

# News Review of Current Events the World Over

## Bloody Riots in Paris Drive Out Daladier, and Doumergue Becomes Premier—Devaluation of Dollar Brings Flood of Gold.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

FRANCE seemingly narrowly escaped a civil war. Following two days of bloody rioting in Paris and other cities, Premier Daladier and his cabinet capitulated and the reins of government were put in the hands of Gaston Doumergue, the seventy-one-year-old former President who was in retirement on his country estate. His reappearance on the political stage was in response to the pleadings of President Lebrun and many other patriots who were convinced that he alone could restore the country to quiet. It was conditioned on pledges that both chambers of parliament would support him unreservedly and that the president would give him an executive order dissolving the parliament and calling new elections, to be used if he considered it necessary. So the "iron man" of France, as he has been dubbed, returned to Paris with plans for a small cabinet made up of former premiers and party leaders and with power to make himself the virtual dictator of the country.

War veterans, monarchists, Communists and other elements joined in the violent demonstrations that forced out the Daladier regime. All joined in opposition to the government, though no one of the groups was in accord with any others in other respects. The mobs were furious and fought desperately with the police and the troops that Daladier had brought into the capital. The rioters, operating mainly in the Place de la Concorde and the region about the Palais Bourbon where the chamber of deputies sits, were raked by machine gun fire, sabered by mounted troops and clubbed and shot by the infantry and police. But they returned to the fray time after time and would not cease the struggle until Daladier resigned. The number of dead was estimated at fifty, and more than a thousand persons were wounded. After the battles were over the boulevards in the center of Paris presented a scene of desolation and destruction unequalled there since days of the commune in 1871.

Nationalist elements resented especially the removal by Daladier of Jean Chiappe as prefect of police, feeling that he was being made a scapegoat in the Bayonne bond scandal. The Communists and Socialists accused Chiappe of fomenting the rioting, but the "right" elements said the "leftists" were determined to get the Corsican out of the way because they knew he would block the proletarian coup d'etat they were planning. The Royalists were in the mix-up hopeful, as always, that they might be able to restore the monarchy and put on the throne the duc de Guise, head of the Bourbon house of Orleans, who lives in exile in Brussels. Naturally the pretender shares in that hope, but he was quoted as deploring the bloodshed.

DEVALUATION of the dollar, and the purchase of gold at \$35 a fine ounce caused a turmoil in the world's money markets and an immediate result was a great flow of gold bullion from Europe to the United States. The pound sterling and the franc made gains, but not big enough to suit President Roosevelt and his monetary advisers. Later both the pound and franc declined again, and the confusion was made greater. The French were alarmed by the drain on their gold and expressed intense resentment against the American policy, charging that the administration was making deliberate efforts to embarrass France. For the time being the administration was prevented from driving the dollar down to its projected parity points in foreign exchanges by the rising tide of American dollars flowing back to this country. But most of its financial experts were confident that the 50.06 cents value would be made to prevail after a reasonable time to allow for the shakedown. As for the \$35 an ounce for gold, it is the opinion of Prof. George F. Warren, chief deviser of the experiment that is under way, that the figure must be raised if prices of commodities are to be put up materially. Frank E. Gannett, the Rochester newspaper publisher, after a visit to the White House and talking with both the President and Professor Warren, said in his Rochester Times-Union that he had been convinced by those conversations "that we shall continue to raise the price of gold" and that the \$35 figure probably would succeed only in preventing prices from slipping.

By the President's devaluation stroke a treasury deficit of \$1,900,000,000 was transformed overnight into a surplus of \$973,716,937.

IT WAS authoritatively stated in Washington that the President be-

lieves that excessive interest rates on all classes of debts should be reduced as an important step toward reduction of the debt structure. His viewpoint applies to foreign debts owed to United States citizens, to private debts and to those of industry. He was said to be of the opinion that reduction of interest would make payment more probable, and that fixed charges also could be cut down.

