News Review of Current Events the World Over

Russian Conspirators Against Stalin Plead Guilty-Italy and France Sparring Over Spain-Roosevelt Primed for Drouth Area Tour.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

@ Western Newspaper Union. SIXTEEN men, arraigned in Mos-

cow on charges of plotting the assassination of Dictator Josef Stalin and the seizure of power in the Soviet republic. calmly pleaded guilty. Two of them, Gregory Zinoviev and Leo Kamenev,

were members with Stalin 13 years ago of a triumvirate that governed Russia and are well known to the outside world. The confessions did not end the trial, for the de-

Gregory

fendants contradicted and accused one another until the case was in a jumble. Some of them, like Zinoviev, proudly accepted responsibility for the plot, which was said to have been engineered by the exiled Leon Trotzky. It was believed all sixteen would face the firing squad.

Twelve more men and one woman, the government announced, were held for examination and probable trial. Some of these were involved by the confessions of the sixteen conspirators.

In the case on trial the defendants revealed the fact that not only were they plotting the assassination of Stalin and four others, but planned also to betray Trotzky and place Zinoviev and Kamenev in supreme power.

Trotzky, at Hoenefoss, Norway, scoffed at the Moscow proceedings as "humbug." "For political vengeance," he said, "the trial puts the Dreyfus scandal and the reichstag fire in the shadow. The confessions were forced by the 'Ogpu' (secret police), which gives the accused a choice between confession according to the Ogpu's desires and taking lesser penalties or death."

PREMIER MUSSOLINI, insisting that neutrality in the Spanish war must mean absolute nonintervention, suddenly put Italy's air force of 1,500 war planes in readiness for flight to the aid of the Spanish rebels if France would not abandon her support of the Madrid

News of this stirred the People's Front government of France to indignation. Officials in Paris said if Italy sent arms and munitions to the rebels in Spain or otherwise openly aided them, France would have to abandon her neutral position and help the socialists.

For a day this situation alarmed the statesmen of Europe, but soon it was stated in both Rome and Paris that negotiations for the neutrality accord were going forward nicely with prospects for a satisfactory agreement that would include both Italy and Germany. Whether Germany would come in, however, was still in doubt. Berlin was further provoked against the Madrid government by the stopping and search of the German steamer Kamerun by Spanish warships off Cadiz. German warships were ordered to protect German shipping "by all means" and the German charge d'affairs at Madrid was instructed to "protest immediately and in the sharpest form against the action of the Spanish warship, which constituted a violation of all international law."

DISPATCHES from the French border said Spanish rebel warships finally had begun the long threatened bombardment of San

Sebastian and Irun, and that the loyalists were carrying out the threatened execution of the 1,900 Fascist hostages they were holding there. The battleship Espana fired a lot of heavy shells toward Fort Guadalupe but for a time at least was apparently not trying to hit that



stronghold because many of their sympathizers were held prisoners in the fort. The Guadalupe garrison was hesitant in returning the fire for fear that shells would fall on French territory. Already the French government was angered by the dropping of bombs on French border towns, though it was disputed whether they came from loyalist or rebel planes.

The Fascists captured the impor-tant town of Badajoz, near the Portuguese border, at the point of the bayonet, and were reported to have executed 1,500 government adherents taken there. The rebels also reported a victory near Zaragoza after a bloody battle. General Franco met General Mola and "President" Virgilio Cabanellas at the northern rebel headquarters in Burgos and planned for further advances of their southern and northern columns on Madrid. These will be supplemented by 4,000 Moors and foreign legion veterans marching eastward from Badajoz.

CATALONIA, which for four years has been an autonomous region within the Spanish state, and which has been supporting the Madrid government against the Fascist rebels, sees in the present conditions the opportunity to establish its full independence. The generalitat or government council decreed confiscation of all private property; and then, "to eliminate dual control and place all responsibility in one place," all magistrates, judges and others appointed by the Madrid government were relieved of their duties. The council also announced

it would act henceforth in complete independence in maintaining order. The Catalonian decree promulgated plans for a single tax and speedy suppression of multiple taxation. The basis for the new tax plan, although undecided was presumed to be income, not land, as the large agricultural properties are to be collectivized.

