

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Governor Landon Accepts Republican Presidential Nomination—Organized Labor Schism Widens—Spain Torn by Bloody Civil War.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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GOV. ALF. M. LANDON now knows officially that he is the Republican nominee for President of the United States. Before more than 100,000 of his fellow citizens he stood at the south entrance of the Kansas capitol in Topeka and received the formal notification from Congressman Snell of New York, who was permanent chairman of the Cleveland convention. Around him were grouped a thousand leaders of the party, and in front of him were the throngs of his supporters and admirers who had gathered from far and near to do him honor and to witness the ceremonies. Trains, automobiles, buses and airplanes had been pouring them into Topeka for several days and the gaily decorated little city was crowded to the limit. Everyone was happy and enthusiastic and everyone appeared confident that Landon would be the next chief executive of the country.

The nominee's speech of acceptance was the plain spoken, outright kind of talk his hearers expected. Asking divine guidance to make him worthy of the faith and confidence shown in him, he said: "This call, coming to one whose life has been that of the everyday American, is proof of the freedom of opportunity which belongs to the people under our government."

Here, briefly, is what Mr. Landon had to say on some of the more vital issues:

Recovery—"The record shows that these (New Deal) measures did not fit together into any definite program of recovery. Many of them worked at cross-purposes and defeated themselves. The nation has not made the durable progress, either in reform or recovery, that we had the right to expect. . . . We must be freed from incessant governmental intimidation and hostility. We must be freed from excessive expenditures and crippling taxation. We must be freed from the effects of an arbitrary and uncertain monetary policy, and from private monopolistic control."

Relief—"Let me emphasize that while we propose to follow a policy of economy in government expenditures, those who need relief will get it. We will not take our economies out of the allotments to the unemployed. We will take them out of the hides of the political exploiters."

Agriculture—"We shall establish effective soil conservation and erosion control policies in connection with a national land use and flood prevention program—and keep it all out of politics. Our farmers are entitled to all of the home market they can supply without injustice to the consumer. We propose a policy that protects them in this right. . . . We propose to pay cash benefits in order to cushion our farm families against the disastrous effects of price fluctuations and to protect their standard of living."

Labor—"The right of labor to organize means to me the right of employees to join any type of union they prefer, whether it covers their plant, their craft or their industry. It means that, in the absence of a union contract, an employee has an equal right to join a union or to refuse to join a union."

Constitution—"It is not my belief that the Constitution is above change. The people have the right, by the means they have prescribed, to change their form of government to fit their wishes. . . . But change must come by and through the people and not by usurpation. . . . The Republican party, however, does not believe that the people wish to abandon the American form of government."

State Rights—"There has now appeared in high places a new and dangerous impulse. This is the impulse to take away and lodge in the Chief Executive, without the people's consent, the powers which they have kept in their state governments or which they have reserved to themselves. In its ultimate effect upon the welfare of the whole people, this is the most important question now before us. Shall we continue to delegate more and more power to the Chief Executive or do we desire to preserve the American form of government?"

FATHER COUGHLIN, the Detroit "radio priest" who in a speech before the recent Townsendite convention called President Roosevelt a "great betrayer and liar," has realized the impropriety of his language. He has published an open letter to the President offering his "sincere apology." The priest also says: "As my President I still respect

you. As a fellow citizen and as a man I still regard you highly, but as an executive, despite your excellency's fine intentions, I deem it best for the welfare of our common country that you be supplanted in office."

Dispatches from Rome said Father Coughlin's speech caused a "painful impression" at the Vatican, and Bishop Gallagher, the priest's ecclesiastical superior, leaving for a visit to the Vatican, intimated he might report on the incident.

IT SEEMS at this time that nothing can prevent the great schism in the ranks of American organized labor. John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, and his followers in the industrial union movement, are determined to go ahead with their plans for the organization of steel workers into a mass union, and now have expanded their program, proposing to unionize thus the employees of steel fabrication and processing plants.

