

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Statesmen in Geneva Struggle to Prevent Italo-Ethiopian War — Progress of the New Deal Measures in Congress.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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CAPT. ANTHONY EDEN, British minister for League of Nations affairs, was exceedingly busy in Geneva trying to find a way to avert the war between Italy and Ethiopia.



Anthony Eden

He was aided and abetted by Premier Laval of France and together they evolved a plan for procedure by the league council which appeared promising, until it was communicated to Premier Mussolini.

Then Baron Aloisi, Italian delegate, announced the Eden-Laval formula was "entirely unacceptable."

However, hope was not abandoned for there was a chance that modifications could be made that would satisfy the demands of the Italians.

Unofficially, it was said the British-French formula dealt with these points:

1. Conciliation and arbitration is to continue.
2. Neither Italy nor Ethiopia is to resort to war measures in the meantime.
3. Appointment of a fifth arbitrator to the deadlocked Italo-Ethiopian conciliation commission.
4. Signatories of the 1906 treaty—Great Britain, France, and Italy—will lend their good offices to obtain a general broad solution of the conflict.

Italy was expected to protest against time limits fixed in the draft of the projected peace formula.

One deadline was set for September 1, by which time the arbitrators on the Italo-Ethiopian conciliation commission, who would resume their work, would be required to report to the league council.

Another time limit was set for September 4, when the three powers and Ethiopia would be required to report their findings to the league council. In any event the council would be scheduled to meet September 4.

One important concession was made to Italy in the formula. It was agreed that the ownership of Ussal, scene of the frontier conflict involved, should not be discussed. The Ethiopian contention has been that responsibility for the border clash could not be established without the ownership of the locality being first determined.

Emperor Haile Selassie met his chiefs in council at Addis Ababa and they told him it might be now too late to prevent war for their tens of thousands of fighters were eager for hostilities to begin and could hardly be restrained. The emperor, however, sought to hold the chiefs back. At the same time he issued another defiant note informing the world that Ethiopia never would accept an Italian or other mandate, adding: "No amount of prosperity under foreign domination would compensate for the loss of independence."

Mussolini seized control of Italy's metal and fuel imports for use in the expected war, and several thousand more soldiers and workmen sailed for Africa.

LED by George Huddleston of Alabama, the members of the house who opposed the "death sentence" in the utilities bill scored another victory over the supporters of that plan of the New Dealers.

Sam Rayburn's motion that the house agree to the senate action on the bill was defeated, 210 to 155. Rayburn argued, pleaded and threatened, but to no avail. He warned the representatives that those who voted against his motion would be incurring the wrath of the administration, and at the last moment had read testimony before the senate lobbying committee to the effect that a New Jersey man had suggested the utilities companies start a whispering campaign regarding the sanity of the New Deal leaders.

Still the big majority in the house insisted on rejecting the Rayburn motion.

Then the house, by a vote of 183 to 172, adopted a resolution which virtually called for the exclusion of Ben Cohen, administration lobbyist, from future conferences on the bill.

DEMOCRATIC congressmen started the week briskly determined to push through the President's "soak the rich" tax bill at this session. Opposing them with equal determination were a number of the hardest fighting Republicans who insist that consideration of taxation be postponed until next winter and that meantime the question be studied carefully in connection with the budget for the next fiscal year. These Republicans are urgently calling for an early adjournment of congress. Senator Hastings of Delaware has introduced a resolution setting August 10 as the day for quitting and was trying to have it brought up for consideration before passage of the tax measure.



Senator Vandenberg

Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, often mentioned as a Presidential possibility, also demanded postponement of the tax legislation until January, and he gave out a statement denouncing the administration's plan as a "sterile political gesture" which would raise "only a little extra pocket change" and declared that "we chatter of taxes in millions to offset known deficits in billions."

"The pending tax bill, as it is being developed," said Senator Vandenberg, "will not produce appreciable revenue for Uncle Sam. It will not pay the President's deficit even for the period while the bill is under consideration. As a contribution to the public credit, it is as grim a hoax as was ever perpetrated on the country. As a 'distributor of wealth' it is a mere vagrant flirtation with this left wing idea."

Nevertheless, it appeared probable that the tax measure would be enacted before adjournment, for the administration leaders had promised this to Senator La Follette and other "liberals," and besides that, they have no desire to pass a taxation bill in a Presidential election year. As produced by the house ways and means committee after great travail the measure embodies an 87 per cent confiscation of large fortunes and increased levies on the rich which would produce perhaps \$250,000,000 of additional annual revenue.

CONGRESS has passed and the President has signed a bill which assures promotion in the near future for about 5,000 army officers. It accelerates the advancement of commissioned officers below the grade of colonel and takes effect September 1.

