News Review of Current Events the World Over

Prime Ministers of Three Nations Confer at Stresa—President Roosevelt, Busy With Work Relief Program, Prods Congress.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

SIX of Europe's foremost statesmen, with experts and secretaries, solemnly considered peace plans and security pacts on Isola Bella, a lovely



to carry out that nation's military obligations under the Locarno treaty but balked at further commitment in con-

Anyhow, they had promised to enter into no new agreements without the consent of parliament, which cannot be consulted until after the Easter holidays. Premier Flandin and Foreign Minister Laval of France sought to persuade England to line up with France and Russia rather than with Germany. and they presented as one argument a new mutual assistance pact they had just signed with Russia. Premier Mussolini, solemn and pessimistic, handled matters for Italy with the help of Fulvio Suvich, undersecretary of foreign affairs. He had already warned the world that the issue of war or peace probably could not be settled at

Of course, the chief question was the attitude of other nations toward the constantly growing Pan-Germanism of the reich under Hitler, and the first concrete problem taken up was France's appeal to the League of Nations against Germany's repudiation of the military clauses of the Versailles treaty. Mussolini and MacDonald were inclined to accept Hitler's rearmament if there could be an agreement against further military expansion, but Flandin stood in opposition. The Italians urged a three-power alliance for protection against Germany, but England obdected and France was uncertain. All three nations rather favored the rearmament of Austria, Bulgaria and Hungary, and the Danube pact which Italy especially has been promoting.

MUSSOLINI'S pessimistic frame of mind was illustrated by an announcement in his newspaper, Popolo d'Italia, that Italy would keep 600,000 men under arms "until the horizon is well cleared, and give them all modern weapons." Both the Italians and the French are convinced that Germany is maliciously stirring up the troubles that confront them in northern Africa with the purpose of weakening their position in Europe. This matter was discussed privately by some of the participants in the Stresa meeting.

THE new mutual assistance agreement reached by France and Russia was at first supposed to be merely an agreement on sanctions to be taken against an aggressor once the latter has been determined by the League of Nations. But Paris correspondents assert that it is in effect a military alliance such as Russia had been urging on France and that in certain cases the signatories will determine for themselves who is the aggressor, without waiting for word from Geneva. The agreement is, of course, directed primarily against Germany. It is believed in Paris that Russia will soon conclude similar alliance with Czechoslovakia and the Baltic states, thus completing a steel ring around Germany's land frontiers. This agreement is still subject to alteration and final

That Russia still seeks "to maintain and strengthen the general peace" was shown by the signing of a Russo-German trade treaty which it is believed will greatly increase the volume of Russia's orders in the reich. Under this accord the Soviet will increase purchases in Germany by 200,000,000 marks (about \$80,000,000), a banking consortium headed by the Deutsche Bank and Discount Gesellschaft and the Dresdner bank to grant import credits for an average term of five years. The credits will bear interest at the discount rate of the reichsbank plus 2 per cent. The Russian trade delegation is thereby enabled to pay cash for orders placed with German

A NNOUNCEMENT was made by the government that it had uncovered extensive frauds in the immigration and naturalization service from 1923 to 1933, and steps were taken for the ousting of a number of employees and for criminal prosecutions. It was estimated that a ring of bribe takers and fixers had received as much as a million dollars from persons illegally entering the country.

"Revelations so startling in character have come to light that investigators believe the actual extent of corruption and fraud has been but partially disclosed," said a statement issued by the Labor department after a secret investigation of alleged frauds in the New York district.

"Sums ranging up to \$100 are alleged to have been paid in cases involving false witnesses or passing of an applicant who had failed in his test of knowledge of the government or his

ability to speak English. "It is alleged that fees ranging from \$300 to \$1,200 were levied in cases involving fraudulent or altered manifest records, where it was desirable to obtain a record that would safeguard an allen from deportation or procure citizenship status by showing his legal admission at the port of New York for permanent residence."

NEW dust storms, the worst of the destructive series, swept over Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas, completing the virtual ruin of the wheat crop and causing great losses and suffering among live stock. Schools and shops were closed, airplanes grounded and train and bus schedules disrupted. Some regions were being abandoned by all inhabitants.

A delegation of senators and representatives from four of the stricken states called on President Roosevelt and asked him to earmark \$150,000,-000 for a land program for the next two years. He did not indicate what amount would be allocated, but was said by the delegation to have given assurance that he would permit the expenditure of all the money that was

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, deeply tanned and in good physical condition, was landed at Jacksonville,



Fla., by the destroyer Farragut and started immediately for New York, to attend the funeral of his cousin, Warren Delano Robbins, after which he returned to Washington. Aboard his special train the President read through the \$4,880,000,000 work re-

Harry Hopkins ly passed by both houses of congress, called for pen and ink and appended his signature to the largest appropriation measure ever enacted by congress. There were some ate and house conference, which he did not like, but he said those who had studied it recommended its approval.

The President at once signed two allocations from the amount appropriated. The first was \$125,000,000 to the administrator of the Federal Emergency Relief administratoin, in order that relief might not stop. The second was \$30,000,000 for continuation of the emergency conservation work.

In Washington the Republicans and some others discussed with dissatisfaction the probability that Harry L. Hopkins, relief administrator, would be the President's chief assistant in carrying out the vast work relief program.

"It is extremely fortunate for Mr. Hopkins that, if he is going to be the lord high distributor of the money, the bill is so drawn that he won't have to be confirmed by the senate," said Senator Vandenberg of Michigan.

