required for Results

Silage is an extra good feed if it is not abused. Two kinds of abuse are to feed too much and to let the surplus accumulate in the mangers. It should not be forgotten that silage is largely water. If the cows are encouraged to cram themselves with silage at the expense of grain and hay they will not be getting enough nutrients to sustain their bodies and a profitable flow of milk. Preferably the grain should be fed on top of the silage so that it will be eaten first and then not more silage than will be eaten readily. If there is a surplus it should be cleaned out of the mangers daily.

Care for Harness

Every spring before farm work begins, the harness should be taken apart, loose dirt cleaned off, washed thoroughly with warm water and mild soap, hung up until the surface is barely dry, thoroughly oiled with good harness oil, allowed to dry in a warm room, and all excess oil wiped off. It should then be gone over carefully and all rips and breaks carefully sewed with good waxed thread.

Large Trees Killed by Drought Are Good

Excellent Plan to Cut Material for Farm Use.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)—WNU Service.

What to do with large trees killed by the drought is a question asked by many farmers who own woodlands. If the timber can be salvaged economically, the forest service, United States Department of Agriculture, advises cutting it now. If a market cannot be found for this material, it is better to cut it for future use on the farm than to let it go to waste in the woods. Many mature trees have succumbed in some of the drought-stricken sections, and if they can be used now it is better to cut them before they begin to decay. Trees containing saw logs may be good for lumber, and crooked or diseased trees can be used to augment the fuel-wood supply.

"There is always on every farm a need for construction and repair materials," the extension forester of Virginia points out, "and here is a chance to salvage those dead trees and at the same time provide a supply of repair material for years to come. There are many sawmill operators who would be glad to do a little custom sawing. Some of them would take their pay in logs. There are on almost every farm the tools, wagons and work stock necessary to do the logging and hauling.

"Properly stacked and roofed over with the common boards, lumber will keep almost indefinitely. Why not cut those trees this winter and have them turned into inch boards, 2x4s, 4x6s, and other sizes needed for the upkeep of the farm?"

Increased Use of Skim Milk Powder for Fowls

Skim milk powder is somewhat cheaper than it was a few years ago and also easier to get. It is carried in stock by most feed merchants, particularly if these feed merchants are in a section where there are a number of poultry farms. Practically all poultrymen are now using more or less milk powder in their mashers. Because of lower cost and availability, more and more dairymen are using skim milk powder in calf feeding, this of course applying only in sections where whole milk is sold. This powder is mixed with water in the proportion of one part of powder to nine parts of water. When brought to a temperature of 95 to 98 degrees, the solution is fed exactly as skim milk would be fed. Some farmers say that, after calves have been well started on whole milk and have learned to eat grain and hay, the skim milk powder can be mixed with the grain rations and save the trouble of mixing with water and heating.

Good Heavy Oats Useful for Fattening Lambs

Recent tests in Indiana indicate that good heavy oats are equal in value to corn for fattening western lambs. Three feeding trials were conducted involving 150 lambs. Oats, cottonseed meal, clover hay, and corn silage were fed in comparison with shelled corn, cottonseed meal, clover hay and corn silage.

With the oat ration 577 pounds of oats, 51 pounds of cottonseed meal, 261 pounds of hay, and 284 pounds of silage were required for each 100 pounds of gain. With the corn ration 367 pounds of corn, 51 pounds of cottonseed meal, 462 pounds of hay, and 454 pounds of silage were required for the same gain. It is noted that the lambs on the oat ration consumed considerably less roughage which offset the value of the oats consumed.

Farm Hints

All-mash feeding permits greater sanitation in handling the chicks.

Leeks are spectacular subjects for the fall shows. Plant a row and bill them up carefully as they grow.

Hardy strains of alfalfa have averaged from 474 to 631 pounds more hay per acre each year than common varieties in experiments at the Pennsylvania state college.

No other hay equals alfalfa for feeding purposes and few crops are better for swine pastures. It also ranks high as a part of the mixture for pasturing other kinds of live stock.

The chick is handicapped by becoming infested with many parasites early in life. An earlier hatched chick gains resistance with age before the parasites become so numerous.

Treble barley, though a high yielder, has weak straw and is susceptible to "spot blotch." Trials with pigs indicate its feeding value is somewhat lower than that of other kinds.

From breeding time forward to lambing time the ewe may be in a gradual gaining condition. In which case a strong lamb may be expected and a full udder to nourish it with.

Do not spoil a good job of house-cleaning by dumping the poultry manure and other material cleaned out of the house in a place where the chickens can scratch in it—just as well not clean the house.

"SCIENCE rescues the DEAFENED"

by Floyd Gibbons

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No Amateur Did That

Amateur curio hunters had long been a pest to Maurice Learner, head of an Oakland (Calif.) firm specializing in wrecking ships. He can't explain, however, the method used by the person who stole an anchor weighing 1,800 pounds from the old United States cruiser Farragut.

Bad Stomach Cause of Bad Skin

You can't expect to have a good clear skin if your stomach is weak and disordered. Undigested food sends poisons through the body, pimples appear—skin grows sallow and loses color.

But these troubles will end quickly and skin clear up if you will start today taking Tanlac. Tanlac is made from herbs, barks and roots. A tablespoonful before each meal stimulates the digestion naturally so that you can digest what you eat. And when your stomach is in good shape again watch how quickly skin begins to clear up. At your druggist's. Money back if it doesn't help you.

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It's the Mouth

Lady—Your French rolls are really far too small. I can put a whole one into my mouth at once.

Baker—I can quite believe that, madam, but it's not the fault of the bread—Rollo Half Timma, Gotenburg.

It's Better Now

"I couldn't stand the neighborhood; it was so unfashionable." "And could you think of no other way to improve it than by moving?"—London Tit-Bits.

One Point of View

Shallow men believe in luck, strong men believe in cause and effect.

Most men reach the heights by others stepping aside.

How you feel in the morning tells the real story

THAT'S the time you should feel like whistling and singing. Your muscles should itch to tackle the day's work. Your mind should quickly solve the problem that baffled you the afternoon before. Don't let your health slip away so that a night's rest fails in its natural recuperative powers. When you awaken with a "dragged out" physical or mental feeling, heed those bad symptoms. That's the time you need a dependable tonic to help restore your old time energy. Try a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which is sold by druggists.