Bills before the senate, which have house approval already, would enable corporations and municipalities or other political subdivisions of states to scale down the principal and interest of their debts through an agreement with the majority of their creditors. Legislation is already in effect which enables the individual to rearrange his debt and interest rates through a pact with the majority of those he owes and to give similar help to railroads. There have been complaints that these laws have not been particularly effective and that they need strengthening. The President, in letting it be known that he thought the debtor was paying too much on obligations contracted in better times, did not say what he believed was a fair rate nor did he specify particular charges that he regarded as too high.

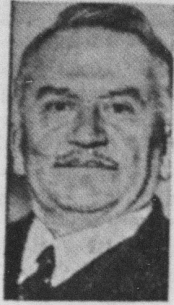
NRA and the steel industry came into sharp conflict, and the NRA to a certain extent backed down. Executives of all the leading steel companies met and considered the claim of the national labor board to authority given by the President to conduct elections for employee representatives when a "substantial" number request that action. To this the steel men took exception. They issued a statement saying the industry intends "to resist all attacks" upon company unions and that it holds that the present plan of employee representation complies with the NRA. The statement, however, declared the steel industry "is co-operating wholeheartedly with the President in his efforts for national recovery and subscribes fully to the principle of collective bargaining as provided in section 7 (a) of the national recovery act."

The NRA had given out a press statement implying that all company unions are dominated by employers. This drew sharp criticism, and the statement was retracted. Administrator Johnson and NRA Counsel Donald Richberg upheld the right of the labor board as stated above. They asserted, however, that the executive order which said that representatives elected by a majority of workers "have been thereby designated to represent all the employees," does not abridge the rights of labor minorities to conduct negotiations with employers.

SAMUEL INSULL, who was due to be ousted from Greece on February 1, was permitted to remain for a time because of ill health, but the government at Athens then informed him unofficially that he must leave before February 13, two physicians having reported he was able to travel without danger to his life. The fugitive immediately began packing up, but at this writing it was not known where he would go in his effort to avoid extradition.

TWENTY-TWO days after he was kidnaped, Edward G. Bremer, banker of St. Paul, Minn., was set free in Rochester, Minn., and made his way home, nervous and with wounds on his head inflicted when he was "snatched," but otherwise unharmed. His father, Adolf Bremer, wealthy brewer, had paid the \$200,000 demanded by the kidnapers, in \$10 and \$5 bills, through an intermediary. During his captivity Bremer was kept in a dark room and under constant guard. State and federal law enforcement agencies were conducting an intensive hunt for the abductors of Bremer, who probably numbered ten or more. It was believed the victim was held in either Sioux City or Kansas City. Verne Sankey, notorious kidnaper who was captured recently in Chicago and taken to Sioux Falls, S. D., for safe keeping until his trial in a federal court, committed suicide in his cell by hanging, using a loop made of neckties. He had admitted the abduction of Charles Boettcher of Denver and Haskell Bohn of St. Paul.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT called congressional leaders into conference and with them formulated bills designed to bring the stock markets of the country under federal control. The measures were then introduced in both house and senate. They deal with short selling, marginal trading, specialists, pool operations and manipulation.



Gaston Doumergue

BACKED by the President, a federal grand jury investigation was going on in Washington that promised to uncover a \$10,000,000 scandal in the War department. Two lawyers prominently connected in the past with the American Legion were said to be involved. It was asserted that automobile manufacturers had been asked for a fee of \$50,000 in return for War department contracts for trucks running into millions.

The house naval committee made an inquiry into airplane and engine contracts that, it was predicted, would lead to changes in the Navy department's system of audits.

WILLIAM P. McCracken, who was assistant secretary of commerce for aeronautics in the Hoover administration, and three air line officials got into a jam with the senate committee that is investigating air mail contracts. All four of them were cited to appear before the senate to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt. McCracken practices law in Washington. The others are L. H. Brittin, vice president of Northwest Airways; Harris M. Hanshue, president of Western Air Express, and Gilbert Givvin, Hanshue's secretary. McCracken has been under technical arrest but this was vacated.

Chairman Black's report to the senate showed that Brittin admitted that he had removed from McCracken's office and destroyed subpoenaed correspondence; and also that Givvin, an order from Hanshue, had removed confidential papers since recovered by the committee.

