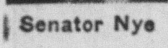


# News Review of Current Events the World Over

## Nye's Committee Offers Drastic War-Profit Bill—Austria Decides to Enlarge Its Army—Progress of European Peace Negotiations.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD  
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SENATOR GERALD P. NYE'S munitions committee, which has spent seven months investigating the doings of the manufacturers of arms and armament, reported to the senate its measure designed to take the profits out of war and provide for the conscription of industry in the event of another armed conflict involving the United States. The bill is decidedly drastic, giving to the President in war time powers that are practically dictatorial, permitting him not only to fix prices but also to license all industry and control raw materials. It also has taxation features that will arouse considerable opposition. It would raise individual income taxes to 6 per cent in wartime, levy surtaxes up to 94 per cent on incomes in excess of \$10,000, and seize profits of corporations in excess of 6 per cent return on invested capital.



Senator Nye

The Nye bill gives the President very broad powers to fix prices of commodities, to license industry, to enjoin profiteering and to prevent the hoarding of goods. It provides for the drafting of industrial leaders, who would be permitted to remain with their companies, subject to military law and given rank and compensation not exceeding that of a brigadier general.

Meanwhile the house military affairs committee reported the McSwain bill, similar to the senate measure but without the tax features. This lack made the more radical members angry but when they tried to amend the bill they were routed, 258 to 71.

The Nye senate committee, after reporting its bill, continued its inquiry. It heard a rather sensational bit of evidence to the effect that Roger S. McGrath, an insurance company agent who was described as a friend of the President's son James, had sought successfully to obtain two naval building contracts for the Bath Iron Works up in Maine.

FOLLOWING the example set by Hitler, Austria has decided to disregard the limitations on its military strength set by the treaty of St. Germain and to increase its armed forces immediately. The official communique issued by Chancellor Kurt Schuschnigg did not say how big the army would be or whether conscription would be restored. The annual spring parade of the army at the Ringstrasse in Vienna was revived, and the troops appeared in fine new uniforms.

It is believed Hungary and Bulgaria soon will ask permission to increase their armies and re-introduce conscription.

SOVIET Russia is ready to line up with Great Britain, France and Italy in promoting the general European security pact which is the basis of England's plan for peace. This was brought out by the visit to Moscow of Capt. Anthony Eden, British lord privy seal, and his conferences with Dictator Josef Stalin and Maxim Litvinov, Soviet foreign commissar. According to the joint communique given the press, these statesmen "were of the opinion that in the present international situation it is more than ever necessary to pursue the endeavor to promote the building up of a system of collective security in Europe as contemplated in the Anglo-French communique of the third of February, and in conformity with the principles of the League of Nations."

It was made clear that Germany and Poland would be welcome to enter the arrangement, but that it would go ahead even without them.

Captain Eden then went on to Warsaw to talk things over with the Poles; and even as he was departing from Moscow the Soviet press launched another fierce attack on Germany. Michael Tukhachevsky, vice commissar for defense, in an article in the newspaper Pravda, declared Germany would have an army of 849,000 by the summer, exceeding the French army by 40 per cent and almost equaling the Soviet army in size.

He charged Hitler with "lulling France to sleep" with anti-Soviet war talk in the hope France would not realize her own peril.

Tukhachevsky's view that Germany contemplates attacking France was supported by an authorized article in the weekly Journal de Moscou which asserted the leaders of the reich realized "the exceptional risk to which Germany would subject herself by invasion of the tremendous territories of the U. S. S. R.—a country possessing powerful armaments and unlimited opportunities for improving and increasing these armaments."

"It is almost probable," the Journal said, "that under certain circumstances



M. Litvinov

HITLER will prefer other fields of aggression, and an intensified revision of the map of Europe will be started not in the east but in the west."

PREMIER MUSSOLINI is highly skeptical of the success of efforts to persuade Germany to enter into general peace plans for Europe. In his newspaper, Popolo d'Italia, appeared an editorial, probably written by the duce himself, warning his fellow countrymen that no miraculous results may be expected from the conference of foreign ministers in Stresa. It asserted that the western European powers "must stabilize their line of common action against several eventualities which can be foreseen, and they must take definite responsibility."