The act increases the number of colonels by 158, the number of lieutenant colonels by 364, and the number of majors by 800. More than 1,000 second lieutenants will be advanced immediately to the rank of first lieutenant and 1,769 first lieutenants will become captains. In all, 4,918 officers will receive immediate promotion.

SENATE and house committees investigating the activities of lobbyists were their separate ways, neither thinking very well of what the other was doing. Senator Black's quiz occupied itself much with the doing of representatives of the Associated Gas and Electric corporation. An executive order from the White House directed the secretary of the treasury to make available to the senate committee all incomes, excess profit, and capital stock tax returns to the extent necessary in the investigation with the so-called "holding company bill or any other matter or proposal affecting legislation." Simultaneously President Roosevelt approved a new treasury regulation authorizing the release of this information to the committee.

Representative Patton of Texas went before the house committee again and satisfactorily explained how he had been able to buy \$3,000 worth of bonds out of his savings. As to the cigar box he carried away from the hotel room of John W. Carpenter, president of the Texas Power and Light corporation, it contained nothing but cigars, Patton said.

"The fact is, you have been doing a very great wrong," commented Representative E. E. Cox of Georgia.

SENATOR GLASS scored perhaps the greatest victory in his long public career when the senate, without a record vote, passed his draft of the 1935 banking act, rejecting the central bank features urged by Gov. Marriner S. Eccles of the federal reserve board and favored by the administration. The doctored Virginian, who was once secretary of the treasury, had fought desperately against the Eccles scheme and his triumph was decisive. There was no demand for a roll call on the final vote, for the fate met by the proposers of various amendments showed this procedure would be futile. Senator La Follette sought to strike out a provision permitting commercial banks to underwrite securities and his proposal was beaten, 89 to 22. Senator Gerald Nye of North Dakota, another radical Republican, offered the central bank plan of Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, radio priest, which would set up a government owned and wholly dominated system. It was voted down, 59 to 10.



Senator Glass

FROM the Communist Internationale in Moscow comes the word that the reds are planning a strike "of unprecedented scope" by seamen and dock workers on the Pacific coast of the United States, beginning in September. Sam Darcy of San Francisco, an American delegate told about it. He repeated what had already been said by Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist party in the United States, that Communists were responsible for the seamen's and dock workers' strikes last year.

PASSAGE of the bill to restore \$40,000,000 of Spanish war veterans' pensions was completed when the senate accepted the house measure, the only opposing vote being cast by Senator Hastings of Delaware. This nullifies the various adjustments made by the President for the purpose of economy to carry out the party pledge of a reduction of at least 25 per cent in the cost of administration of the federal government.

FREDERICK H. GILLETT, who represented Massachusetts in the house for many years, for six years was speaker, and thereafter served as United States senator, died in Springfield, Mass., at the age of eighty-three. Able, dignified and unfailingly courteous, Mr. Gillett was highly esteemed by his fellow congressmen, whatever their party affiliation. In his home town he was known as a politician who said little and did much.

JAPAN will probably have another cause for complaint against the United States. Secretary of the Navy Swanson has announced that strongly fortified naval bases will be established in the Pacific ocean upon the expiration of the naval limitation treaties on January 1, 1937. He said he considered the creation of naval stepping stones in the Pacific an inevitable result of the treaties' expiration. He revealed that the navy long has given consideration to Pacific fortification problems and that impetus had been given to the study since Japan's abrogation of the naval treaties.

The necessity for adequate bases in the Pacific was demonstrated forcibly last May during the annual fleet maneuvers off Hawaii and the Aleutian islands. According to reports, the navy high command in a report of the lessons learned in the exercises strongly recommended an Aleutian islands base.

The United States naval bases are few and far between as against those of Japan and Great Britain, which lie along the principal courses of English and Japanese traffic lines. The American bases are relatively obsolete.

GERMANY'S diplomatic note concerning the Communist attack on the liner Bremen in the port of New York took the form of a request that the offenders be punished but asked for no apology. Acting Secretary of State William Phillips, in his reply handed to the German charge d'Affaires, Dr. Rudolf Leitner, told briefly the efforts of the New York police to guard the vessel and to subdue the mob, and pointed out that some of those who took part in the attack were arrested. The German note said the incident constituted an insult to Germany.

In his press conference President Roosevelt declined to comment on the affair. Asked about the protest of Jewish organizations against the German government's religious attitude, the President intimated that the administration's view was fully expressed by Mr. Phillips' reply in which he expressed sympathy for anyone who was denied religious liberty.

