

# News Review of Current Events the World Over

## Hoare Promises Britain Will Not Fight With Italy—Laval's Peace Efforts Continued—President Roosevelt Returns to Washington.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD  
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SIR SAMUEL HOARE, British foreign secretary, assured parliament and the world that Great Britain has no intention of fighting Italy and would not alone apply military sanctions against that nation. He held out strong hopes that the war in Africa could be settled without resort to the league to extreme measures. His speech was plainly an invitation to Italy to talk peace terms.



Sir Samuel Hoare

Denying that the government's policy is hostile to Fascism, Sir Samuel said:

"We have not the least intention of interfering in the domestic affairs of other people."

"The unbroken solidarity of the empire is behind the government's policy," he said. "Let those prophets of misfortune who have marked the empire down for decay and dissolution observe this fact of overwhelming importance."

Hoare hinted at British isolation from continental affairs if the league collapses.

Next day Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin warmly endorsed all that Hoare and Capt. Anthony Eden have done at Geneva. He deprecated even the use of the word war, but called for a rearming of the empire, saying: "In the interests of world peace it is essential our defensive services should be stronger than they are today."

Baldwin announced the adjournment of parliament on October 25 and the election of a new parliament on November 14. The campaign already is under way and is lively, with the international situation furnishing the main issues. The Labor party accuses the government of delaying action in the Italo-Ethiopian imbroglio until too late to prove really effective, and impugns its motive in seeking rearmament.

MUSSOLINI made one conciliatory gesture toward Great Britain when he agreed to withdraw a division of troops from Libya; and at the same time he urged that France and Britain make quick reply to his peace conditions. But it became known the troops were to be moved from Libya to Tripoli, where they would be almost as much a menace to Egypt; and the due's peace terms were so drastic that there was no prospect that they would be accepted by anyone concerned. They included disarmament of Ethiopia, an international protectorate over the central regions and an Italian protectorate over the remainder.

Addressing the foreign affairs committee of the French chamber of deputies, Premier Laval promised he would seek only a compromise that would be fully acceptable to the League of Nations. He told the committee that France's battleships would steam immediately to the assistance of Britain if the latter's fleet was attacked by Italy.

WHILE Premier Pierre Laval of France was still trying desperately to find a way of settling the Italo-Ethiopian quarrel that would be acceptable to both Great Britain and Italy—apparently without regard to Ethiopia's real interests—fifty-two members of the League of Nations declared a boycott on all Italian goods and an embargo on various key exports to that country. The boycott binds these nations to prohibit importation of "all goods consigned from and grown, produced or manufactured in Italy or in Italian possessions from whatever place they arrive."



Pierre Laval

If rigidly enforced, this would cut off two-thirds of the export trade upon which Italy depends in getting funds for prosecution of the war in Africa. The countries applying the sanctions agree to aid one another in compensating losses by increased trade facilities, credits, cash and loans if possible, and discriminating against league members such as Austria and Hungary which continue to trade with Italy.

Austria, Hungary and Albania spoke against the sanctions. Switzerland, which seeks to preserve her traditional neutrality, was silent. Some South American republics made complicated reservations. It was decided that the sanctions should be put in force on October 31, and Laval thus had time to continue his peace efforts. These seemed to center on a way to "legalize" Italian occupation of that part of northern Ethiopia which Mussolini's troops have seized and to arrange for Italy's partial control over the entire empire.

GEN. RUDOLFO GRAZIANI's forces in southern Ethiopia were reported to have won several important victories in their advance toward Harar and the railway. They captured

some towns despite desperate resistance by the natives, and took many prisoners. The main movement in that region was up the Webbe Shihel river. The Ethiopians were repeatedly dispersed by aerial bombs.

In Tigre province, on the north, the Italians were consolidating their positions and preparing for another big thrust toward Addis Ababa. Their line there extended nearly 70 miles from Adigrat through Adwa to the holy city of Aksum.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, deeply tanned and in fine spirits, returned to the White House, his holiday tour ended. When he landed from the cruiser Houston at Charleston, S. C., he told a big crowd gathered to welcome him that the country is on its way back to prosperity under the planned economy of his administration, "and don't let anybody tell you differently."

An informal press conference just before he left the cruiser, the President was asked to comment on the "impending collapse" of his drive to put three and a half million employables on relief to work by November 3. He replied that November 30 was 30 days off and that November 1 had never been set as the deadline, and that he had been very careful to say that substantially three and a half million persons would be put to work. If three million are at work by November 30 he said he would be satisfied with the four-billion-dollar program, and that it could not then be considered to have fallen down.