Moreover, Lewis and his associates have declared they will not appear before the executive council of the American Federation of Labor to stand trial on charges of "fomenting insurrection," so it appears the council can do nothing but suspend the rebels and their unions, these constituting about one third of the federation's membership. If this is done, the final decision as to expulsion of these unions will be made by the national convention in Tampa in November. The members of the Committee for Industrial Organization, the Lewis group, assert the contemplated proceedings of the council are unwarranted by the constitution of the federation.

Philip Murray, vice president of the United Mine Workers, gave out the news of the CIO drive to gather in the steel fabricators and processors, who number between 300,000 and 400,000 men. As there are about 446,000 employees in the steel mills, the goal of the CIO is now the organization of more than three quarters of a million steel workers.

SPANISH Fascists and royalists, in rebellion against the leftist government, were temporarily in control of most of the northern part of the country and were moving on Madrid from Burgos and Segovia, threatening to bomb the capital from the air if the government did not capitulate.

In Barcelona, capital of Catalonia, fierce fighting was reported, and at the request of the Washington authorities a vessel of the American Export line was hastening there to evacuate Americans, whose lives were in danger. Catalonia had declared against the rebels. The rebels gained possession of San Sebastian, near the French border, and the loyalists were said to be making a desperate attempt to recover that town. This is the place where Claude G. Bowers, American ambassador, is in summer residence, and as communications were completely disrupted there was much anxiety in Washington as to Mr. Bowers' safety.

Socialists, Communists and workers in large numbers were joining the loyal troops for the defense of Madrid, and also helped in crushing the rebellion in several towns, according to the claims of the government. In the south, where Gen. Francisco Franco commanded the revolutionaries, there was almost continuous fighting, and in the engagements between rebel planes and loyal warships some bombs and shells struck the Rock of Gibraltar and others fell close to a British destroyer. The latter fired warning shots and the acting governor of Gibraltar protested to General Franco.

THROUGH an executive order of President Roosevelt, all postmaster appointments in the future are to be subject to civil service examination. The order affects 13,730 postmaster positions of the first, second and third classes as vacancies occur. Incumbents chosen for reappointment must pass a non-competitive examination, as must employees promoted to postmaster. In other cases the examinations will be open and competitive. Fourth class postmasters already were under civil service.

COL. AND MRS. CHARLES A. LINDBERGH flew in a borrowed plane from London to Berlin, and were given a big reception by high Nazi officials, the press and the populace. The colonel was the guest of the air ministry at a luncheon attended by Germany's best aviators.

EXPLANATIONS and apologies are not enough for J. Edgar Hoover, head of the federal bureau of investigation, who was angered by the revelation that the doings of his "G men" had been under investigation by secret service men of the Treasury department. His strenuous protests started an inquiry that at this writing is still going on. Mr. Hoover also heard a rumor that some one was probing his "brokerage accounts," and this didn't help to calm him. Said he: "Anybody making such an inquiry is wasting his time. I have no brokerage accounts, so any effort to find them will be futile."

It is admitted by the Treasury that the secret service has no legal right to investigate the actions of any other government department.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE WALLACE, addressing the International Baby Chick association in Kansas City, discussed at length the drought situation and the measures taken or contemplated for relief. He suggested this four-point program for the protection of both farmers and consumers:

1. Judicious commodity loans, especially in years of excessive supplies.
2. The ever normal granary.
3. Crop insurance.
4. Government purchase of land which definitely never should have been plowed.

SCATTERED rains over limited areas brought only temporary relief from the heat and drought, and then warm weather started a new advance over the corn belt.

The federal crop reporting board in Washington said the drought was as severe as that of 1934 and worse than any previous droughts since the western country was settled. The serious conditions prevailed over practically the entire area from the Rocky mountains in Montana to the Hudson valley in New York and southward over western Pennsylvania, central Maryland, the Ohio valley, parts of Arkansas, and most of Oklahoma.

It was announced in Washington that President Roosevelt had created a national committee to study measures for remedying conditions in the drought region through utilization of natural resources. The committee is headed by Morris L. Cooke, rural electrification administrator. Other members are Col. Richard C. Moore of the army engineers; John C. Page, acting commissioner of the bureau of reclamation; Frederick H. Fowler of the national resources committee; Rexford G. Tugwell, resettlement administrator, and Harry L. Hopkins, works progress administrator.

