

# News Review of Current Events the World Over

**Litvinov, Soviet Commissar, Bait Europe's Statesmen at Geneva—Secretary Doak Denounces Suggested Wage Reduction.**

By EDWARD W. PICKARD



M. Litvinov

SOVIET RUSSIA, as personified by Maxim Litvinov, its commissar of foreign affairs, had the time of its young life at Geneva where the international commission of inquiry into Briand's European union project was sitting. Litvinov astounded Arthur Henderson, Briand, Dino Grandi and the rest of the commissioners by the calm statement that their "capitalistic" governments were ruining themselves and the rest of the world by selling goods dear at home and cheap abroad—in other words, by dumping. And he then with equal calmness denied flatly that the Soviet government had been guilty of this pernicious practice, though generally accused of it. Russia, he asserted, had done just a little friendly exporting.

"It is perfectly obvious that low prices cannot be regarded as indicating dumping," he declared. "If, however, by dumping is understood a policy of high monopolist prices in the home markets and cut prices for export, it will be found precisely that it is the capitalistic countries which are guilty in this respect."

The Soviets, continued the commissar, are eager to help in bringing to an end the present economic depression, and on their behalf he offered two suggestions for the consideration of the commission. The first of these was that the European powers adopt a convention pledging themselves to compulsory sale in the home markets at prices no higher than on foreign markets. The Soviets, Litvinov said, would sign such a convention. He asserted that it would raise the buying power of the masses and help them absorb overproduction.

His second proposal was this: In order to remove the atmosphere of mistrust and jealousy that has been aggravating the crisis, all nations should sign a pact of "economic non-aggression" along the same lines as the Kellogg pact outlawing war. The draft of a protocol of such a pact was submitted to the delegates. It called for a general customs truce, among other things.

In the first sessions of the commission the question of the proposed Austro-German customs accord was brought up, and the pact was vigorously and skillfully defended by Dr. Julius Curtius, German foreign minister, and Johann Schober, Austrian vice chancellor. The British and French insisted that the accord should be submitted to the World court for an opinion as to whether it violated the post-war treaties, and the council of the League of Nations ordered this done. The council has selected Arthur Henderson as chairman of the 1932 disarmament conference.

THERE has been of late much discussion as to whether conditions in the United States justified a general cut in wages, and what the effect of such a move would be. Secretary of Labor Doak took a hand in the debate with a statement to the effect that any move on the part of industry to lower wages would be considered a violation of confidence by the administration because of the agreement to maintain wage scales which President Hoover obtained from the industrial leaders late in 1929. In the event of wage reductions, he declared, organized labor would be justified in demanding higher pay and in opposing the move by strikes.

Mr. Doak added that so far as he knew, no leader of industry has proposed a reduction in wages. Such suggestions, he said, have come from bankers, and are based on the opinion that workers' pay should be lowered to conform to the low price levels which have resulted from the depression. He attributed the current controversies between workers and employers to the expiration of agreements, and added that in nearly every case the difficulties have been amicably settled. Six impending strikes, which were brought to the attention of the Labor department by the previous week, were averted by the department's conciliation service, and in every case a return to the existing wage scale was effected.

IN LONDON the world grain conference was trying to find the remedy for the crisis in the agricultural world brought on by the immense overproduction of wheat. Samuel R. McKelvie, member of the American farm board, told the delegates the first thing was to slash acreage to consumption needs, and submitted the results of a study of the situation of increasing surpluses and falling prices. Speaking from the American standpoint, he said: "We see no possibility of a satisfactory solution of the



S. R. McKelvie

world wheat problem which does not include, as the most important single element, curtailment of production in exporting countries, individually and as a whole, until a better adjustment between supply and disposition can be effected, and restraint upon fresh expansion of production thereafter."

As a material aid toward relieving overburdened markets McKelvie urged every possible means of consumption expansion and suggested abolition by European importing countries of their protective tariffs, milling regulations and preferential prices for domestic wheat.

WHEN the directors of the World Bank for International Settlements met in Basel, Switzerland, they heard from Gates W. McGarrath, its president, that the deposits of the institution have gone past the \$400,000,000 mark. This sum is far in excess of the expectations, and it clearly shows, according to the belief there, that the world bank is becoming something more than a mere depository for the central banks of various nations, so that even if the reparations payments should later be put on some other basis, or cease entirely, the bank would still be certain to continue to function.

The bank has consented to help in putting the Austrian bank, Creditanstalt, back on its feet but it was decided that the initiative must come from the League of Nations committee for control of Austrian loans.

