

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Italy Is Outlawed by League of Nations, Austria and Hungary Objecting—Hauptmann's Death Sentence Upheld by Appeals Court.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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BECAUSE it was prosecuting an undeclared war on Ethiopia, Italy was condemned as a violator of the covenant of the League of Nations and virtually declared to be an outlaw against which economic and financial sanctions are to be applied. That was the decision of 52 members of the league in a memorable meeting of its assembly in Geneva. Three nations, Italy itself and Austria and Hungary, refused to associate themselves with the assembly's action. The Austrian and Hungarian representatives already had announced that they would not participate in any sanctions against Italy because of their political and economic relations with the Fascist government.



Baron Alois Laval

FIRST giving assurance, in his speech at San Diego, that the United States would not be drawn into any foreign war, President Roosevelt issued two important proclamations. One proclaimed the embargo on all shipments of war material to the belligerent nations. The other warned Americans that travel on Italian or Ethiopian vessels would be at their own risk. Since Ethiopia has no shipping, the latter proclamation was directed solely against Italy. In yet another statement the President reaffirmed our national policy by declaring that Americans who engage in "transactions of any character" with either of the warring nations "will do so at their own risk." In the past the United States has argued for the right of neutral citizens and commerce to "freedom of the seas."

UNANIMOUS decision of the New Jersey court of errors and appeals is that Bruno Richard Hauptmann was given a fair trial on the charge of murdering Col. Charles Lindbergh's baby son; that his conviction was in accordance with the evidence and that his death sentence was legal. Every contention raised by the defense was overruled. In its opinion the court said: "Our conclusion is that the verdict is not only not contrary to the weight of the evidence, but one to which the evidence inescapably led. . . . From three different and, in the main, unrelated sources the proofs point unerringly to guilt—viz: (a) Possession and use of the ransom money. (b) The handwriting of the ransom notes. (c) The wood used in the construction of the ladder."

MAKING good on his threats and promises, Benito Mussolini sent his armies crashing across the border of Ethiopia, starting a war that gave all Europe the jitters. Under the command of Gen. Emilio De Bono, chief of the Italian colonial armies, the Italian troops laboriously advanced from Eritrea, crossing the Mareb river frontier and capturing Adigrat and other towns that had already been practically ruined by bombardment from planes. The immediate objective was Aduwa, the scene of the terrific Italian defeat 39 years ago. After several days of hard fighting against the defending Ethiopians, who lost probably 2,000 killed, the invaders marched into Aduwa, and considered that the disgrace of 1896 had been avenged. The Italian soldiers of General Marivigna's command entered first, carrying to the principal square and there erecting a big stone monument inscribed "To the fallen heroes of Aduwa."

hat into the ring about the middle of December. He will enter the primaries in the western, mid-western and southern states. Mr. Fish has not yet formally announced this intention, but he told an interviewer the other day that if he were elected he would have a non-partisan cabinet that would include the best brains in the country regardless of political affiliations. He even went so far as to give out a long list of the men and women from which he would choose his cabinet members. For instance, his secretary of state will be either Senator Borah, Senator Hiram Johnson, Baldrige Colby, John W. Davis or Newton D. Baker. For secretary of commerce he would have either Herbert Hoover or Frank Phillips of Oklahoma. Senator Carter Glass heads the list for secretary of the treasury; Edward A. Hayes for secretary of war; R. B. Creager of Texas for postmaster general; Judge Charles Lockwood of Brooklyn for attorney general; Al Smith for secretary of labor; Frank O. Lowden for secretary of agriculture; Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., for secretary of the navy, and former Vice President Charles Curtis for secretary of the interior.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR opened its annual convention in Atlantic City with many problems up for discussion. In its report the executive council advocated preservation of the national constitution, without amendment for the present, as best for industrial recovery. It said: "That some control be exerted over the former system of laissez faire cannot be denied. . . . The experiment," the report added, "(NRA), which has been concluded, has helped to point the way to the goal which we must seek. How is congress to acquire that control over the industry and trade of our country which will make possible the necessary reforms?"

QUITE without ceremony, Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes and the eight associate justices of the supreme court of the United States took possession of their new ten million dollar home which on the outside resembles a Corinthian temple.

EVERYTHING in the handsome building was new except the nine chairs the eminent jurists occupy, and these would have been replaced if the architects and decorators had had their way.

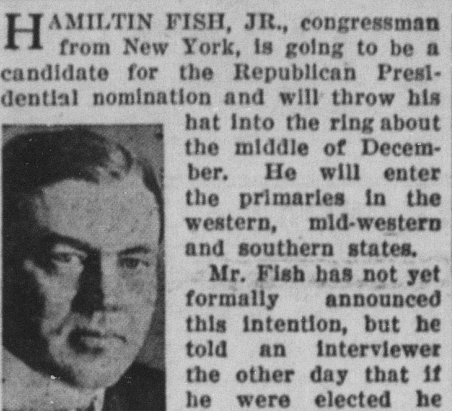
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DOWN in Lower California aboard the cruiser Houston President Roosevelt called Secretary Ickes and WPA Administrator Harry Hopkins into his cabin and studied the work situation on the basis of reports from Washington. After long consideration he formally approved \$20,000,000 in work projects in Pennsylvania.