IN OLYMPIA, Greece, scene of the first Olympic games, a torch was lighted by the rays of the sun and a Greek runner seized it and started it on a 12-day relay to the sports field in Berlin where the Olympic flame is to be lighted on August 1. Five thousand distinguished persons were selected to carry the torch, these including King Boris of Bulgaria, King Peter of Yugoslavia, and a long list of princes, statesmen and sportsmen. On the last leg it was to be borne by S. Loues of Greece, winner of the marathon in the games of 1896. A hundred thousand youths will accompany Loues in a parade to the stadium.

UNLESS the protests of Poland are effective, all opposition to Nazi power in the Free City of Danzig is due to be crushed. Dr. Arthur Karl Greiser, president of the Danzig senate, which is controlled by Nazis, has issued administrative decrees ordering:

1. Dissolution of any organization whose members, with knowledge of its executive board, spreads news "endangering the state interest."
2. Prohibition of review by the courts of police measures of a political nature, including those aimed at the right of assembly, the press, and free speech.
3. Prohibition of Jewish ritual slaughtering for food purposes.
4. Imposition of three month protective custody on persons declared to be "endangering the public peace."

Thus the city's constitution is virtually set aside, and the Poles especially, having extensive economic interests there, are indignant.

REVOLT of the Cantonese against the Nanking government has collapsed and latest reports say government troops have entered Canton and taken over maintenance of peace and order. There was no opposition and the city was quiet.

Chen Chi-tang, the Canton warlord, deserted his followers and fled to Hongkong on a gunboat. There was a scramble to find Chen's alleged silver hoard, said to amount to many million dollars, but much of it is believed to be deposited in foreign banks.

EIGHT signatories to the Lau-sanne post-war treaty have granted to Turkey the right to remilitarize the Dardanelles, and they, with Turkey, have signed a convention covering the matter. Only Japan made slight reservations because it is no longer a member of the League of Nations.

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The Canny Poet

This peep at Longfellow, as a business man, is permitted us by Caroline Ticknor in "Glimpses of Authors":

In November, 1855, soon after "Hiawatha" had been published and was selling madly all over the country, a Boston newspaper dared to criticize it adversely. Soon criticisms concerning the source of "Hiawatha" and accusations of imitation were made by newspapers from coast to coast.

Longfellow's publisher, James T. Fields, was greatly annoyed. One day, bursting into the poet's study, he exclaimed: "These atrocious libels must be stopped!"

Longfellow said quietly, "By the way, Fields, how is 'Hiawatha' selling?"

"Wonderfully! None of your books has ever had such a sale." "Then," said the poet, calmly, "I think we had better let those people go on advertising it."

IF OUR BUSINESS WOMEN DECIDED TO WALK OUT ON US

The harried business man yelled for his breakfast. "Where's the maid?" he called upstairs to his wife. "Resting," was the reply. "And I'm taking the day off, too." Nor had the children gone to school. "Teacher's resting today," they explained.

At the office, the worried man found that none of the stenographers had put in an appearance. Worse still, the telephone was "dead." The morning paper disclosed the reason: "10,000,000 Women on a One-Day Strike," it screamed.

Miss Charl Ormond Williams, president of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, said that she "would not dream of suggesting that women go on strike." But, she pointed out, "the possibilities opened up are so upsetting that I think we should all consider how to avoid them."

According to Miss Williams, nearly 2,000,000 women are employed as clerks in the United States, more than 3,000,000 in domestic or personal service, 5,969 as postmistresses, countless others elsewhere.

"One interprets Miss Williams' remarks as meaning that she is convinced that there is a good deal of baloney in the talk about eliminating women from business and industry," wrote Fred Betts in the Syracuse Herald. "We concur."—Literary Digest.

Birds Not High Flyers

Students of migration used to believe that birds traveled at heights above 15,000 feet. They had the idea that flying was easier in high altitudes. Every aviator today knows just the opposite is the truth. Most birds fly below 3,000 feet in migration, and some of them will even cross wide stretches of water only a few feet above the waves.

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