Representative Snell of New York. the Republican leader in the house, declared it was "a sad commentary that a man like Hopkins," who had termed critics of work-relief methods "d-n dumb," should "appear to be in line to be clothed with extraordinary grants of power over the greatest sum of money ever appropriated."

IN HIS first post-vacation conference with congressional leaders, President Roosevelt disregarded their fears of a prolonged session and insisted on enactment of his legislative program. Especially he wants legislation dealing with extension of the NRA, social security, utilities holding companies, extension of federal authority over banking, ship subsidy readjustment and extension of \$416. 000,000 in nuisance taxes.

Later the President conferred with Senator Joe Robinson, who said both of them felt that very satisfactory progress is being made. To the correspondent Mr. Roosevelt said he hoped to have the work relief program at its peak by the middle of November, at which time 3,500,000 unemployed should be at work under its terms. He indicated this program would be carried out as far as possible by existing governmental agencies. He will seek to avoid moving workers from one area to another, and will take care of as many "white collar" workers as possible.

The social security bill finally was produced on the floor of the house of representatives. There were several blocs against it in its form as reported. These included representatives who want higher unemployment and old age payments; members from the poorer states, who want the federal government to bear the entire cost of the program, with the states relleved of any contribution, and the conservatives, who are opposed to the "government going into the insurance business" and exacting a pay roll tax

GEN HERMANN WILHELM GOE RING, the dynamic premier ef Prussia and air minister of Germany, and Emmy Sonnemann, thirty-sevenyear-old actress, were married in Berlin, first in the city hall and then in the evangelical cathedral, with Reichsfuehrer Hitler acting as groomsman in both ceremonies. It was a most spectacular wedding, with many famous Germans and a grand opera chorus in attendance, a triumphal procession through the crowded streets and a

S OCIALISTS and Catholics of Dan-zig combined to give Chancellor Hitler of Germany his first big set-

display of the Nazi air force.

back. In the free city's parliamentary election the Nazis polled 60.6 per cent of the total vote, but failed to get the twothirds majority of the seats that would give them complete control of parliament, Hitler and his followers had hoped Danzig would follow the

lead of the Saar and return to the reich, Paul Goebbels and this may yet be the result, for the population of the city

is more than 90 per cent German. But the Nazis were defeated in their attempt to lay the groundwork for the suppression of all other political parties and the establishment of a dictatorship. Presumably their next step will be to vote for a change in the Free City's constitution and to ask the League of Nations, which administers the city through a commissioner, to permit a plebiscite on return to the reich. This was openly discussed by Paul Joseph Goebbels, German propaganda minister, during the hot campaign in Danzig carried on by the Nazis. Poland was enraged by the violent methods of the Hitlerites in the campaign and demanded an apology from Berlin. The whole affair endangered the new friendship between Poland and Germany, and probably this was not mourned by the other nations of Europe.

WITH the rubber workers in the tire plants of Akron, Ohio, ready to quit their jobs, the American Federation of Labor pledged itself to finance the strike, which President Green declared would be a crucial attempt by organized labor to force on industry the collective bargaining provisions of the NRA. He announced his organization would "support the rubber workers of Akron for as long a time as may be necessary."

Green definitely marked out the tire strike as a test of labor's ability to make good on the promises held out to it by the New Deal. The national labor relations board, he pointed out, had ordered the big tire companies, Goodyear, Goodrich, and Firestone, to allow their workers to elect representatives for collective bargaining. The companies have refused and labor now takes into its own hands the enforcement of the NLRB decision, Green argued.

Tire manufacturers, on the other side, recognize the threatened strike as a key move in the New Deal program for regimentation of labor and industry and are fighting back. Firestone expected to go before the District of Columbia Supreme court and ask a permanent injunction against the NLRB and NRA meddling in its labor

POSTMASTER GENERAL JAMES A. FARLEY went to New York to study the political and legislative situation there, and it was declared by

local Democratic leaders that he would retire from the cabinet soon after the adjournment of congress. Mr. Farley neither affirmed nor denied the story.

He has been bitterly attacked for retaining his cabinet post and at the same time continuing as chairman of the Democratic na-

Farley tional committee and of the New York Democratic committee, despite the edict of the President against such double holding. Mr. Roosevelt wants Mr. Farley to remain head of the national committee and to conduct his campaign for re-election, so he will give up his post office job: but he did not wish to resign while still under fire from Huey Long and others.

James A.

OUR minister to Canada, Warren Delano Robbins, succumbed to pneumonia in a New York hospital after a week's illness. He was a first cousin of President Roosevelt and had been in the diplomatic service for more than 25 years, being one of the most distinguished of the "career" men.

Adolph S. Ochs, veteran owner and publisher of the New York Times, was stricken with cerebral hemorrhage while visiting old friends in Chattanooga, Tenn., and died without regaining consciousness. He was seventyseven years old and had been in poor health for some time.

Another notable man taken by death was Edwin Arlington Robinson, generally considered the foremost American poet. He won the Pulitzer prize for poetry in 1922, 1926 and 1928.

A NNOUNCEMENT was made by the State department that the United States has accepted in general terms the proposal of Argentina and Chile for co-operative efforts to end the Bolivia-Paraguay war in the Gran Chaco. It was expected Brazil, which had been consulted, would join in the plan. Just what will be done has not been determined.

THE FUTURE

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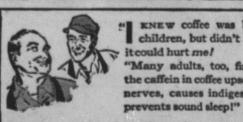












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