Senator Black also told the senate that testimony before the committee showed post office contracts had been awarded "collusively and fraudulently" and that former Postmaster General Brown and McCracken participated in a "secret meeting" held in a room adjacent to Brown's Post Office department office at which the country was divided into certain mail routes and contracts were distributed among "particular" operating companies.

IN A unanimous opinion the Supreme Court of the United States held that all persons accused of violating the late national prohibition laws and whose cases had not been finally adjudicated by December 5 last, when the Eighteenth amendment was repealed should be set free. The opinion held that repeal canceled the power of prosecution.

According to the Department of Justice, there were 9,576 prohibition cases, with about 13,000 defendants, pending in federal courts.

WITH little debate the senate passed the bill introduced by Senator Hiram Johnson of California which is designed to prevent the floating in America of private loans to countries now defaulting on past debts. Before passing it, the senators amended the measure so that it would not hamper the President's new scheme to grant to foreign nations loans with which to buy American goods. A proviso was written in declaring that loans to foreign defaulters could still be made by government owned corporations.

As it now stands, however, the bill puts in the hands of the administration its most powerful weapon for forcing payment of defaulted war debts. No defaulting nation may float any private loan in this country, and any American aiding in the illegal flotation of a private loan to a defaulter would be liable to five years in jail and \$10,000 in fines.

According to Chairman Jesse Jones of the RFC, the President's plan calls for the creation of a trading bank which will partially underwrite extension of credits to foreign purchasers of American goods. The bank would be entirely owned by the government, so the arrangement would actually be a partial government guarantee of payment to the American producer. The bank would be a division of the RFC.

ONLY one representative voted "no" when the house of representatives passed on the bill to appropriate \$50,000,000 for continuation of CWA and direct relief activities. The lone opponent was Representative George B. Terrill of Texas, Democrat. The money is to be used by the federal emergency relief administration for keeping up the federal dole to the idle for another year and for continuing the Civil Works administration until the early part of May. About 500 millions is to be used for the former purpose, it was said, and about 450 for the CWA.

OGDEN L. MILLS, who, whether or not you like him, is one of the most forceful leaders of the Republican party, has often been spoken of as a possible or even probable candidate for the G. O. P. Presidential nomination in 1936. But the New Yorker has now removed himself from that category. While in California to see Herbert Hoover and others, Mr. Mills told the press "I most certainly have no intention of becoming a candidate. Nor will I mix in local or factional politics."

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# Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted by William Bruckart

Washington.—Among the characteristics of the New Deal which President Roosevelt is giving us is a queer admixture of planning for the long-range developments along with quick action for, as well as under the guise of, emergency problems. None can say that he has failed to be quick on the trigger when it came to taking some kind of action when emergencies had to be solved, whether one agrees with them or not, but coupled with this haste he has been moving in the direction of long-range planning with a celerity that is, to say the least, unusual in government.

Some months ago, I wrote of the possibilities of the transfer of human beings, like so many cattle or chattels, into new spheres of activity, into a new locale, into places where some of them have a chance for an even break in the battle for subsistence. At that time, I believed the idea, advanced to me by some of the President's advisers, was largely a dream. But it has gone past that stage and is about to become a reality.

Harry Hopkins, who started out to be administrator of the government's job of extending relief to the destitute and who since has become one of the President's right-hand men, is now seriously planning a rehabilitation movement of the very kind that, as I said, was only a dream six months ago. Hundreds of thousands of individual families are involved. Their future is all bound up in the scientific planning or the whim, whichever you choose to call it, of those social engineers of the New Deal. It is experimental, admittedly, but those who are working out the plan claim it can be carried out successfully. With Mr. Hopkins are Rexford Tugwell, assistant secretary of agriculture and one of the professors of the New Deal; Mordcaj Ezekiel, also of the Department of Agriculture and also one of the professors; Dale K. Parrot and Conrad H. Wirth, of the Interior department, and Jacob Baker, of the Civil Works administration. Their plans will be completed within another month.

