

Italy Feels the Pinch of Sanctions



Oil! The precious fuel shown gushing forth from the earth at the right is the biggest need today of Mussolini, shown in inset. How young Italians, take pride in turning over their valued private possessions to the government to help it beat the pressure of sanctions may be seen at the upper left. Lower left are Romano and Anna-Marie, children of the dictator, turning over their personal jewels to the government.

By WILLIAM C. UTLEY

Oil sanctions stop the war? The answer seems to be "yes" if the League can succeed in cutting off all oil shipments to Italy. Estimates of the experts recently assigned by the League of Nations to make a survey of the situation indicate that six or seven months of a complete oil embargo would bring Il Duce to cease his operations in Ethiopia.

Many qualifying factors may alter the situation. As a matter of fact, the longer the League of Nations ponders the advisability of applying oil sanctions—the longer the delay—the longer Italy will be able to hold out after sanctions begin to be enforced. For she is reported to be storing oil at a rapidly-increasing rate; the way in which American oil shipments to Italy have more than doubled normal proportions is an indication of what is happening between Italy and other nations. Even Rumania, one of the staunchest supporters of the sanctions idea, is increasing her petrol shipments to Italy.

Normally, Italy uses 1,500,000 tons of oil annually. With the war operations now going forward in Ethiopia, she now is burning it up at the rate of 2,500,000 tons. Of her normal importations of 1,500,000 tons annually, Rumania furnishes about 35 per cent, Russia 22 per cent, Persian sources (controlled by Great Britain) 12 per cent, Latin-American sources (also controlled by Great Britain to a large extent) 14 per cent, the United States 10 per cent and all other sources 7 per cent.

During the past year, when Italy imported 2,500,000 tons, Rumanian shipments leaped to 41 per cent of the total; Russia shipped 16 per cent, Persia 15 per cent, Latin America, 15 per cent, the United States 6 per cent and other sources 7 per cent.

Because of the delay in the application of oil sanctions, it is believed that Italy can go along through the rainy season and pick up her military operations in autumn.

The temporary let-down in fighting will make possible the saving of considerable oil, and will thus stretch out the period of Italy's "reprieve" a few more months. How long after that time Mussolini can keep going depends upon his success in securing fresh supplies.

The answer to this lies largely with the nations who are not members of the League. The United States has not yet made up its mind whether its new neutrality act will contain the provision that exports to belligerent nations must not exceed their normal proportions. One of the things holding up the League embargo, of course, is the fact that member nations are waiting until it can be determined what kind of action will be taken by the non-member nations.

Face Loss of Trade.

If Italy can keep buying oil from non-member nations, the members will face the possibility of losing a good share of their oil business for a long time to come, if not permanently. Some of them are trying to console themselves into thinking that immediate losses will not be very important because a settlement may be effected within the next few months.

Italy is attempting to ameliorate its own situation through the adoption of substitutes for oil, and the building of new factories, installation of transformers, and similar preparations are well under way. The process, even when it gets moving well, is a costly one, however, and it is doubtful whether Italy's solution to the problem of oil sanctions lies in that direction. Some estimates place the total annual saving in oil by that means could be only about 110,000 tons at the most.

Increases, the difficulty becomes apparent. Lastly, some of these substitutes have to be mixed with imported petrol, anyway.

There is plenty of ground for the supposition that the cry for oil sanctions has subsided considerably with the indications that Italy is achieving a victory far from complete in East Africa. If such sanctions do come, it is likely now that they will not be complete, but will only apply to shipments over and above the normal shipments.

The member nations are in a ticklish position; of that there can be no doubt. Mussolini has told them in no uncertain terms he will consider oil sanctions acts of war, and will reply with acts of war. Whether saving Ethiopia and saving the face of the League will be worth the risk of fighting an honest-to-goodness war with Italy is a poser that is holding up immediate action.

Limit U. S. Export.

If the United States does adopt the kind of neutrality law advocated by President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull, the League could then be assured that Italy would not receive more than about 200,000 tons of oil annually from American producers.

If American shipments are unlimited, the League has another card which it could play, however. Most of the oil tankers in use are owned by British and Scandinavian interests. American shipments might be materially cut by denying the United States the use of these tankers.

Meanwhile, Italy has been adding to her own fleet of tankers. According to the League transport sub-committee's estimate, Italy now has 82 ships which total approximately 356,000 tons. There are tankers in the Italian navy which might be included, and which would add another 70,000 tons. It has been estimated that Italy might herself be able to transport some 2,000,000 tons annually from ports on the Gulf of Mexico.