One of Mr. Roosevelt's first appointments in Washington was for a talk with Secretary of State Hull on the European situation.

FOR the third time in his career Mackenzie King is now prime minister of Canada, following the victory of the Liberal party at the polls. Richard B. Bennett and his Conservative cabinet resigned and King was called on to form the new government, which he did at once. He himself was sworn in as prime minister, president of the privy council and secretary of state for external affairs. Thomas A. Crerar of Winnipeg was made minister of mines, immigration and colonization, interior and Indian affairs. Charles A. Dunning of Montreal is the new minister of finance and W. D. Euler of Kitchener has the trade and commerce portfolio. All the cabinet positions except that of agriculture were filled at once.



Mackenzie King

The resignation of W. D. Herridge as minister to Washington was accepted and became immediately effective. The department of national revenue announced cancellation of dumping duties on the following commodities entering Canada: Plums, prunes, radishes, spinach, and peaches.

ONE of the government's much publicized efforts to punish alleged income tax evaders of Louisiana failed when a jury in Federal court at New Orleans brought in a verdict of not guilty in the case of Abraham L. Shushan, one of the close associates of the late Senator Long. The prosecution claimed he owed \$71,000 in taxes. The verdict was greeted with loud cheers by the crowd in the courtroom, and in the ensuing confusion several news photographers were beaten up by former members of Long's bodyguard—which seems to be a habit in Louisiana.

NEARLY 5,000 men and women from all parts of the United States gathered in Chicago and held a national convention of the Townsend plan, which, as most people know, would give every person sixty years of age a \$200 per month income if the person agreed to spend it all within the month, did not work or have an income all told of more than \$2,400 a year.

The elderly California doctor who devised the plan was present, and the delegates seriously underbroke the work of formulating a campaign to compel the adoption of the plan at the coming session of congress.

FIRST of the big eastern railroads to seek reorganization under the amended bankruptcy act is the New York, New Haven and Hartford, which serves one of the most densely populated sections of the country. Its petition was filed because it was unable to meet taxes of \$4,000,000 and interest of \$2,200,000.

The railroad had sought another loan from the government, but the Interstate Commerce commission rejected the plea. The company had cleaned its treasury of collateral to secure loans of \$7,000,000 from the Reconstruction Finance corporation, \$3,531,000 from the Railroad Credit corporation, and \$16,000,000 from banks. The Pennsylvania system, which controls about 15 per cent of New Haven stock, did not appear ready to guarantee a further extension of credit.

"GERMANY is becoming a barren nation, intellectually, culturally and scientifically, under Hitler." That was the way Alfred E. Smith opened an appeal for financial aid for non-Aryan Christian and political refugees from Germany, at a dinner in New York held under the joint auspices of the American Christian Committee for German Refugees and the Emergency Committee in Aid of Political Refugees from Nazism.

"I am informed that at this very moment I am speaking, 2,500 German refugees are on the verge of starvation," the former New York governor said. "Centers now operating and serving these refugees in Europe must be supplied quickly with money. They need aid, or will be forced to discontinue their work."

Dr. Albert Einstein, the eminent scientist, also was present and said German Fascism is directed mostly "against my Jewish brothers. The reason given is to purify the Aryan race in Germany. As a matter of fact, no such Aryan race exists and the myth of same has been invented solely to motivate the persecution and robbery of the Jews."

ALL states and communities have been asked by Aubrey Williams acting WPA administrator, to make better provisions for the care of "unemployables," for federal aid for the needy will soon be confined to providing jobs. In an interview Mr. Williams said that with six states already cut off the dole, progress of the work relief program would bring liquidation of relief administrations in "the great majority of the remaining states" during November. This will leave those physically or mentally unable to work, the aged, mothers with dependent children, and other handicapped families and individuals, dependent upon local efforts.

DR. HUGH S. MAGILL, who as president of the American Federation of Investors has been annoyed by congressional investigators, has written to all members of congress a letter asking whether American citizens "still have the right to express their approval or disapproval with respect to pending legislation without being harassed by 'inquisitors.'"

The federation opposed the recent enactment of the "death sentence" for "unnecessary" holding companies and was under investigation by the senate lobby committee.

In an open letter to senators and representatives, Magill said he had "refused" to permit representatives of the committee "to read my personal and private correspondence." He asserted the federation "is not a lobbying organization as that term is commonly used."

DEATH came to an eminent American, Maj. Gen. Adolphus W. Greely, U. S. A., retired, at the age of ninety-one years. He passed away in Walter Reed hospital, Washington, and was buried in Arlington national cemetery with full honors. General Greely was universally known as the leader of the ill-fated expedition into the Arctic regions in 1881 from which only he and seven others returned alive. But he had already served in the Civil war with distinction, and his later scientific accomplishments won him international fame.