AS WAS predicted, the War Department has decided to abandon wholly or in part 53 surplus forts, camps and reservations. In the list announced by Secretary Hurley are Fort Lincoln, N. D.; Fort Missoula, Mont.; Fort Eustis, Va.; Fort D. A. Russell, Texas; Fort Brown, Texas; Fort Hunt, Va.; Camp Stephen D. Little, Ariz.; Camp Garry J. Jones, Ariz.; Miller Field, N. Y.; and Chanute Field, Ill. Of course the abandonment of these posts may be prevented by indignant congressmen.



General MacArthur

HOW the American army is to be reorganized, developed and modernized was described in an announcement by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, chief of staff. The plans set forth include extension of mechanization and motorization throughout the army, the revamping of the cavalry arm by the substitution of fighting machines for horses, and the development of powerful tank forces to be attached to army corps or field armies, rather than the infantry, which remains the basic arm.

Some cavalry units with horses as mounts will be retained for use in rough country, but in general the horse as a war weapon is discarded. The mechanized force at Fort Eustis will be reorganized a reinforced cavalry regiment. Combat cars, equipped with machine guns and possibly heavier weapons, which can travel 70 miles an hour on hard roads, are counted on to give the cavalry high mobility.

Despite the more extensive use of machines, the infantry will remain the backbone of the army according to General MacArthur's program.

HOOPER dam across Boulder canyon of the Colorado river is within the law and work on the huge project can go ahead. So ruled the Supreme court of the United States in deciding that the act of congress authorizing the construction was constitutional and dismissing the bill of complaint of the state of Arizona. The court, however, declared that Arizona had shown that it might be injured by the distribution of water from the reservoir to be created and that it therefore has the right to make further appeals for relief should its rights be impaired.

In another case, that of Yetta Stromberg, youthful communist, the Supreme court held invalid that clause of California's "red flag" law which makes it a felony to "display any red flag or other device in any public place or from any building as a sign, symbol or emblem of opposition to organized government or as an invitation or stimulus to anarchistic action, or as an aid to propaganda that is of a seditious character." The finding declared this clause was "repugnant to the guarantee of liberty contained in the Fourteenth amendment."

CELEBRATING the fiftieth anniversary of its birth, the American Red Cross staged on May 21 what it called "the world's greatest dinner party." Every one of its 3,500 chapters held an anniversary dinner in its community, and all of them were connected by radio with the main dinner in Washington. At this feast President Hoover, who is also president of the Red Cross, was the principal speaker; and the guest of honor was Judge Max Huber of Geneva,

Switzerland, president of the international committee of the Red Cross. With them sat cabinet officers and their wives and many other notabilities.

The Post Office department issued a special commemorative stamp on the anniversary date.

DEATHS of two Americans attracted considerable attention. In Tours, France, Brig. Gen. Robert H. Dunlap, a distinguished officer of the marine corps, was killed by a landslide in a heroic effort to save the life of a woman. Ralph Barton, famous cartoonist and illustrator, committed suicide in his New York apartment, leaving a note that said he feared he was going insane.



Cardinal Segura

POPE PIUS XI, addressing a group of Spanish pilgrims, described the burning of churches and other religious edifices in Spain as "sacrileges against God and holy religion," and added: "While I recognize the abnormal situation in Spain, it cannot justify the outrageous deeds carried out by the enemies of God that were not suppressed by the authorities."

The Vatican, however, is promoting a policy of conciliation and the papal nuncio, Tedeschini, has had friendly consultation with Minister of Justice de los Rios who explained the arrest and expulsion of Bishop Mujica of Vitoria. The nuncio has expressed sorrow over what has happened, and it is understood in Madrid that he places much of the blame for the rioting on the attitude of Cardinal Segura, the former primate of Spain, who was forced to leave the country because he would not accept the republic without protest.

Cardinal Segura and Bishop Mujica got together at Lourdes, France, and proceeded to Rome for an indefinite stay. They will probably be told that the Vatican intends to drop the quarrel with the republic.

Alfonso, the former king, celebrated his forty-fifth birthday with a private family luncheon in Fontainebleau. There was no observation of the anniversary in Madrid.

DESPITE the rebellious Cantonese, Gen. Chiang Kai-shek is still the ruler of China, and when the people's convention closed its twelve-day session in Nanking he made an impressive plea for unity and for co-operation with the government in suppressing banditry and communism.