Undoubtedly, if sanctions on oil are declared, the League would declare a prohibition on the sale of tankers to Italy, thus preventing her from building up her tank fleet any more than she has already done. Also, it is probable that the League would forbid the movement of tankers sailing to Italian ports. To accomplish this and to prevent the shipment of oil in containers carried by other types of vessels, it would probably be necessary to declare naval blockades. This is too much like war, and the League is exceedingly wary about invoking the blockade.

There is little likelihood that new tankers would be purchased by American interests to carry on a wartime trade with Italy. The policy of the administration is too clear against aiding a nation at war at any time.

The usual amount of regimentation of a people under a dictatorship has multiplied many times, since the 53 nations declared economic sanctions on Italy.

The government has declared import monopolies on hundreds of items, from meat and fish to things like moving picture films. To protect the gold reserve the National Institute for Foreign Exchange was authorized to control all transactions involving the precious metal. Citizens or corporations may not sell or exchange gold until they have offered it to the government, which agrees to return it in the same amount and quality within a year, with interest at 5 per cent.

Royalty Sets Example.

Italy's king and queen set an example by sending their wedding rings to Mussolini and the populace quickly took up the idea, thousands upon thousands of persons turning over their own gold rings and receiving iron rings in exchange, in colorful and, indeed, pitiful ceremonies throughout the country.

After the depletion of the gold reserve to a point somewhat under \$400,000,000, the Treasury department has

insisted that it has maintained most of that reserve through increased taxation, the floating of bond issues, the wedding rings, new loans, the conversion of government credits and the realization of foreign credits held by private citizens.

Prices of foods and other items in common use skyrocketed after Italy had felt the pinch of sanctions for a little while. Gasoline rose from 85 cents to \$1.20 a gallon; wheat went up 20 lire a quintal. Coal, soap and textiles followed. Factories shut down because there were no raw materials to manufacture, or because of the prohibitive prices on raw materials.

Appeals were made to the emotions of the people. Boycotts were declared on goods coming from sanctionist countries. Great engines of economy and conservation of sanctioned articles were set in motion. There were—and are—plenty of the meatless days and wheatless days that we Americans knew during the war, except that the Italians probably observe them more rigidly and more frequently. The populace was encouraged to eat more fish and poultry, that beef, pork and mutton could be conserved or sent to the boys in the African trenches. Newspapers and periodicals even refused to accept any more contributions from authors of the sanctionist countries, and textbooks from those countries were removed from the schools. To meet the needs of the poorer people, who were hardest hit by the rising prices which followed the application of sanctions, commissions of doctors and dieticians issued pamphlets and began educational campaigns on the maintenance of proper diet and living conditions under the difficulties.

The people were not to be denied bread, for the fine wheat harvest of 1935 was 21 per cent greater than that of 1934. In the last five years the total area sown in wheat has been increased by about 400,000 acres. Another 150,000 acres were added during 1935.

Policy of Secrecy.

The Treasury department eventually began a policy of secrecy as to its exact status, and it was believed that this status was none too good, in the face of the fact that publication of all statements of the Treasury department and the Bank of Italy were suspended. The Italian deficit last year was about \$100,000,000, with nearly half of this accounted for by the campaign in Africa.

It is not in foodstuffs, but in raw materials that Italy faces the most dangerous threats of sanctions. Italy imports nearly 2,000,000 quintals of cotton annually—three-fourths of it from the United States—as against a production of only 9,000 quintals at home. She also imports five times as much wool as she produces, but much of this import can be canceled by the substitution of silk, rayon and other materials. The nation imports practically all of its requirements in seeds, rubber and, of course, oil. The home production of oil probably does not exceed 1 per cent of her normal needs.

Italy's needs in timber are not facing any serious threats, for she can still import practically all she needs from Austria. Austria is also helping in fortifying Italy against the pressure of sanctions on minerals. Needs of scrap iron are diminishing as the result of national drives to corral all the old iron in the nation. Italy's own production of iron ore can be increased about two-thirds its normal needs. With other minerals it is not the same. Italy must import all of her tin and nearly all of her copper from sanctionist countries. Aluminum may be substituted for some of these products. The nation is fairly rich in aluminum. She imports about half of her lead. She must import about ten times as much coal as she produces, about half of the total import coming from sanctionist countries. Her own coal is of poor quality.

