

News Review of Current Events the World Over

President's Program Driven Through Congress Before Adjournment—Mussolini Refuses to Abandon His Projected Conquest of Ethiopia.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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LEGISLATIVE action in both house and senate was fast and furious during the closing days of the session. White House pressure was freely used; filibusters were started and stopped; senators and representatives, hot and bothered, were inclined to be quarrelsome. But congress had its orders and it wanted to go home, so the administration program in general was pushed through.

One of the most controversial measures on that program, the Guffey coal bill, had been driven through the house by orders from above and threats of a strike, and when it was taken up by the senate every effort to kill it, by eliminating the tax feature, was defeated. During the debate Senator Walter F. George of Georgia, Democrat, created a sensation by denouncing the bill in these words:

"Outside of political circles, it is questionable whether there are five reputable lawyers in the United States who would declare this measure constitutional. However, that is not the worst feature of the bill. The worst feature is the defect and infirmity in the legislative program that we are developing. This nation cannot remain free and happy, if we are to legislate for groups, and beyond all of that, if groups are to legislate for themselves the end of things is not very far distant."

"That is the situation we have confronting us. And to this kind of program the Democratic party is willing to commit itself!"

Senator George was assailing the proposal to set up district boards in the coal industry, which would make their own laws as to trade practices and regulate wages and hours, allocate tonnages and fix prices, with regard only for their own interests.

"This is the type of absolutism from which we revolted to establish this Republic," he declared.

The house gave up the fight against the "death sentence" in the utilities bill and instructed conferees to accept a "compromise" that was pretty much one-sided. This means that all holding companies beyond the second degree are to be sentenced to death by the SEC promptly after January 1, 1938. Even a holding company in the second degree would not escape unless its operations were confined to a single integrated system within a state or within contiguous states.

Both senate and house adopted a resolution making mandatory the embargo on munitions shipments to both belligerents in case of war. This was what the administration did not want, claiming it would tie the hands of the executive so that he could exert no influence toward averting war.

Senate and house accepted the conferees' report on the bill increasing the powers of TVA and legalizing that body's past actions and it was sent to the White House. The senate passed without a record vote the railway bankruptcy amendments recommended by Co-ordinator Joseph B. Eastman, which are designed to prohibit minorities from blocking reorganization plans.

MUSSOLINI is determined to conquer Ethiopia, and all Europe is trembling. It duce evidently feels that his personal prestige is at stake, and to him that means the continuation of the Fascist regime. Anthony Eden and Pierre Laval offered Italy what would amount to a mandate over Haile Selassie's realm, but that was not enough, so the tri-power conference in Paris was declared adjourned. The friendship between France and Italy must be ruptured. Great Britain will insist on action by the League of Nations council when it meets September 4. There is no reason to believe that the council will do more than it did in the case of Japan's seizure of Manchuria, but it seemingly will be forced to denounce Italy's action, and that would be enough to induce Mussolini to withdraw his country from the league. If and when Italy defies the league, that pretentious body, previously defied successfully by Japan and Germany, will amount to little.

After Baron Pompei Aloisi had submitted the Anglo-French proposition to Mussolini and had received the duce's reply, he told Eden and Laval that his master would be satisfied with nothing less than "annexation of Ethiopia in whole or in part." Laval was furious and directly accused Mussolini of breaking a personal promise made to him when he visited Rome. Eden abruptly brought the conference to a close.

Hurrying back to London, Captain Eden took part in conferences held by Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin and the members of his cabinet, together

with various former ministers, opposition leaders and public men not in office. The situation was admittedly tense and the advice of such men as Lloyd George, Lord Cecil and Winston Churchill was sought by the government. Sir Samuel Hoare, foreign secretary, also called in representatives of all the self-governing dominions. It was understood the British government would be prepared fully to honor its obligations under the League of Nations covenant, these including the denouncing of a nation that attacks another member of the league. Of course the air in London was full of rumors of war, but officials gave assurance that Great Britain would move with the greatest caution.

Paris heard unconfirmed reports that Mussolini was trying to negotiate a secret military alliance with Hitler. If such a pact is signed it will greatly increase the chances of another general European war.