The principal achievements of the convention were the adoption of a new constitution, which goes into effect on June 1, the declaration of the republic of China with its permanent capital at Nanking, and the mandate given the government to carry out the terms of the manifesto declaring all unequal treaties between China and foreign powers null and void.

FOR many months the world has been reading about the first armored cruiser built by the German republic under the limits imposed by the Versailles treaty. It was described as a wonderful vessel of 10,000 tons so powerful that it was called the "vest pocket battleship." Well, it was launched the other day at Kiel in the presence of a huge crowd of officials and citizenry, but the event was marred by a conflict of orders that resulted in the ship's being loosed to slide down the ways before President Hindenburg had a chance to break the bottle of champagne on its bows and christen it Deutschland.

The new ship defies the Washington treaty classification. It is neither a capital ship nor a cruiser but is superior to both. Limited to 10,000 tons, it is much heavier armed than other ships of the same size. It is equipped with six 11-inch guns throwing projectiles weighing 600 pounds. In velocity, which is said to be as much as 26 knots, the new ship is superior to capital ships. The hull of the cruiser is of shallow draft and so minutely compartmented as to make it comparatively safe against torpedoes and mines. The usual heavy turbines have been replaced by Diesel motors, which give a radius of action of over 10,000 miles. The cost of the ship was \$20,000,000.

FLYING men of the United States army had a chance to show what they can do in mass during the week, for the air forces were mobilized in grand maneuvers at Chicago, New York and elsewhere under the direct command of Gen. B. D. Foulois, dean of the fighting air men. The planes, of all types, concentrated at Dayton, Ohio, and on Thursday put on a parade and exhibition at Chicago that was the closing feature of the city's jubilee. Then they descended on the Atlantic coast and displayed their ability to defend the metropolis and Boston from hostile attack. A night bombing raid on New York had been planned, but General MacArthur, chief of staff, vetoed this, asserting that the maneuvers represented a real attempt to test out the defensive power of the air arm rather than the staging of a circus. Nearly seven hundred planes took part in the maneuvers, being gathered from all parts of the country.