IT means nothing else but a virtual blockade of Italy. Not just for goods declared to be contraband of war, but everything. It means that the United States, even in its own ships, could not send a pound of cotton or a piece of machinery or a basket of food to Naples and Genoa. It means that every American ship traversing the Mediterranean would be crossing a war zone, with all the possibilities that act involves.

WHICH presents a very tough nut for President Roosevelt to crack. Either way he moves means trouble, either foreign or domestic. Save that he has made it clear he has no intention of seeking to put the United States in the League of Nations, President Roosevelt has stuck rather closely to the Woodrow Wilson policies. Two of these were freedom of the seas and international cooperation for the preservation of peace. On the last, of course, Wilson was willing to go the whole way. He opposed a senate reservation to Article X, saying that article was the "heart of the covenant" of the league. Article X was the one which promised that every league member would contribute armed forces to enforce league decisions. It is still a part of the league covenant!

WHICH is highly interesting to Gen. William Mitchell and naval aviators, on the one hand, and practically all American admirals, on the other. Since shortly after the European war, they have been fighting this question of how important the air force was, and primarily whether a battleship could live against an air attack in force. Mitchell's part in this worthy encounter is chiefly remembered because he refused to recognize any limitations on his public utterances. It will be recalled that he was finally court-martialed and convicted in 1925 after he had denounced the high command as guilty of "treason." Hardly anybody could be found to agree with that word "treason," whether they agreed with Mitchell on the idea that battleships were obsolete or not.



Rep. Fish

Washington.—American admirals and naval aviators of course are all hoping that Great Britain and Italy will not become involved in a war—but if they do, they will be watching with great interest to see how Mussolini's terrific air force comes out with the superior British navy. Britain's attempt—regarded as certain if she keeps on her present course—to blockade Italy, and close the Suez canal will as surely be followed by attempts by the Italian air force to bomb the British fleet out of the water.

On the main points of the fight a great many military aviators, both army and navy, agreed absolutely with Mitchell, always recognizing that he purposely made his attacks as sensational as possible so as to attract public attention.

Naval aviators, in particular, however, have been gagged ever since by the mechanics of the navy's promotion system. Every so often a board of senior officers considers the list of officers of various ranks. It picks out those it considers eligible for promotion. All promotions are made from this list. The selection board is changed every time, but if an officer is passed over twice, normally, he might just as well give up. He will not be promoted. His career is ruined.

WHY They Are Mum Now remember that virtually all the admirals believe in battleships, and regard airplanes, for the most part, as mere adjuncts. And remember that a given percentage of younger officers in any grade must be passed over in the selection processes. And it becomes clear why very few young aviation enthusiasts in the navy speak their minds in public. They cannot afford to antagonize the men who will be passing on their eligibility for promotion.

INCIDENTALLY if the admirals win, it will be just too bad for Mussolini. Their contention has always been that the airplane was splendid for scouting, and annoying the enemy—much as the cavalry used to be in Civil War days, when Jeb Stuart raided all the way around the federal army, which was highly spectacular and profitable in captured supplies, but did not change the character of the war very much.

AFTER everything else is swept away in the fighting, the admirals contend, the battleships will still be floating, and still able to hurl destruction-dealing broadsides. Their masts will have been torn away by bombs dropped by planes. Their hulls will be leaking in various compartments from torpedoes fired by submarines. But they will still be on the job, and—here it is the brunt of their argument—nothing else will.

IF they are right, Italy will be blockaded—the Suez will be closed—Mussolini will be unable to send supplies to his African legions. If they are wrong, nobody knows what the answer will be. Always assuming that in the early clashes the tremendously superior Italian air force crushes the British air force.

COTTON is apt to produce tense diplomatic situations again, with fears, that the United States may be forced into a world war, just as it did in the early days of the 1914 conflict. It will be far more important than wheat, for the simple reason that the United States this year has no wheat of consequence to sell. In fact, it will probably buy some from Canada. Copper may be the runner-up to cotton as a trouble maker, thus curiously enough effecting a possible combination of the West and South in another political alliance.

THIS situation is far more serious than the news from Washington or anywhere else has indicated. It is glossed over the word "sanctions" in reports from Geneva, Paris and London. Stripped of diplomatic language, consider just what it will mean if France, as Washington expects, goes along with Britain in applying league sanctions to Italy. It means nothing else but a virtual blockade of Italy. Not just for goods declared to be contraband of war, but everything. It means that the United States, even in its own ships, could

SEEN and HEARD around the NATIONAL CAPITAL

By Carter Field
FAMOUS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT



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Don't Entrust Your Own or Your Family's Well-Being to Unknown Preparations

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