SAMUEL B. PETTENGILL, Democratic representative from Indiana, aroused the house to wild cheering by a downright attack on Tom Corcoran, the White House lobbyist who has been charged with trying to intimidate congressmen. Pettengill challenged the house lobby committee to summon Corcoran again and question him about his reported dealing in utility issues on the New York Stock exchange market at the same time he labored for legislation against utilities at Washington.

The Indiana representative thus brought out into the open the rumors, whispered about the Capitol, that administration lobbyists were profiting secretly by stock market deals in securities affected by legislation for which they were exerting tremendous efforts.

Corcoran once admitted to a committee that he had been a stock market plunger and had made and lost a small fortune.

"In view of this admission," Pettengill told the house, "the rules committee, investigating lobbying, should summon Corcoran and question him as to whether he is now in the market with reference to utility stock."

GRADUALLY the President is bringing all the alphabetical units of the New Deal directly under his control by bringing them under the budget and accounting act. Thirteen of them already have been treated thus by executive order, and more will follow soon. They are required to submit to the budget bureau estimates covering expenditures and to go on a month to month spending basis. At first the heads of these various administrations resented this and blamed Secretary Morgenthau, but when they learned that the President was strong for the plan they quietly gave in.

MORE than 30,000 troops of all branches of the armed service got well started in the great war maneuvers in northern New York which were organized and directed by Maj. Gen. Dennis E. Nolan. The regular army men of the first area and the National Guardsmen of New England, New York and New Jersey participated, and in muddy fields, tangled pine forests, backwoods roads, they had a series of "engagements," troops opposing troops under conditions closely simulating real warfare. An interesting feature was the use of a big fleet of taxicabs from New York city. Pine camp, just south of the Thousand Islands region, was the center of operations. Ranking high officers of the army and military attaches of foreign nations observed the maneuvers.

During the opening days the Twenty-seventh New York division commanded by Maj. Gen. William N. Haskell was pitted in the eastern portion of the 100 square mile maneuver area against the Forty-third New England division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Morris B. Payne. In the western portion of the changing terrain the Forty-fourth New Jersey and New York division, commanded by Maj. Gen. John J. Toffey, opposed the Twenty-sixth Massachusetts division.

JAPAN has been offended by our navy on various occasions, especially by the staging of fleet maneuvers at Hawaii and the Alaskan coast. Now the sensitive islanders should be pleased, for Assistant Secretary of the Navy Henry L. Roosevelt has announced that the fleet maneuvers of 1938 will be held at the Panama canal and on the western coast of Central America. Mr. Roosevelt and the navy high command asserted, not very convincingly, that the shift was not made in response to unofficial Japanese criticism.

IN ONE of those sudden governmental upsets frequent in Latin America, President Jose M. Velasco Ibarra of Ecuador was thrown out of office and Antonio Pons, former premier, was put in his place. It all came about because Ibarra tried to make himself a dictator and imprisoned the leaders of the opposition. The senate objected and Ibarra closed congress. Then the army got into action. Ibarra was arrested by Col. Nicanor Solls, Inspector general; the political prisoners were released, and Pons was installed as president.

WILL ROGERS and Wiley Post, crushed to death in Alaska when their plane fell not far from Point Barrow, were brought back to the states for burial by Joe Crosson, their intimate friend, in an airplane. And all their countrymen stood figuratively with bared and bowed heads as the broken bodies were laid to rest. None was too great and none too lowly to pay tribute in words and action to those two fine Americans, one a beloved comedian, humorist and philosopher; the other a leader among the world's aviators. They died as they had lived, adventuring gallantly, and the world is the poorer for their passing.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S cotton textile committee submitted to him certain recommendations to better the industry, and he passed them on to congress for future action. Secretary of Commerce Daniel Roper heads the committee and the other members are Secretary of Labor Perkins, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and Secretary of State Hull. The report proposed that a friendly agreement be sought with Japan to limit the export of textiles to this country.

The committee found that, although the Japanese imports have been small, the American market has been disturbed, with a resultant depression in the industry here.