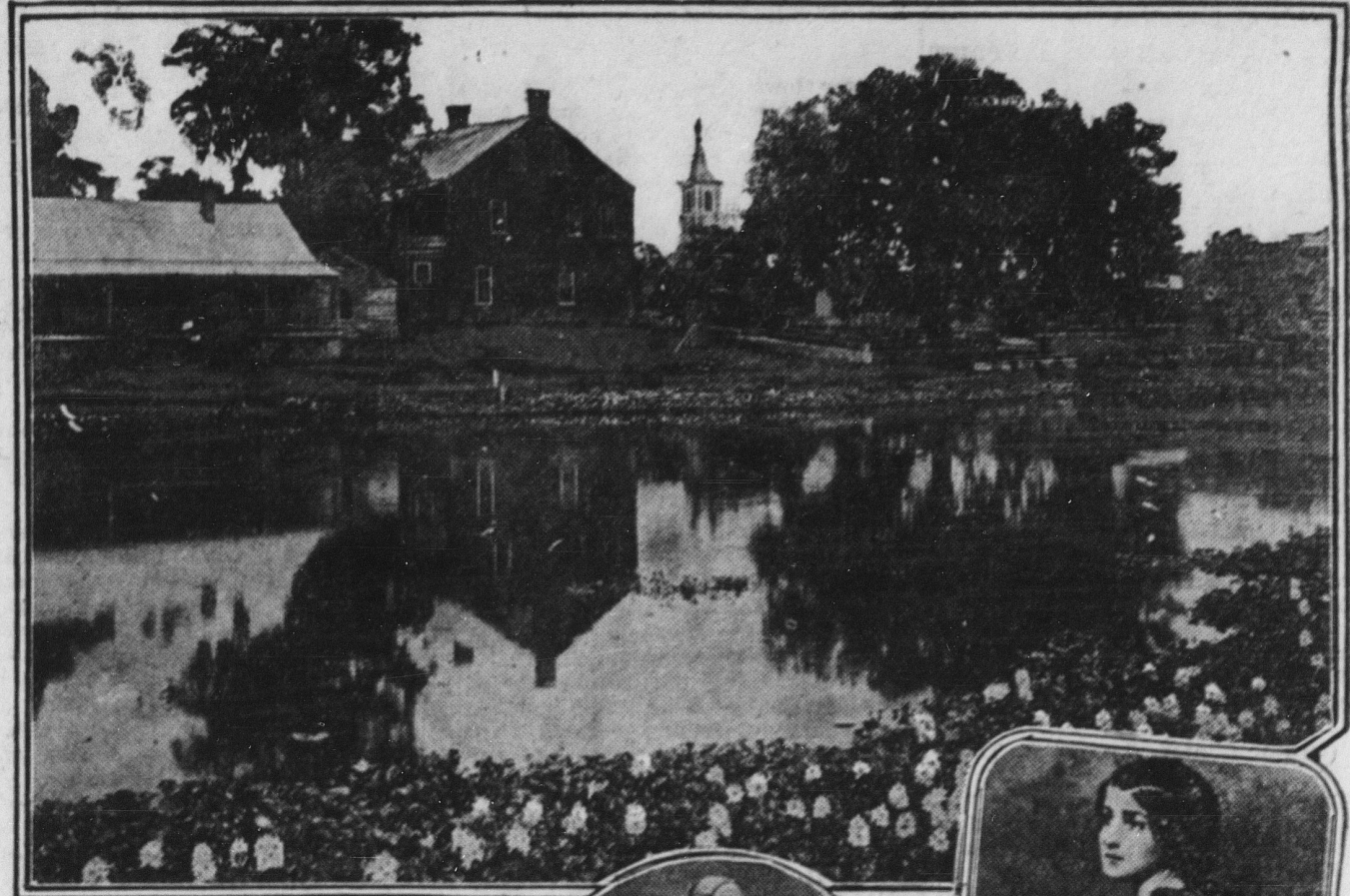
General B. D. Foulois

The principal responsibility for this rests upon the lieutenant-governor of Nova Scotia, Charles Lawrence, who was acting governor until the lords of trade in London should pick a successor to Gov. Peregrine Hopson, who had resigned.

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# Honoring the "Maid of Grand Pre"



HISTORIC EVANGELINE OAK ON BAYOU TECHE

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

THE other day several thousand people gathered in the little town of St. Martinville, La., to participate in a ceremony which rolled back the pages of history to events that took place more than 175 years ago. The ceremony was the unveiling of a statue and when it stood revealed there was recalled once more a great tragedy in American colonial history, and one of the tenderest love stories in American literature, the story of the quest of Evangeline for her lover, Gabriel, immortalized in a poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. For the statue was a life-size image of the famous "Maid of Grand Pre" and most of those who had gathered there to pay her honor were her own people—Louisiana descendants of the Eighteenth century Acadians and a delegation of several hundred Acadians from Moncton, Grand Pre, Montreal and other Canadian cities and towns who made a pilgrimage to this shrine for this occasion and who were also repaying a visit made by the Louisiana Acadians to Canada last year.

Erecting the statue over the spot near the left wing of the old St. Martin Catholic church in St. Martinville where the real Evangeline lies buried is one of the steps in the project of establishing a national reservation there to be known as the Longfellow-Evangeline National Memorial park, a public recreation center which will perpetuate the memory of the American poet and the Acadian girl. In particular, and the Acadians, their sufferings, their romance and their faith, in general.

The name of the real "Evangeline" was Emmerline Labiche, the faithful "Gabriel" was Louis Arceaneux, and their life story is a part of the tragic tale of the simple folk of Acadia who were deported by British soldiery from their homes away back in 1755. The Acadians were French colonists who had settled in what is now Nova Scotia in 1607, and who lived a happy, contented existence in their homes in the New world until caught in the maelstrom of world politics, stirred up by the contest between England and France to decide which nation was to dominate the North American continent. In the series of wars between the two countries which began in 1689 Acadia was a pawn on the international chess-board, now held by the French and now by the British.

As for the Acadians themselves, they were in the main neutral. In fact they were often referred to in the official papers of the time as the "Neutral French." While the sympathies of most of them no doubt leaned toward their own countrymen and some of them supported the French cause, for the most part they wished to be left alone in their peaceful pursuits as farmers and fishermen.

In that year the British, who then held Acadia, decided that the Acadians were "an enemy encamped in the heart of the province" and determined to get rid of them. Accordingly this was done by methods which seem to have been unnecessarily harsh.

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THE NEW EVANGELINE MONUMENT



THE REAL "EVANGELINE"—EMMERLINE LABICHE

nor had a communication to impart to them. The men were ordered, therefore, to appear in the church at Grand Pre at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, September 5.

On that fateful Friday a strange sight greeted the 418 men as they filed slowly into the church that had been familiar to them from their youth. Stern-faced soldiers with gleaming bayonets and red coats guarded the door and in the middle of the church a table had been placed and around it other armed soldiers were drawn up.