ARTHUR HENDERSON, president of the world disarmament conference and a most determined foe of war, died in a London nursing home. He was seventy-two years old and had been ill for a long time, so ill that he had not been permitted to see a newspaper for six weeks and did not know that another war had broken out and that the peace of Europe was threatened. The former iron molder of Glasgow who became a leader of the Labor party and was foreign secretary when it was in power, was awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1934. His crusade for peace and disarmament was inspired by the death of his eldest son in the World war. He was a gentle, much loved man, a genuine idealist whose latter years were made sorrowful by the repeated failure of the disarmament conference to get results.



Arthur Henderson

HELENA, capital of Montana, and all the western part of that state were terrified by a series of earthquake shocks extending through a number of days. There were only two fatalities, but numerous buildings were wrecked or so weakened that they had to be razed. Hundreds of persons were driven from their homes, and the suffering was intensified by a sudden fall of the temperature to below freezing.

EDWARD HENRY CARSON, who in 1921 was made Baron Carson of Duncrain, died in London at the age of eighty-one years, ending a strange and stormy career concerned mainly with Irish politics. A Protestant, he became leader of the Ulster party, organized and led the threatened Ulster rebellion in 1914 against the home rule bill and secured its postponement. When the war broke he turned his army to the battlefields of France and himself entered the British cabinet.

After the war Carson threw himself into the fight against the establishment of the Irish Free State and succeeded in securing the partition by which the six Ulster counties separated from the rest of Ireland.

# SEEN and HEARD around the NATIONAL CAPITAL

By Carter Field  
FAMOUS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT



Washington.—Practical Jim Farley will have more to do with President Roosevelt's re-election—if he is re-elected—than all the New Deal brain trusters put together, or than many of the issues which in the last few months have attracted so much attention.

Farley has really built up a national organization. It ramifies down not only to every county, but to every precinct in the 48 states, and it is busy all the time. It has been working like mad in directions that have attracted no attention whatever. For example, it has been conducting a drive lately to get every Democrat, man or woman, who happens to be on the federal pay roll in Washington but charged to New York state, to register. It has run special excursion trains to New York with reduced fares, meal prices, etc., to bring about this registration.

This is a sample of the kind of activity which makes organization or machines (the choice of words depending on whether you are for them or against them) strong. It is the kind of thing that explains, in large part, why Tammany normally elects mayors in New York despite the black eye the tiger has in most of the country.

It is the reason the Republican organization generally won in Philadelphia, the Democratic in Baltimore, etc.

Much better illustrations are Chicago and St. Louis. The point here being that these two big Middle Western towns have had periods during the last twenty years when the strong organization was with one party, and then the other party developed a better. Thus proving that it is not the normal political inclination of the voters in these big cities which is so important, but the fact that the machine gets the vote registered, and then gets it voted on election day. Not to mention seeing that it is counted—at least once—after the polls are closed.

### Started in Early

Farley began his real activities following the election of Roosevelt as governor of New York in 1930. His Tammany background was shocked at the state of the party above the Bronx. There were whole counties where the local Democratic organization was a mere adjunct to the local G. O. P. boss, and received patronage scraps from the local G. O. P. table in reward.

Farley installed a real fighting organization, with workers in every upstate precinct. That explained Roosevelt's enormous majority in 1930, which made him the logical Presidential nominee. With the opening of the 1932 campaign, Farley started the same sort of organization work for the whole country. He has been at it ever since. The 1934 election, far more sweeping than even the Roosevelt landslide of 1932, was not generally recognized as the fruit of this organization work, but actually it was most potent in bringing it about.

Today the organization that Farley has built up is stronger than in 1934. Whereas the Republican national organization, and the local organization in many doubtful states, is infinitely weaker than at any time since the end of the Civil war.

This is the very little discussed handicap that the Republican nominee to oppose Roosevelt next year will face. For instance, Illinois is admitted by many observers to be apt to go Democratic. Why? Because of the strength of the Kelley machine in Chicago, plus the Farley inspired organization downstate. Were the old Thompson machine in existence in the Windy City, the state would be figured probably Republican.

In Missouri the Pendergast machine in Kansas City, plus the decay of the old "Big Four" Republican machine in St. Louis, makes all the difference in its votes in the ballot box, not sentiment 'round the radio, that elect. Any machines know how to get them in the boxes.