A continuance of the labor standards provided under the NRA code was suggested. To this end it was recommended that the government supplement such voluntary efforts as are being made by administrative and legislative measures which may be feasible to aid workers.

The committee recommended against discontinuance of the cotton processing tax "during the existing economic emergency as reflected by existing price disparities." It held that the tax increases the purchasing power of farmers and thus benefits workers in the cotton textile industry.

The government's cotton loan policy was found to be primarily important to the textile industry through its possible stabilizing effect.

Various technical recommendations were made by the report, but the proposition of representatives of the industry that the government virtually subsidize cotton textile exports by an allowance of 7 cents per pound was disapproved.

MINORITY members of the senate and house committees that are investigating the doing of lobbyists started out the week with the determination to find out why Marvin H. MacIntyre, secretary to the President; Lawrence W. Robert, Jr., assistant secretary of the treasury, and Amos G. Carter of Fort Worth, publisher and friend of the Roosevelt family, were all found in the apartment at the Shoreham hotel of Bernard B. Robinson of Chicago, chief lobbyist of the Associated Gas and Electric company. Mr. Robinson himself also was there, and it was said when the door was opened at the knock of the sergeant at arms of the senate a "scene of revelry" was disclosed. For a day or two the news of this affair was not sent out from Washington by the news associations, reportedly because of the efforts of Mr. Carter to have it suppressed entirely. This, too, some of the investigators want explained.

Republican members of the house committee also said they would insist on the interrogation of Undersecretary of the Interior Charles West and Emil Hurja, executive director of the Democratic national committee. West is reputedly the President's lobbyist and Hurja acts in a similar capacity for Postmaster General Farley, and both of them were involved with Tom Corcoran in the utilities "death sentence" lobbying that started the whole inquiry.

WHEN Charles S. Risk, the Rhode Island lawyer who defeated the New Deal candidate for congress recently, entered the house on the arm of Representative Bertrand H. Snell, Republican leader, and was escorted to the speaker's rostrum to take the oath, he was vociferously greeted by the Republicans as a hero whose victory they thought presaged great things for the party next year. Mr. Risk took his seat on his thirty-eighth birthday.

FLOYD B. OLSON, governor of Minnesota, on his way to Washington, stopped in Chicago long enough to tell reporters that he intended to be a candidate for the United States senate in 1938. This was interpreted as meaning that he would contest the re-election of Thomas D. Schall, the blind Republican. Governor Olson is a Farmer-Laborite.

Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted

By WILLIAM BRUCKART

NATIONAL PRESS BLDG. WASHINGTON, D. C.

Washington.—A plainly worded and simple announcement forthcoming the other day from the

Will Plant More Wheat Agricultural Adjustment Administration, presented one of the sharpest reverses in policy yet promulgated under the New Deal.

Dozens of experiments have been tried out since President Roosevelt came into office and almost as many have run their course and have been abandoned. Many of them were tried out with high enthusiasm but the enthusiasm died long before the recently created agencies themselves went out of existence. Such was not the case, however, in the instance to which I refer because the simple announcement by the AAA resulted in the addition of 5,200,000 acres to the wheat planting area of the United States for the 1938 crop.

Not alone did this announcement represent a change in administration agricultural policy, if one is to believe the undercurrent of information available around Washington, one cannot escape the conclusion that the increase in wheat acreage to be authorized represented something of an answer to the protests, even boycotts, that have been evidenced in many sections of the country against an increased cost of living.

It is unnecessary to repeat here how hundreds of women have boycotted meat markets in Detroit and how one delegation after another in other sections of the nation have written or telegraphed to the Department of Agriculture or to their representatives and senators in congress in complaint against the high and ever increasing food prices.

Of course, boycotts and riots and demonstrations are rather silly. They just don't get anywhere successfully. About the only result one ever sees flowing from that sort of activity is a lot of publicity.