As Colonel Winslow entered, attended by his staff, a deep hush fell upon the people. Without any preliminaries, he proceeded to deliver his address in English. Immediately afterward it was interpreted to the assembly in French.

With the pronouncement of the terrible words, "That your lands and tenements, cattle of all kinds and live stock of all sorts are forfeited to the crown with all your other effects, saving your money and household goods, and that you yourselves are to be removed from this, his majesty's province," a murmur of anguish escaped the dumfounded Acadians.

Until aroused by the sharp command of an officer, the bewildered inhabitants sat mute and staring, as though unable to comprehend the significance of the fate they were assigned to. Recovering from the shock of Winslow's words, the Acadians' first thoughts were of their families, with whom they had no means of communication and who would not understand the reason for their detention.

After a lengthy conference Colonel Winslow permitted the prisoners to choose 20 of their number to break the news to the families and to bring in food for the prisoners. They were to be held accountable for the behavior and safe return of the 20.

An effort was made to keep families intact. But a lack of transports; the natural confusion and terror that necessarily followed; Winslow's fears that his force, greatly outnumbered by the Acadians, might be overpowered, and the barrier of language all contributed to the separations that made the sufferings of the exiled Acadians so tragic.

Three ships, the first to sail, left the Basin of Minas October 13, bound for Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania. The last ship to leave Acadia sailed southward December 20. To prevent any stragglers that escaped to the forests from finding a place of refuge, squads of soldiers attended to the work of burning every house, barn or building that would in any way furnish shelter.

In all from Grand Pre and other places more than 6,000 Acadians were deported. They were scattered in the English colonies from Maine to Georgia and in both France and England. Many died; many, helpless in new surroundings, sank into decrepitude. Some reached people of their own blood in the French colony of Louisiana and Canada.

Among those who came to Louisiana was young Louis Arceaneux who had become separated from his sweetheart, Emmerline Labiche, and who settled on Bayou Teche, a stream which winds in and out like a snake,

hence its name, which is the Indian term for snake. Here, too, ten years later came Emmerline Labiche, who had been mourning the loss of her lover.

At last Emmerline found him, and tradition says that the meeting took place beneath the historic Evangeline Oak on the Bayou Teche, where she learned that her faithless lover had married another.

There is some variation in the accounts of how Longfellow came to write the story of Evangeline. According to one story it was Nathaniel Hawthorne who first gave the poet the hint of the romance which he wove into his poem. Under the date of October 24, 1838, we find the following memorandum in Hawthorne's American Note-Books: "H. L. C.—heard from a French Canadian a story of a young couple in Acadie. On their marriage day all men of the province were summoned to assemble in the church to hear a proclamation. When they assembled they were seized and shipped off to be distributed through New England, among them the bridegroom. His bride set off in search of him, wandered about New England all her lifetime, and at last when she was old, she found her bridegroom on his deathbed. The shock was so great that it killed her likewise."

H. L. C. was Horace Lorenzo Conolly, then a neighbor of Hawthorne at Salem. He had been rector of St. Matthew's Protestant Episcopal church in South Boston. But Hawthorne was probably in error in stating that Conolly obtained the story directly from a French Canadian.

At any rate some time later Hawthorne took Conolly to dine with Longfellow at Cambridge. During the dinner the clergyman told Longfellow that he had been trying in vain to get Hawthorne to write a story based on an incident told him by Mrs. George M. Halliburton, a former parishioner, who had formerly lived in Nova Scotia. Conolly then related the story briefly. Longfellow said to Hawthorne: "If you really do not want this incident, let me have it for a poem." His friend willingly consented, and "Evangeline" was the result.

The other account—and this is the one which you will hear in the Acadian country of Louisiana—is that Longfellow, while he was an instructor at Harvard, was told the story by a handsome young Acadian, then a student at Harvard, Edward Simon, later a judge in Louisiana, who had learned it from his friend, Judge Felix Voorhies. Judge Voorhies had been told the story by his grandmother, Madame Anne Bastarache, who brought Evangeline to the Teche country, Madame Bastarache died in 1830 at the age of 103.

It was Madame Bastarache who told of how Emmerline Labiche sprang forward with a glad cry when she met her former lover and of how the faithless lover told her that he had married another and was happy.

On the lands of the ancient Duke DeBois Blanc Louis Arceaneux settled with his bride and there many of his descendants live today. The heartbroken girl, Madame Bastarache told her grandson, lost her reason and, until death came to her, she wandered about the banks of the Teche, gathering the water hyacinths and weaving bride's wreaths of them.

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