It then charged that the French and British are impeding Mussolini's wish to take action against Hitler because of their preoccupation about their own internal policy.

Premier Flandin and Foreign Minister Laval of France were reported to have devised a vast, new, flexible plan to organize the peace of the continent within the framework of the League of Nations.

POLAND appears to have decided to play a lone hand in the European embroglio, though she remains friendly to Germany. It is reported that Captain Eden's visit to Warsaw was as disappointing as was that of Sir John Simon to Berlin. The Polish government is determined to sign no pact that would commit the nation to fight for Russia against Germany or for Germany against Russia and France, nor will it permit either German or Russian troops to be transported across Poland. The Polish statesmen say they will sign a series of bilateral pacts, and will go as far as any other nation in parallel disarmament. They assert that they have no alliance with Germany, though their mutual troubles have been settled for the next ten years, and that the alliance with France still holds good.

FROM Tokyo there came a statement indicating that Japan would give at least moral support to the European powers that are seeking agreements to counteract Hitler's move for the rearmament of Germany. It was given out by Elji Amau, the frequently quoted spokesman for the foreign office. He said Japan will hold aloof from the European crisis and that there would be no far eastern Locarno pact, but that "we cannot think of any alliance with Germany." Tokyo, asserted Amau, is ready to discuss with Russia some degree of demilitarization of the eastern frontiers.

FOREIGN nations that discriminate against American imports have been warned by President Roosevelt that they must discontinue that practice under penalty of economic reprisals by the United States. In a letter to Secretary of the Treasury Ruggenhan the President outlined his foreign trade policy and disclosed the fact that the administration is considering denouncing existing trade pacts with Germany, Italy, Portugal and Denmark because of discrimination. He proclaimed the new Belgian-American reciprocal trade agreement, and also decreed that, pending the conclusion of negotiations for new pacts now in progress, the reduced duties and other concessions granted Belgium will be extended to Canada, Spain, The Netherlands, Switzerland and Lichtenstein for six months.

DEBATE on the Copeland-Tugwell food, drug, cosmetic and advertising bill was lively in the senate, and the opposition was led by a Democrat, Jostah W. Bailey of North Carolina, who urged the retention of the present food and drug law with such amendments as changed conditions require.

"I understand the Department of Agriculture was created to foster agriculture and not to govern advertising," Senator Bailey said. "It is inconceivable to me that it should take charge of medicine, cosmetics, and advertising. There might be an argument that the department has made such great triumphs in agriculture that it is seeking new worlds to conquer. But I believe that if some one should make that boast, I should agree that it had exceeded Samson in the slaughter of pigs, but had fallen far short of doing as good work in the matter of cotton as has the boll weevil."

STANLEY REED, the new solicitor general, obtained from the Supreme court permission to dismiss the government's appeal in the Belcher lumber code case. Therefore there probably will be no decision as to the constitutionality of the national industrial recovery act by the chief tribunal before congress takes action on the bill to extend the recovery law.

WHEN the Illinois legislature, at the behest of Governor Horner and the federal administration, passed a state recovery act the New Dealers hailed this as an example that all states should follow. Now County Judge Homer W. Hall at Bloomington has held that the act is unconstitutional. He also declared the national automobile code inoperative as applied to Illinois.

Under the state recovery act, the judge remarked, an unlawful delegation of the authority of the state legislature has brought about a situation whereby violations of the state act can be prosecuted by the state only through the sanction and by the authority of the federal director of codes.

THROUGH the efforts of Donald Richberg, chairman of the NIRA, an agreement was reached by the bituminous coal operators and the United Mine Workers, whereby the prevailing coal code is extended to June 16 and a threatened strike of about half a million miners averted. The present wages and hours of work are continued. President Lewis of the miners insisted the union had not yielded to the operators; but the fact remained that if it had not consented to the agreement Mr. Richberg could and would have extended the code by executive order.