Representative Dickstein of New York told the house that no apology was due to Germany for the Bremen incident and that neither the federal nor the local authorities were to blame for it. He asserted the attack was made possible by "a selfish desire on the part of the skipper of the Bremen, who would not take police advice to halt visiting to the ship and lose the revenue of visitors."

Over in Germany the saner men in authority recognized that the Nazis were going too far and were probably headed for a fall if not restrained. Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, president of the Reichsbank and economic dictator of the reich, uttered a solemn warning to the anti-Jewish and anti-Catholic forces, declaring that the great task which the German people must fulfill to comply with the wishes of Hitler cannot be fulfilled unless "all disturbances are ended, be they in the intellectual or economic field."

Among developments in the current campaign against the Steel Helms, the World War Veterans' organization, the Schutzstaffel or "black corps" formed to protect the person of Hitler, gave out a warning that it must be reckoned with in the event of a showdown against "state enemies," and asserting its complete loyalty to der fuhrer. The proclamation closed with these ominous words:

"For many reasons it would be deeply regretted if the Steel Helms, by their own fault, should come to a dishonorable end."

MORE disasters in the Far East. Antung, an important city in Manchukuo, was engulfed by a terrific flood; a thousand persons were drowned and practically the entire population of 110,000 was rendered homeless. Formosa was ravaged by another typhoon which took many lives and did vast damage. Along the Han and Yangtze rivers the surviving Chinese were striving to keep alive and at the same time to bury the tens of thousands who died in the floods there.

ALONG the line of providing help for white collar workers, Harry L. Hopkins appointed four technical assistants to direct the employment of painters, musicians, writers and actors. They are: Nikolai Sokoloff for music, Halle Flanagan for the theater, Holger Cahill for painters and sculptors, and Henry G. Alseberg for writers.

Washington Digest

NATIONAL TOPICS INTERPRETED

By William Bruckart

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Washington.—President Roosevelt has settled a controversy by the simple expedient of transferring two men from responsible positions in the Virgin Islands to jobs in Washington. He has taken Paul M. Pearson from the post of civil governor of the Virgin Islands and has made him assistant director of housing in the Interior department and has transferred Federal Director Judge T. Webber Wilson from his post in the islands to the federal parole board here in Washington. Each man has accepted his new appointment and in so far as a current controversy is concerned, the book is closed.

It will be recalled that Governor Pearson and Judge Wilson long have been at loggerheads over Virgin Island affairs. The battle was bitter. It came to a head when Paul Yates, executive assistant to the governor and a former Washington correspondent, resigned his job and came back here with a bag full of charges against his former chief. The Yates allegations ranged all the way from minor charges of poor judgment to gross accusations. He succeeded in getting a senate committee investigation and it was at that time that the Pearson-Wilson feud flared so openly that administration officials here were dragged in and the whole scope of differences aired.

As a matter of fact there is every reason to believe that Governor Pearson was far from a successful executive in the islands. He frequently aroused the ire of natives and, according to testimony adduced by the senate investigation, had very little to show for the sums of money he expended in attempting to give the Virgin Islands a new lease on life. All of the information tends to establish that the islands continue to be "an effectual poorhouse" just as President Hoover described them on the occasion of a visit during his term as Chief Executive.

But Governor Pearson had his supporters in the administration. Chief among these was Secretary Ickes whose department is responsible for administration of the islands. Just why Mr. Ickes has been so enthusiastic about Governor Pearson's regime is not fully disclosed in any evidence here except that the interior secretary has certain ideas about social reform that some unkind critics refer to as pure socialism which Governor Pearson had been attempting to impose upon the island inhabitants. Governor Pearson has expended vast sums of PWA funds in the islands in his efforts to carry out the Ickes program of reform. It seems, however, that the schemes were not as practical as they might have been and so trouble started in a rather extensive fashion.

The President stayed outside of the row until in the course of the senate inquiry Senator Tydings, a Maryland Democrat and usually an anti-Roosevelt Democrat, received a letter from Mr. Ickes. Mr. Ickes accused the investigating chairman with having whitewashed a witness whose testimony was all anti-Ickes and anti-Pearson. The senator flared up in a big way at that letter. His reply is likely to become a classic in official correspondence. He did not mince his words. After voicing his general conception of the attitude exhibited by Mr. Ickes and accusing him of attempting to interfere in the investigation, Senator Tydings informed the interior secretary that he may as well attempt to run the Department of the Interior and let the senators run the senate. He used just about those words.

That was the signal for Mr. Roosevelt to take a hand. It was easy to see that a few outbursts of that kind and Mr. Ickes might have found himself in a splendid position to resign from the cabinet. So the President got the feudists into his office, singly of course, and when those conferences were over the senate investigation into the Virgin Island situation was suspended for two weeks. The transfer of Governor Pearson and Judge Wilson resulted.