Summarized the program contemplates the physical transfer of thousands upon thousands of men and their families from cities and industrial areas or from farming communities where the land has been worked to death, to areas where the people have a chance to produce their own living instead of being, as they now are, on roles of charitable or government relief organizations. This transplanting seems to have two purposes: First, it will provide those people who are moved with better living conditions and a fresh start, and, second, it will relieve the crowded conditions and the demand for jobs in the places from which they are moved.

"We have large numbers of families whose economic future is so discouraging that it seems entirely improbable that they will ever again be accommodated in industry, or particularly in the industry where they once had jobs," said Mr. Hopkins. "They are in industries that have been worked out, such as in the steel centers to some extent, in copper areas and in farming country that is no longer productive and where no one can make a living out of it.

"As to submarginal lands, in contradistinction to timber land, we find families living on such lands and the government cannot go in and simply purchase the lands and have those families move on and go places. They must have some place to go. So that the plan is not only for those in centers where industry cannot help them but for those on submarginal land who are in the same kind of economic stagnation. This plan gets into the government's long-range program and into some of the first steps that are necessary to work out that program. We are going to try, therefore, to take those first steps in the interest of those needy people involved and in the interests of a national economy at the same time."

Thus the picture is unfolded of a general program that, carried to the ultimate, means the herding of the population into the various sections of the country or cities as the planners in Washington deem wise. It is a program that is designed to remake the social map of the nation. Those who sponsor it go into ecstasy in discussing the beauties of the dream and the ideals which are sought to obtain. They depict for the transferred populace one permanent joy of living, or as nearly such as may be expected on earth, and in listening to their exposition of the plans, one will feel the sincerity of their beliefs without half trying. They believe it is as near utopian in its possibilities as a government may produce for its people.

"But what will those people do when they have been taken somewhere?" Mr. Hopkins was asked.

"They may do two or three things," he replied promptly. "They may work part of the time in national forests, for example. Large numbers of men are required for rehabilitation and replanning of our national forests. The Civilian Conservation corps cannot begin to get all of the work done.

"I think it is time for the government to explore this situation and make plans aside from just giving relief. If the government is going to spend such large sums of money, a substantial portion of it should be spent in constructive enterprises like this."

And with a fund of \$25,000,000 to start, we launch on another plan for changing our national life. Mr. Hopkins described the \$25,000,000 as "just a starter," and explained that many more millions can and will be used if the ideas prove practicable. He thinks they will.

But among those hardened critics that watch Washington day after day and who do not have to shape their ideas along political lines, among those who try to be unbiased, there is a hope that the scheme can be carried out and a fear that it is too idealistic for use among people with the traditions of those of the United States. In other words, it is a guess whether the plan will be practicable.

One hardened observer took me severely to task for even assuming that it was possible to execute the plan without wasting many times as much money as it could be worth by any guage you care to set up. I called attention that there were undoubtedly some families that would welcome an opportunity to get on a piece of farm land, made available to them by the government, for which they could pay as they were able. I thought they would learn a new joy in life itself and become independent, right-thinking citizens.

"Some families' is right," he sneered at me. "But for those 'some' that will make use of the change, there will be twenty times as many that will drift back to their old ways of living at the first opportunity."

It has been unusually interesting to watch the reverberations and reactions here to the speech made recently in Topeka, Kan., by Ogden L. Mills, secretary of the treasury under President Hoover. Strange and paradoxical as it may seem, the Mills speech put an unexpected amount of fire into some Democrats in the administration in support of the Roosevelt New Deal and put fire into others to cause them to criticize it.

Ogden Mills has been derided and ridiculed as few men have suffered in political life. He was born an aristocrat and the politicians opposed to him have made use of that. But Ogden Mills is a fighter, and his Topeka speech showed that he had lost none of his fortitude.

It will be remembered that Mr. Mills charged Mr. Roosevelt with "an unconstitutional effort" to grasp power over the country and accused the President of destroying the rights and liberties of the people under the Constitution. I have seen much less serious charges hurled at a President to be followed by a young riot by his supporters. There have been some attacks on Mr. Mills thus far, but observers here thought they did not carry the old-time ring of a real battle. Of course, it is known generally that a goodly number of the President's own party have been doubtful of some of his plans but they have been afraid to bark too loudly because of the elections next autumn. Those individuals lately have been a little more brave and, when I was around the senate and house of representatives the other day, I heard more mutterings than usual.