### Back to Prohibition

Most people may laugh at the predictions of dry leaders that this country is headed back toward prohibition—but not the distillers. Behind this attitude of fear is a very curious situation, very obvious to any one inquiring into it, but not generally realized. It involves the possibility that in the next fight to get prohibition, for the fight is not only coming but has begun, the effort will be to prohibit not any beverage in excess of one-half of 1 per cent, as the Volstead law read or even of "intoxicating beverages" as the Eighteenth amendment read—but distilled liquor.

Distillers are keenly aware of that. This explains their caution, as contrasted with the attitude of the brewers and wine makers. There was a great deal of talk, just before prohibition, about "light wines and beer." All of which is curious in view of the tremendous prejudice which existed in that long period leading up to prohibition against the word "beer." It was generally coupled with an even more objectionable word "saloon." In fact, one frequently heard the words jointly—"beer saloon."

That prejudice seems to have faded until little is left of it. When wartime prohibition was being discussed

in the senate, Wadsworth of New York, painted a delightful picture of the joys and temperateness of wine drinking. Senator Norris, one of the driest of the dries, rose and asked if the senator from New York would be satisfied if the bill exempted wine. Wadsworth said he would like to save beer, too. Norris and other dries threw up their hands. It was unthinkable. It may be that this original prejudice, so much stronger against beer than wine, though wine contained normally a much larger percentage of alcohol, grew out of the difficulty some religious dries had in surmounting the Feast of Cana, but whatever the truth, the fact will be recalled by anyone in this country at the time that beer was far more obnoxious to the dries than wine.

### Hits "Hard Liquor"

But now state after state, including Virginia, home state of Bishop Cannon, makes the sale of beer and wine simple, but throws many restrictions around the sale of "hard liquor." In a way the plan follows that practiced for a long time in Canada. So-called "wine cocktails" are offered in hotel dining rooms, but not martinis or manhattans. Beer is sold everywhere.

Beer and wine are sold in Virginia, Washington, and many other places in this country much more freely than in the old pre-prohibition days. Before prohibition the only places that would sell a customer a glass or bottle of beer were licensed saloons, which were strictly limited as to number. Now there are frequently five in one block. In Washington these are sandwiched between stores which are licensed to sell only packaged goods not to be consumed on the premises.

All of which change in sentiment—if it really does represent a change—is very apparent to the distillers, and their fear of the next fight grows, for their thought is that if the fight is concentrated on distilled liquor, or say beverages exceeding 15 per cent or 20 per cent alcoholic content, they will not have the brewers, the wine makers and the grape growers with them.

### Postal Savings

While there is no intention in the administration of yielding to the clamor of privately owned banks for the abolition or sharp contraction of the postal savings system, there is just as much opposition in official quarters to the elaborate plans for expanding that system, including checking accounts, and going into a general banking business.

Officials, both of the reserve board and post office, insist that they do not want to change the present system at all. They do not want to push privately owned and mutual savings banks out of business, and they do not want the government going into the banking business on a large scale. But at the same time they are unwilling to deprive the public of what they regard as a "privilege."

Actually it is rather puzzling that the postal savings system has not made greater inroads on savings banks in many communities, for example, the cities of New York state. In the Empire state the state banking authorities do not permit savings accounts to draw more than 2 per cent, which is precisely the rate paid by postal deposits.

But—postal savings depositors in many instances are buying postal savings bonds, and these pay 2½ per cent—more than they can get from any savings account in a privately owned or mutual bank in New York state.

As a matter of fact, the amount of such bonds so far bought, \$101,977,500, represents just about the increase in postal deposits since last December, when postal deposits reached their peak of \$1,208,000,000. They are now about \$4,000,000 less than the peak, but would be nearly \$100,000,000 above it, post office officials think, were it not for the savings bonds.

### Money is Safe

With the government guaranteeing all bank deposits, they point out, there is no question, so far as well informed people are concerned, of the safety of their money. So if the private banks pay a higher rate than the postal savings, the private banks should attract savings deposits as never before since postal savings was inaugurated.

Postal savings had the big boom, very naturally, in 1933, the year of the bank holiday. In December of that year they crossed \$1,000,000,000. By the time confidence had been restored, and the government guarantee of deposits set up, the banks had begun to cut their interest rates. So there was no incentive to take the money out of postal savings and put it back in the banks. In most large cities of this country this is still true.

Where there are legal restrictions on the amount of interest that can be paid, as in New York state, it is just a question of protecting the banks from getting more deposits than they can profitably and safely invest, considering the low rate of interest paid on government bonds and other investments into which banks can put their funds. With the improvement of business, the state banking authorities could change this limitation overnight.

THE MIND  
It is interesting to notice how some minds seem almost to create themselves, springing up under every disadvantage, and working their solitary but irresistible way through a thousand obstacles.—Washington Irving.

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