SCORES of agents of the Department of Justice's division of investigation were carrying on a concentrated search for three men now listed as the worst "public enemies" at large, according to Chief J. Edgar Hoover. The three are: Alvin Karpis, twenty-five, a leader in the notorious Barker-Karpis kidnap and bank robbery gang; Raymond Hamilton, twenty-two, killer who broke jail while awaiting execution, and Thomas H. Robinson, Jr., twenty-eight, kidnaper of Mrs. Alice Speed Stoll, wealthy young society matron of Louisville, Ky.

ONE of America's leading sculptors, Augustus Lukeman, died in New York at the age of sixty-four years. After Borglum was ousted by the Confederate memorial committee in 1925, Lukeman took over the work of carving the huge memorial on the face of Stone Mountain in Georgia, completing it in 1928. He was chief of sculptors at the World's fair in Chicago.

OBEDIENCE alleged directions from the yacht on which President Roosevelt was fishing in Florida waters, the majority in the house refused to accept the restrictions injected in the work relief bill and sent it back to conference to have these removed.

The restrictions objectionable to the administration were those requiring senate confirmation of administrative officers of the program and that in loans and grants to states at least one-third of the money should be expended for direct labor. The latter requirement, according to Secretary Ickes and others, would result in the exclusion of rural electrification, slum clearance and similar projects.

Defending the move to send the bill back to conference, Buchanan of Georgia said: "The President is assuming responsibility. All we ask is to give him a bill that he can work on in shifting from dole to employment."

In replying to Buchanan, Representative Robert Bacon (Rep., N. Y.) contended that the labor provision was needed in order to "kick out pet local projects" and afford as much direct relief of unemployment as possible.

"Congress has reached a pretty low ebb," declared Minority Leader Bertrand Spell (Rep., N. Y.), "when it can't even pass on a conference report without receiving orders from the Chief Executive."

FOR the second time the United States Supreme court reversed the convictions and death-sentences of two of the Scottboro negroes who were accused of assault on two white girls. The court held that since negroes in Alabama are not permitted to serve on juries, they are denied "equal protection of the laws" in violation of the Fourteenth amendment. It declared the state court error in not quashing the indictments.

This was a big victory for the colored race, but in another decision by the Supreme court the negroes were the losers. The tribunal ruled that the Democratic party in Texas is a voluntary association, not subject to control by the state legislature, and as such may exclude colored persons from voting in its primaries.

DIRECT negotiations with Italy over the border dispute were broken off by the Ethiopian government, which sent a new note to the League of Nations. Special measures were taken to protect foreigners in Addis Ababa. The Italian government did not take this rupture seriously, still hoping a peaceful arrangement might be reached without the intervention of the league.

NINETEEN cardinals met with Pope Pius in a secret consistory, and to them he delivered an emphatic denunciation of war, which, he said, "would be so enormous a crime, so foolish a manifestation of fury, we believe it absolutely impossible." If, however, there is someone who wishes to commit "this nefarious crime," then, the holy father said, he could do nothing else than pray to God to "destroy those people who desire war."

The consistory approved the canonization of Blessed Thomas More, King Henry VIII's chancellor, and Bishop John Fisher of England, who lost their heads for opposing Henry's marriage to Anne Boleyn.

THEY are the most famous pets' graveyard in the world is the dogs' cemetery in Paris, one of the tombstones in which bears the famous cynicism: "The more I see of men, the more I love my dog." There is also a dogs' cemetery in Kensington gardens, London. It was started when a dog belonging to the duchess of Cambridge was killed in a road accident, and is now full.—Answers Magazine.