So, when Secretary Wallace and Agricultural Adjustment Administrator Davis agreed to raise the wheat acreage from 85 to 95 per cent of the available acreage for the next crop, the consensus was that the administration felt it might have gone too far in its crop reduction program. Probably all restrictions will be lifted on hogs very soon because hog prices have sailed higher than a kite and the shortage of available live stock for packing has come to be almost appalling. Certainly, the city dwellers who constitute a big element in the market for pork products regard the shortage as appalling and they are not to be appeased by any promises from Washington.

Secretary Wallace was rather angered at published newspaper accounts from various cities to the effect that the AAA program was responsible for the high prices. He insisted that the drought of last year was responsible and that the destruction of several hundred thousand sows and several million pigs had not affected the market situation at the present time.

But Mr. Wallace's statements did not go over so well. In the first instance the bulk of the city dwellers simply will not believe that the drought had resulted in killing off a sufficient number of hogs and cattle to cause the current high prices. In the second place, wisecracks around Washington who have a habit of blurring out their thoughts without regard to feelings of others, promptly inquired what good had come from the AAA corn-hog control program if the drought alone was responsible for the price increase. These same individuals were mean enough to inquire also why some experts in the Department of Agriculture had released statements to the press to the effect that meat prices, especially pork, will continue to skyrocket until the summer of 1938. They pointed out that a great shortage in supplies existed and that it was to be expected the upward trend would continue until a new crop of hogs of packing size is marketed next year.

Then, we here in Washington heard suggestions from men whose job it is to understand market conditions in which imports of pork products were predicted for the forthcoming winter. Now, importation of any commodity does not take place unless the domestic supply is short of the requirements. Thus, crop control program or no crop control program, drought effects or no drought effects, it is possible that this, one of the greatest hog producing nations in the world, may witness substantial imports of a food item for which it has always been noted as a producer.

As regards the reversal of form in the wheat control program, Mr. Wallace said in his announcement that the increase had been authorized "primarily to assure domestic consumers of continued ample wheat supplies." He said that the wheat carried over this year was about 152,000,000 bushels and that on the basis of present estimates of production for next year it

seemed advisable "to use the flexibility of the Agricultural Adjustment Act at this time to provide for somewhat larger production to assure adequate supplies of all types of milling wheat."

In theory, of course, the AAA control plan should permit production of sufficient wheat next year to take up the slack of left over requirements and should have the effect of maintaining American stocks at about normal. But, in practice, a different result is threatening. This nation always has exported a considerable amount of wheat. It has, therefore, had some influence in the world market and to that extent has influenced the domestic price. It happens, however, that the world wheat crop ahead of us is likely to be smaller than usual. If the United States had the wheat, it is pointed out variously, there could be a considerable return to the farmers from the export market. As it stands, possibilities of taking advantage of that situation just do not exist.

Without further reference to the practical operation of this theory, some experts have mentioned to me the fact that the 1936 American crop may not be as good as in times past. Then, not only will the American farmers be unable to take advantage of a foreign market, but they will not obtain the maximum return possible for their domestic sales because of their own shortage.

In answer to this, AAA officials point out they can use the flexibility of the Agricultural Adjustment Act as a benefit to the farmers. Their view of the situation is that the American wheat industry will be in a strong position, due to the shortage of world wheat, and can again exert its influence.

The divergent opinions of those who favor crop control and those who think the theory will not work have created many arguments even among officials. There are those who think only of the farmer's position and there are those who think only of the plight in which the city dwellers find themselves when prices are high. The whole thing, when simmered, down, is simply another way of stating the age-old problem in which we find on the one hand those who produce the food and on the other those who eat it. Adoption of the principle of crop control has not solved that problem nor does it hold any prospect of solving it. It seems to me as a matter of cold judgment that the Agricultural Adjustment Administration is not any more fair with the people as a whole than are those who promote boycotts or seek to tear down gains made by agriculture. The department officials have given out statements carrying only their side of the case. Those who attack higher prices have made only their side of the argument. Neither has added much to the sum total of human knowledge or human comfort.