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Jiffy Knit Sweater With Matching Hat

PATTERN No. 5512



Any four-to-eight-year-old will be warm as toast in this sweater and cap set. The sweater's a "jiffy" knit—just plain knitting combined with yoke and sleeves of easy lacy stitch, and finished almost before you know it. The cap done in a straight strip, gathered at the top, also includes these two stitches, adding a pert pompon for good measure. Choose a colorful yarn, and there'll be no "insisting" she wear it!

In pattern 5512 you will find complete instructions for making the set shown in sizes 4, 6 and 8 (all given in one pattern); an illustration of it and of the stitches needed; material requirements.

Send 15 cents in stamps or coins (coins preferred) to The Sewing Circle, Household Arts Dept., 259 W. Fourteenth St., New York, N. Y.

Tung Oil Available Here

Tung oil, which is pressed from the nuts of the tung tree, was for years available only in China. Now tung trees, in increasing numbers, are being cultivated in the southern-most states of this country. Tung oil is used as an ingredient of some paints to facilitate quick drying and is also used in varnish to make it waterproof.

The Mind Meter

By LOWELL HENDERSON

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The Syllables Test

In this test there are two columns of syllables. Take a syllable out of the first column and unite it with one in the second column to form a word. When you are finished, you should have ten words.

First Column	Second Column
1. ros	1. tuce
2. pal	2. lse
3. na	3. cord
4. prem	4. rel
5. let	5. sar
6. cou	6. try
7. con	7. lect
8. col	8. trum
9. bar	9. pon
10. bur	10. sal

Answers

1. rostrum	6. coupon
2. paltry	7. concord
3. nasal	8. collect
4. premise	9. barrel
5. lettuce	10. bursar

Life in Need of Love

Life, like all else, needs to be lived; those who cannot love life are vanquished from the very start.—Roman.

Motorists Bump Into Grim Reaper; Cases Dismissed

Police Lieutenant R. L. D. Nord of Los Angeles requested dismissal of traffic complaints against Richard Morton, William J. Lyons and J. E. Thompson.

"On what grounds?" asked Municipal Judge Newell Carn. "These men are dead, your honor," said Nord. "They were killed in traffic."



DO YOU HAVE STOMACH UPSETS?

Mrs. Malinda E. Coffman of 224 Norway Ave., Hagerstown, Md., said: "I was under weight and thin. I never cared to eat. At times my stomach caused me no end of discomfort. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery toned up my digestive system, my appetite improved, I gained weight and had very little stomach distress." Buy now! New size, tabs, 50c. Liquid \$1.00 & \$1.35. At all drug stores.

WARNING! DON'T LET LITTLE SKIN BLEMISHES GET A START

Pimples, blackheads, roughness—watch out! Prompt use of Cuticura Soap and Ointment helps prevent these minor blemishes due to external causes from developing into ugly, serious skin afflictions. Cuticura's medicinal and emollient properties check irritation, aid healing, help restore natural skin loveliness. Get started on the Cuticura treatment today. Soap 25c, Ointment 25c at your druggist's. For FREE sample address "Cuticura," Dept. 13, Malden, Mass.

Check them with CUTICURA



FARMERS everywhere are enthusiastic in their praises of the Firestone Ground Grip Tire — they say it's the greatest traction tire ever built, and so economical. How was it possible for Firestone to build such a remarkable tire? Firestone patented construction features are the answer. Gum-Dipping, a process that soaks every cotton fiber in every cord with pure liquid rubber, prevents internal friction and heat and gives the cord body greater strength to withstand the stresses and strains of heavy pulling at low air pressures.

The patented feature of two extra layers of Gum-Dipped cords under the tread locks the massive super traction tread securely to the body of the tire. This patented Ground Grip tread is made wider, heavier and deeper, with scientific spacing between the bars so that the tire is self-cleaning, yet rides smoothly on improved roads. These patented construction features are used only in Firestone Tires. This is why you get greatest traction, longest life and outstanding performance in Ground Grip Tires. They are the best investment a farmer can make.

Equip your car, truck, tractor and farm implements with new Firestone Ground Grip Tires and save yourself time, money and hard work. See this remarkable tire at your nearby Firestone Auto Supply and Service Store, at your Tire Dealer, or at your Implement Dealer. Remember, when buying farm equipment specify Firestone Ground Grip Tires for greatest efficiency and economy.

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Firestone

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