DOPE PIUS XI, addressing pilgrims from Malta, took another whack at communism. Alluding evidently to the civil war in Spain, he says: "The world is upside down, and sick from a grievous malady which threatens to become graver and more dangerous still. It is not necessary to say to you Maltese what this illness is, because you have a definite part in the tribula-

"There is only the hand of God to aid humanity and put an end to the horrible massacres which are going on and all the offenses against human fraternity, against religion, priests and God."

DREPARATIONS for President Roosevelt's trip through the drouth region of the Middle West were practically completed and the Chief Executive was supplied with all the facts and figures needed to give him a comprehensive understanding of the situation before starting. This information was furnished mainly by WPA Administrator Harry Hopkins, who was selected to accompany Mr. Roosevelt on the tour. Mr. Hopkins told the President that in the drouth area 90,000 persons already are on the WPA payrolls and that the number eventually will be 120,000 to 150,000, the relief work being continued through the winter. At this time the cost per man is about \$50 a month.

Estimates of the amount of money deemed necessary to meet the situation in the "dust bowl" were given the President by Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau and Acting Budget Director Daniel Bell.

NEITHER Fascism nor Communism will be tolerated in Czechoslovakia, which is "a firm, indestructible lighthouse of democra-

cy." said President Eduard Benes in a speech at Reichenberg. But he told the German minority which he was addressing particularly, that he hoped that in the fall "the Locarno powers will be able to work out plan for general European co-operation and that good neighborly relations will be established between Ger-



. Benes

many and Czechoslovakia." Leaders of the German minority in Czechoslovakia charge that unemployment in their part of the country is greater than anywhere else in Czechoslovakia-73 unemployed per 1,000 population, compared with the

state average of 38 per 1,000. They charge that this is partly the result of the government's failure to place orders in German Bohemian factories and failure to give state jobs to members of the German minority.

SOIL conservation compliance is to be checked by a system of aerial photography, if the experiments now being carried on by the AAA are satisfactory. The plan is still only on trial but several millions of acres have already been photographed, it was learned today. So far it is proving cheaper and more efficient than the usual way of checking farmers' soil conservation compliance. The air pictures also are being extensively used by the soil conservation service to map erosion and soil depletion and to determine remedies.

SEVEN minutes of lively fighting put Joe Louis of Detroit once more on the road to the heavyweight championship. He made his come-back by knocking out Jack Sharkey, one time title holder, in Sharkey, one time title holder, in the third round at New York. The L. Igoe, United States district attor-Lithuanian sailor from Boston was plucky enough but proved no match for the much younger negro. Louis now wants an immediate re-turn match with Max Schmeling, but the German insists his next fight must be with Jim Braddock.

THERE is enough wheat in the United States for the usual domestic requirements of the season of 1936-37, according to the mid-summer report of the bureau of agricultural economics, but the supply of red spring wheat and durum is short and consequently importation of those varieties will be continued.

The amount, however, will not be large, Secretary Wallace stated.
"It is probable the spring wheat mills in the 1936-'37 season will use a larger percentage of hard red winter and Pacific northwest wheat than last year," said the report. "A larger than usual quantity of soft red winter wheat is also likely to be used in bread flour. As a result, imports of milling wheat may be less than in 1935."

Wheat prices in the United States may be expected to average about as high relative to world price levels as during the 1935-'36 season, when the price of No. 2 hard winter at Kansas City was 15 cents over Liverpool, the bureau said. During the last three years short crops together with other influences resulted in wheat prices in the United States being maintained unusually high relative to the world market

price.
"Farm prices probably have been 20 cents to 30 cents higher than might have been expected with more nearly normal yields in the United States," the report continued. "A return of average or greater than average yields in the United States would result in an export surplus and prices would adjust toward an export basis.

"The acreage seeded for the 1936 crop, 74,000,000 acres, was the second largest in history, and seedings as large for the 1937 crop would produce fully enough wheat for total domestic utilization even if yields should turn out to be onefourth below average."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT was at his best as a radio orator when he addressed the summer camp at Chautauqua, N. Y., on foreign rela-

tions. He expressed his deep concern about tendencies in other parts of the world and spoke bitterly about the violation of both the letter and the spirit of international agreements "without regard to the simple principles of honor." closest

President "Our Roosevelt Roosevelt neighbors are good neighbors," the President said. "If

there are remoter nations that wish us not good but ill, they know that we are strong; they know that we can and will defend ourself and defend our neighborhood." Mr. Roosevelt said he had seen

war on land and sea. "I have seen blood running from the wounded," he said. "I have seen men coughing out their gassed lungs. I have seen the dead in the mud. I have seen cities destroyed. I have seen 200 limping, exhausted men come out of line-the survivors of a regiment of 1,000 who went forward forty-eight hours before. I have seen children starving. I have seen the agonies of mothers and

wives. I hate war!" Germans felt that Mr. Roosevelt's speech was aimed at them and resented his criticism. A Mexico City newspaper saw in it evidence that the Monroe doctrine was to be revived.

