

News Review of Current Events

FASCISTS BALK PARLEYS

Break with Soviet Feared . . . Americans in Shanghai Demand Protection . . . Big Jap 'Push' Still to Come



Back from yachting trip, the President, shown with son James, seems cheerful enough despite troubles of Yanks in Far East.

Edward W. Pickard
SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK
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Russian Note Shies Italy

FURTHER evidence of the complete accord of the two great Fascist governments was revealed when Germany joined Italy in refusing to be represented at the Nyon, Switzerland, conference to end "piracy" on the Mediterranean. The Nazis gave the same excuses as Italy: That the action of Soviet Russia in accusing Italian submarines of sinking two Russian merchant ships and demanding full indemnity made impartial conclusions of the parley impossible, and that the whole affair might better be ironed out by the committee for non-intervention in the Spanish civil war.

So heated were the differences between the Italians and the Russians, it was feared the incident might lead to a break in diplomatic relations, if not to actual armed conflict.

Great Britain, Russia and France went right ahead with their plans for the conference. British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden was instructed, however, to make no proposals which would tend to divide the Mediterranean powers into Fascist and anti-Fascist groups. It was believed he would propose that merchant ships be allowed a naval convoy through the danger zones.

Britain, one of the chief sufferers from the submarine attacks on shipping, was embarrassed shortly before the conference was to begin when a Spanish insurgent cruiser (Italy is known to be aiding the insurgents) commandeered a British merchantman off Palermo, Sicily, and confiscated her cargo of Russian oil consigned to the Spanish loyalist government.

Yanks in Far East 'Kick'
AMERICANS in Shanghai, constantly in danger of their lives, cabled Washington, demanding the protection of United States ships. The American Chamber of Commerce in the war-torn city asked Secretary of State Hull for immediate clarification of the State department's stand. Some of them were bitter toward President Roosevelt, who, from his yacht, had told newspaper men that Americans in the war zone would remain there at their own risk. No deadline for evacuation had yet been set, and when rumors spread that the United States flagship Augusta was making ready to leave Yangtze waters, panic spread among the Yanks in Shanghai.

Many business men, with lifetime savings invested there vigorously urged the President to adopt "a foreign policy with a strong front and keep the American flag waving." One veteran Yank resident circulated a petition demanding that the President "get off his yacht, get on his feet and get some guts above them."

American missionaries and business men protested that the United States' position in the Far East was largely the result of their life's work, and insisted on a more steadfast attitude to keep the American stake in China. The State department replied that there was a broad distinction between getting out of the line of fire and relinquishing privileges established over the years. Vice consuls in many Chinese ports were ordered to leave their posts.

Opposition Surprises Nippon
JAPANESE naval guns and bombers carried the war 600 miles south of Shanghai when they attacked the port of Amoy, which houses a huge Chinese fort and arsenal, opposite the island of Formosa. Their bombs carried little effect and the shore artillery chased the warships, completely disabling one. The battle was but thirty miles from Hong Kong, recently ravished by a typhoon.

Elsewhere along the far-flung front the Japanese were meeting with opposition the caliber of which they had not expected. Along the Woosung front, 200,000 Chinese, including crack German-trained divi-

sions, were successful in holding back 60,000 Japanese; it was said to be the severest opposition the Japs have met since they fought Russia in 1904.

Japanese aerial bombardments continued in the Chapei, Kiangwan, Taichong and Yanchong districts of Shanghai. The continued peril of the international settlement and the French concession spurred the American, British and French consuls to demand of both the Japanese and Chinese that their forces be withdrawn from that vicinity. Scores of noncombatants were daily being killed and wounded there by falling bombs and shells.

But Japan's long-awaited "big push" had not yet materialized. It was believed large reinforcements were being awaited. The Chinese man power was beginning to tell against the inferior numbers of the Japanese.

One of the war's most sensational military coups occurred in the rocky hills west of Peiping when 4,000 Japanese troops were reported wiped out by the Chinese in ambush. The Japanese line was said to have been driven back five miles by the terrific onslaught, and Japanese commanders were reported more worried than ever over the success of their invasion in this sector.

Another of the war's great horrors was perpetrated when the Japanese bombed a refugee train 30 miles south of Shanghai, killing 300 and wounding 400 noncombatants. Chinese bombers' efforts at reprisal were ineffective.

Only in the northern province of Chahar did the Japanese make real progress. There they captured the capital city of Kalgan. A commission of 100 "prominent" Mongols and Chinese (many of them known to be associated with the Japanese army) was setting up a new "popular" autonomous government under Japanese control.