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The New Deal plans for giving employment may not have been so effective outside of Washington, but no one can question the result in so far as the federal pay roll is concerned. Late figures reveal that since President Roosevelt came into office more than 150,000 persons have been added to the federal list of employees. The total of workers on federal pay rolls in the executive branch of the government at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, was 717,712, whereas the total was 566,986 at the end of March, 1933—the end of the first month after Mr. Roosevelt took office. It has always been the claim of political parties that "to the victor belong the spoils." It is true under the Roosevelt administration to a remarkable degree. This is shown by the fact that the civil service list of employees in the federal government has gained very few while those appointed to jobs without the necessity of passing a civil service examination account for the bulk of the new workers.

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Much of the New Deal legislation has carried specific provisions that employees in the particular agency created by the bill in question could be appointed without "regard to the civil service law." That is the simple expedient used to provide spoils for the victor.

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But these new thousands are not all secure in their jobs as distinguished from basic reason why a great many persons seek federal appointment through civil service examinations. An employee who has passed an examination and has received an appointment is supposed to be fairly secure in his job and as long as he does the work assigned to him there is scant possibility of his being ousted. This is not true of the political appointees. If and when there is a change of administration and a political party of opposite faith takes the reins, the workers who came in by reason of political plums have little chance of staying on the job. Consequently, one frequently hears around Washington now discussion as to what will happen to all of these new workers if New Deal agencies blow up or Mr. Roosevelt should fall or re-election.

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Housewife's Idea Box



Disinfect Your Drains
You can easily disinfect your drains and prevent odors in your bathroom. At regular intervals, as often as you think necessary, use the following solution: Dissolve two ounces of chloride of lime in one gallon of water. Pour this down the drains, allow it to remain for a couple of minutes, and then flush.

THE HOUSEWIFE.
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Plant Improvement Held Tiedious Task Years Ago

Until the start of hybridizing by Knight in England, somewhat more than a century ago, all plant improvement was by "selection," says Little's Industrial Bulletin. This meant that the seeds of the choicest grains and fruit were carefully preserved for the planting of the next crop and when grafting was used for increase of woody plants the buds or branches were from the finest trees and bushes. This system unquestionably kept up quality and ably advanced it. In the hands of certain "wizards," with keen appreciation of what is of value in plants and how to attain this, there have resulted notable discoveries, such as the Baldwin apple and the Bartlett pear.

Selection was effective, but it was exceedingly slow. For centuries most attention was focused on standard types and the taming and development of wild forms was almost out of the question.

Real progress began when the pollen of the plant was placed on the stigma of another to produce hybrids consciously instead of waiting for the same thing to occur by the chance efforts of bees, flies or the wind.

BOYS! GIRLS!

Read the Grape Nuts ad in another column of this paper and learn how to join the Dizzy Deez Winners and win valuable free prizes.—Adv.

No Place to Go

A man wants to live on and on whether he has any other object in view or not.

Quick, Safe Relief For Eyes Irritated By Exposure To Sun, Wind and Dust—

MURINE

FOR YOUR EYES

The Simple Life

"All is not lost" on the farm when you can sit down to a table heaped with agreeable food.

FLY-TOX

Kills MOSQUITOES FLIES-SPIDERS and OTHER INSECTS

BEST BY 10,000 TESTS REFUSE SUBSTITUTES

ITCHING... anywhere on the body—also burning irritated skin—soothed and helped by Resinol

Quick, Pleasant Successful Elimination

Let's be frank—there's only one way for your body to rid itself of the waste material that causes acidity, gas, headaches, bloated feelings and a dozen other discomforts. Your Intestines must function and the way to make them move quickly, pleasantly, successfully, without griping or harsh irritants is to chew a Milsesia Wafer thoroughly, in accordance with directions on the bottle or tin, then swallow.

Milsesia Wafers, pure milk of magnesia in tablet form, each equivalent to a tablespoon of liquid milk of magnesia, correct acidity, bad breath, flatulence, at their source, and enable you to have the quick, pleasant, successful elimination so necessary to abundant health.

Milsesia Wafers come in bottles at 50c and 90c or in convenient tins at 20c. Recommended by thousands of physicians. All good druggists carry them. Start using these pleasant tasting effective wafers today.