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### Abyssinians Inhabited Present Home for Ages

The Abyssinians, the Ethiopians of the ancient world, have inhabited their present mountainous tableland surrounding the headwaters of the blue Nile since before the dawn of history. In early times, says a correspondent in the New York Herald Tribune, they were more or less connected with the Egyptians of the upper Nile and afterward assimilated incursions of the Hebrews at the time of the Egyptian captivity; the Phoenicians, from whom they are said to have derived their alphabet, and the Greeks who had planted colonies along their seacoast. Christianity was introduced in the fourth century and gradually spread throughout the land. This primitive faith, mixed with many customs of Judaism, is the principal religion there today.

In the seventh century the Mohammedans conquered all of Egypt and the Abyssinian coastal possessions. The Abyssinians were driven into the interior mountain fastnesses, there to remain nearly a thousand years until their very existence was almost forgotten. About 1500 a Portuguese expedition seeking a mythical eastern Christian kingdom penetrated the country and entered into a relationship sufficiently friendly to permit the establishment of missions. To these Portuguese belong the credit for many churches, bridges and other public works constructed at the time and also to the fanatical zeal of their priests must be attributed the destruction of the ancient literature of the Abyssinians are said to have had. This domination of the missionaries lasted nearly a century and a half, when religious disputes arose and the Portuguese were driven out. The Abyssinians again retiring to remain in seclusion until about the middle of the last century.

### Great Himalayans Grew for Millions of Years

A few million years before the Northern hemisphere came into the grip of the Ice age, the Himalayan mountains began to rise from a low mountainous land, notes a writer in the New York Times. At that time dense jungles covered its southern slope, which was drained by numerous rivers that wound their way to the ancient Ganges plain. These primeval streams washed down the rock waste from the highlands, and their floodwaters carried with them logs of fallen trees, leaves and skeletal remains of forest animals which eventually got embedded in shaly and rocky matrix. This process continued for a long time and thick rock formations began to pile up in the plains, which gradually sank under the load. These formations nowadays form the foothills of the Himalayas.

It is here that, among numerous other fossils, are found the relics of large apes. These are represented by jaw fragments belonging to certain genera whose evolution developed in several directions, some becoming more like the recent great apes, while others approached man.

### Athens Once Capital of Entire Civilized World

Athens was once the capital of the civilized world. Back of it is the most famous of all hills, the ruin-strewn Acropolis. The Acropolis, observes a writer in the Chicago Tribune, was the site of the early city which grew into Athens. It was fortified more than a thousand years before Christ. Part of the original walls still stand. Here the semi-mythical kings ruled and sat in judgment. Here under Theseus the city on the hill united with the villages that had sprung up on the plain below. Here was laid the foundation of the democracy that is still making its way westward around the world.

In 480 B. C. the Acropolis fell before the armies of Xerxes, who was later defeated in the naval battle of Salamis and he went back to Persia. In the same century the hill saw Sophocles, Euripides, Socrates, Aristophanes, and Pericles rise to immortality. The following century brought on the blight of Philip of Macedonia after he had paved the way for his son, Alexander the Great.

As the town of the greatest sculptors, poets, and dramatists of antiquity and the seat of the schools of philosophy founded by Plato and Aristotle, Athens subsisted for centuries on the intellectual capital it had stored up during the golden age.

For 2,000 years Athens has owed its prosperity to the fame achieved in its early days. It is still reaping the harvest of the intangible factors on which the empire of the mind is built: learning and literature, art and eloquence, philosophy and democracy. Students go there from all over the world, and the visitor stands in awe before the might and majesty of things immaterial.

### Denominations in the Colonies

The principal denominations in the colonies were the Church of England, the Lutheran, Congregational or Non-conformist, and later the Baptist, and Methodist, as well as the Roman Catholic. The Bibles principally in use were the King James version of the English Bible, the Lutheran translation of the German Bible, and the Douai translation of the Catholic or French Bible.

### Famous Pets' Graveyard

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### Denmark Has Many Islands

Surrounded as it is by the sea on nearly all sides, Denmark possesses a wealth of islands and peninsulas, verdure-clad islets and wood-clad points and promontories. It is a fair and fertile land composed of the islands, Zealand and Funen, and the peninsula of Jutland.

### Muscle Bound

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### Carved Altar Found

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