I asked some of the avid Roosevelt supporters what it meant. Their answers were almost identical: "They are not real Democrats." But I asked several of those who had been thus catalogued as "not real Democrats" what the significance was of the changed attitude. Their answers were down one groove: "We are just getting afraid of the way this man Roosevelt is leading us."

While the Mills speech has been accepted here as being the opening gun in the Republican campaign for next fall, it probably will have a broader effect than that according to the suggestions I have heard most frequently. Even the chief Democratic leaders under the New Deal admit that President Roosevelt has been busy for a year in development of a Roosevelt party, as distinguished from a purely Democratic party. That being the fact, then, I am told that Mr. Mills has issued a rallying cry for concentration of strength in opposition to the Roosevelt policies, or many of them. Is it not possible, then, Mr. Mills may have started the actual formation of a new Republican party?

As Mr. Mills set his ideas, it is made to appear that he and those who follow him will foster the philosophy of wide-open competition among all, with as little government domination as is possible; that it will be their contention that bureaucratic control shall be avoided in every direction and that the powers of the Chief Executive of the nation shall be limited to those properly delegated by the Constitution to him.

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## NIGHT NOT BEST TIME FOR STUDY, SAYS EDUCATOR

The proverb that "one hour's sleep before midnight is worth two hours' afterward," usually is ridiculed by physicians.

Most of them maintain that while eight hours' sleep is necessary at some time during the twenty-four, it makes little difference when it is obtained.

A recent German investigation tends, however, to cast doubt on this medical opinion and to confirm the ancient proverb, says Dr. E. E. Free, in his Week's Science (New York):

"Dr. Theodor Stockmann, principal of a school in Duisburg, noticed that one of his pupils was falling behind in school work, and was becoming more and more lazy and sleepy. "Inquiring into this young man's sleep habits, Doctor Stockmann found that he was studying late at night and sleeping late in the morning. Change of this habit so that the pupil slept before midnight and woke very early in the morning to study caused remarkable improvement in school work and in health.

Doctor Stockmann then tested the same idea on seventeen other pupils, averaging about nineteen years old. All turned out to be in better health and to do better school work when they habitually got four or five hours' sleep before midnight and got up at three or four o'clock in the morning to do their studying.

"Two pupils who worked part of the day also found themselves in better health and more successful in their studies when they went to bed immediately after supper and did their school work between midnight and dawn. His observations also suggest, Doctor Stockmann reports to the German medical profession, that less than eight hours' sleep may be enough, at least for young people, provided all of it is obtained before midnight."—Literary Digest.

## Apple Holds Lead in the Kingdom of Pies

A nation-wide census of pie eaters, involving an analysis of 12,000,000 meals, shows that apple pie is the most popular of all American foods. Among pies, apple is the men's choice in all parts of the country. Women also prefer apple pie in the East, but in the West they show a slight preference for lemon meringue. The pie census, reported by a woman's magazine, indicates that cherry pie is growing rapidly in favor everywhere in America. In fact, cherry is going ahead so fast that if it continues its present rate of gain, it may be expected to outstrip apple pie in about 65 years.

The pie industry, however, has suffered seriously from the depression of the last four years. Americans eat one-third fewer pies now than they did at prosperity's peak. They ate 75 million dollars worth of pie in 1929, but only 55 million dollars worth last year.

### Why the Sudden Change to Liquid Laxatives?

Doctors have always recognized the value of the laxative whose dose can be measured, and whose action can be thus regulated to suit individual needs.

The public, too, is fast returning to the use of liquid laxatives. People have learned that a properly prepared liquid laxative brings a perfect movement without any discomfort at the time, or after.

The dose of a liquid laxative can be varied to suit the needs of the individual. The action can thus be regulated. It forms no habit; you need not take a "double dose" a day or two later. Nor will a mild liquid laxative irritate the kidneys.

The wrong cathartic may often do more harm than good.

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