STARTING its 1937 building program, the Navy department opened bids on twelve new destroyers and six submarines. The bids came from private shipyards and estimates were submitted by navy yards, according to law. The latter were not made public.

It was found that the cost of construction has advanced approximately \$1,000,000 per vessel in the last year. A year ago contracts for destroyers averaged \$4,000,000, and \$2,500,000 for submarines. Present bids were about a million dollars higher on each type of craft.

COLLOWING the recommendation of Father Charles E. Coughlin, the National Union for Social Justice, in convention in Cleveland, indorsed the candidacy of Representatives Lemke and O'Brien, heads of the Union party ticket. But, also on the advice of the priest, the Lemke platform was not indorsed. The 25,000 members of the N. U. S. J. present enthusiastically and unanimously elected Father Coughlin president of the organization. Lemke and O'Brien both appeared before the convention, delivered speeches and were given a rousing reception.

AN EQUITY suit attacking the constitutionality of the commodity exchange act, chiefly on the ground that it seeks to regulate intrastate rather than interstate commerce in violation to the Constitution, was filed in the federal district court in Chicago.

The suit was instituted by Wililam S. Moore, a member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, and names the exchange, its board of directors, and the following as defendants: Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture; Leslie A. Fitz, supervisor of the commodity exchange administration in Chicago; Daniel C. Roper, secretary of commerce; Homer S. Cummings, Unitney of the northern Illinois district, and Ernest J. Kruetgen, Chicago postmaster.

In his petition Mr. Moore asked that the commodity exchange act be declared unconstitutional, void, and unenforceable.

On Success for Women—



Are They Failures Because of Lack of Something to Do?

posium of twenty-eight authori- try to add to it. ties on the present status of women, one well-known writer tries to that men have a head start for explain women's failure. She success in the necessity to prosays it is natural for women to vide for a family, and that womsity for food and shelter and for today "there are so few things providing for the family that they have got to do," there is most men have fashioned suc- food for thought, and, perhaps, cess, and the lack of this insistent for discussion, by our readers. necessity has been a great handicap on the activities of women." that the success of many men has

we are told, "women have often earn a living, there are countless done very well indeed. Crises of thousands to whom that necessity illness in their children call forth has been the obstacle between from mothers efforts that in them and success. There, again, other phases would be termed he- it is the question of what is meant roic. Likewise, during the World by success. It seems to me that war, women faced danger and acquiring wealth is only one kind loss gallantly, and they were of success, and it is success only happier than at any other time to the man who started out with in this Twentieth century. But that as an object. And I have there are today so few things that

women have got to do." If our readers find that ridime, says a noted writer on submore men are in "Who's Who," grind in a gainful occupation. because less women than men dustries of the country, is preleaves entirely out of account the fact that success cannot be measan who might have made a sucthe major portion of her time and interest to raising a family. Is she a failure? That phase of the question has been so often and

N A recently published sym- so ably discussed that I shall not

However, in the statements For "it is out of the neces- en are at a disadvantage because

While it is undoubtedly true

"What they have had to do," grown out of their necessity to known personally men whose connotation of success was making a worthwhile contribution in certain culous, I am glad they agree with of the arts or sciences, men with ability and talen for the work of jects pertaining to women. To their dreams, who failed because call women failures because of the necessity for the daily As to there being "so few have made positions for them- things that women have got to selves in the professions and in- do" - isn't the emancipation of women from complete absorption posterous on the face of it. It in domestic or other duties their great opportunity for growth? In Europe, the American woman is ured by rule of thumb, that it is band's superior in matters of regarded as notoriously her husa relative term. Suppose a wom- mental growth amd cultural attainment. The reason is obvious, cessful office manager, a well- of course, in his preoccupation known author, or a famous psy- with breadwinning which sets her chologist, chooses instead to give free for the higher aims of selfimprovement and cultural and civic betterment for her community. Isn't that one kind of success?

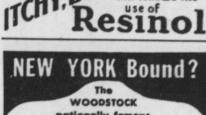
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