One might properly inquire why all of this agitation has occurred about the Virgin Islands.

Why the agitation? They are many hundreds of miles from Washington. They lie in the Caribbean sea, considerably out of the usual pathway of ships; they are populated by about 22,000 individuals, 95 per cent of whom are negroes and may generally be described as a "backward" place. They may have some military and naval value. That has never been fully demonstrated. But the fact remains they are possessions of the United States and if our government is to be their protector, it is responsible for a sane administration of their affairs.

The Washington fight may have had its start in the Virgin Islands, but it has progressed beyond that point and is a domestic battle now. It is safe to say that for 18 years, which is the

Little Lights on LIVING

By MARIA LEONARD
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A MODERN DUODECIMO OF HEALTH

OF EVERY 100 persons that are now alive, 36 will die from preventable diseases before they reach sixty-five years of age. If you want to be one of the sixty-four who reaches the age of sixty-five, follow these rules, part of which are Dr. Thomas D. Woods' creed of keeping fit:

1. Eat less, chew more.
2. Smoke less, breathe more.
3. Ride less, walk more.
4. Bundle less, bathe more.
5. Worry less, work more.
6. Hurry less, read more.
7. Idle less, play more.
8. Talk less, think more.
9. Go less, sleep more.
10. Waste less, give more.
11. Scold less, laugh more.
12. Freach less, practice more.

Scold less and laugh more, for there are far too few "morning faces" seen today in our thoroughfares, instead there is a worried, tired look as though people had forgotten how to smile. The depression has taken much cheer out of the world. Stocks and bonds can go, but the radiance must not go from our every day living! Let us not forget the healthful exercise of laughter. Some one has said it takes fewer muscles to smile than frown. This radiance should not pass with childhood. Childhood has many traits for us to emulate in middle age.

Childhood loves laughter and life. Children exercise. They are always moving and growing. They are happily busy and busily happy. This is why they live abundantly. We who are growing towards forty automatically cease doing these things and unwittingly court old age.

Health is the greatest asset of the human race. Daily are we beginning to wake up to the fact that physicians are for the purpose of keeping us well rather than getting us well. Not only is individual health kept constantly before the public mind with its health column in the newspapers, cautioning over-eaters, the radio answering diet questions, outdoor summer camps for younger children, and health books and magazines, but community health is being brought to the laity also through cities' safe water and milk supply, cleanliness of streets and new methods of sewerage disposal.

Health at its best means resistance to disease, relaxation from mental tension, calm from anxiety, regularity at all times, recreative power through play, temperate living and thinking, spiritual enthusiasm for one's work. Health brings a radiance in our living and gives us and others life abundant.

RELAXING

CAN you relax? To relax means to slacken, and relaxation does just that to human beings, it slackens them. Some individuals grow more tense as the day grows, rushing hither and yon, tremendously busy with tremendous trifles. Seven days a week is this program enacted until haste becomes a habit.

Tension is a foe to modern living. Business folk often start the day tensely by trying to do two things at once—reading the morning paper while eating breakfast. The whole goal of American living seems to be to save time. We eat faster, we drive faster, we work faster, which means we really live faster, all to save time, and what do we do with it after it is saved?

Much of the work of the world becomes an endurance test in seeing how long we can hold on, because of tension and rigidity that comes of gaining it, and the arch enemy of the human race appears on our horizon, horns, hoof and tail, in the shape of FATIGUE. Normal fatigue is nature's way of calling one's attention to the speed limit as a protective measure from driving too fast. She takes this way to assert her own rights. If this sign is unheeded she sends a danger signal which one cannot ignore, in the shape of OVER FATIGUE.

Over fatigue claims a tremendous toll from the human race in the form of health efficiency and joy, and leaves in their places strained nerves, poor or half-done work, worry and irritability.

Physicians tell us that ten minutes daily, complete relaxation, mind blank, body limp, on couch, with or without sleep, preferably after lunch, recreates body and soul with renewed energy and outlook on life for the other half of the day. It is an art, however, and how to do it successfully must be learned like learning to play a violin. Relaxation of this sort should be planned in a day's regular schedule like meals are planned, for it is of equal importance to mind and body. If ignored, accumulative fatigue comes sneaking up behind us and insidiously undermines us at our daily tasks. Unaware of its harmful influence we keep on, keeping on until some day, we fall to appear at our accustomed place and the physician says sadly, "Too bad, too late, this is a nervous breakdown." Think this over in time, and daily for ten minutes rest, repose, renew, revivify and rejoice, through relaxation.