Plague Upon a Plague
JOHN L. LEWIS, fire-eating chairman of the Committee for Industrial Organization, let fly a rebuke at President Roosevelt for implied backwatering on campaign promises and hinted at the possibility of a third party in the elections of 1940. In a radio speech he declared:

"It ill behoves one who has supped at labor's table and who has been sheltered in labor's house to curse with equal fervor and fine impartiality both labor and its adversaries when they become locked in deadly embrace."

This was regarded as an answer to the "plague on both your houses" which President Roosevelt called down on extremists of both sides in the "little steel" strike. In his campaign for re-election he had "supped at labor's table" to the extent of a half-million-dollar contribution to the Democratic national committee by the C. I. O.

Lewis suggested that it would be a wise move for labor and agriculture to wage their battles together politically.

"Labor has suffered just as our farm population has suffered," he said, "from a viciously unequal distribution of the national income."

"The exploitation of both classes of workers has been the source of panic and depression, and upon the economic welfare of both rests the best assurance of a sound and permanent prosperity."

16,098,000-Bale Cotton Crop
THE fifth largest cotton crop yield in the nation's history was forecast by the Department of Agriculture, which estimated a 1937 crop of 16,098,000 bales. The cotton crop September 1 was 75 per cent of normal, indicating an average yield per acre of 228.5 pounds.

Chinese Won't 'Cooperate'

JAPAN'S aim in the undeclared war is to make China submit once and for all to her will, the Japanese government virtually admitted through its foreign minister, Koki Hirota. The seriousness of Japan's intentions were obviated when Emperor Hirohito, departing from precedent, referred to the conflict in detail in a public statement from the throne, and when it was revealed that Nippon is preparing more appropriations for her already heavy war chest.

Hirota blamed the Chinese central government for the present fighting because it refuses to "co-operate" with Japan in "maintaining peace" in eastern Asia. Japanese military action against China, he said, was taken to make impossible the recurrence of the current hostilities. "Japan," he said, "has no other objective than to see a happy and tranquil North China and Sino-Japanese relations so adjusted as to enable us to put into practice our policy . . ."

"Since China, ignoring our true motive, mobilized her vast armies against us, we can do no other than to counter by force of arms." The emperor, in addressing the houses of parliament, greatly impressed his subjects with a review of the war, arriving at much the same conclusions as Hirota had. The session of parliament was called to consider the appropriation of \$592,000,000 for the campaigns in China, raising the total of the nation's war chest to \$737,000,000.

Dodd and Hull Disagree

BY THE time this is printed William E. Dodd may no longer be United States ambassador to Germany. In an interview he vigorously



Ambassador W. E. Dodd

opposed any American representation at the Nazi party congress in Nuremberg. Secretary of State Cordell Hull refused to comment upon Dodd's attitude, but announced that the United States would be represented at the conference which will celebrate Hitler's rule by Prentiss Gilbert, American charge d'affaires in Berlin.

Secretary Hull explained that the action was being taken merely as a friendly gesture to the Nazi government, with whom he said the United States is in complete diplomatic accord. Diplomatic reports have indicated that Dodd, now vacationing here, had made himself unpopular in Berlin because of criticism of the Hitler government's policies. Rumor had it that he might not return to his post.

McGrady Quits Labor Post

EDWARD F. McGRADY, assistant secretary of labor, and chief strike trouble shooter of Mme. Frances Perkins' department, resigned to devote his talents to radio. He left his \$9,000-a-year job to take the post of executive vice president in charge of industrial relations with the Radio Corporation of America, at a salary variously estimated at from \$15,000 to \$50,000.

In a letter to McGrady, President Roosevelt expressed "deep regret," and added, "Your efforts to maintain harmonious labor relations have always been in the public interest and in fairness to workers and management."

McGrady had been one of the federal mediators who failed to achieve a settlement of the C. I. O. strike against "Little Steel." In his new position, his services will be available to the government upon call, it was reported.

Hitler: 'Stand by Japan'

ADOLF HITLER, in a manifesto to the German nation, offered to stand by both Italy and Japan in a "defensive fight against bolshevism." He charged that the "two major wars" now going on (the Sino-Japanese and the Spanish civil wars) were the result of "attempts to spread communism."

The Reichsfuehrer's speech was read to the Nazi party congress in Nuremberg while he sat on the platform. It could not have been better timed in view of the current friction between Italy and Soviet Russia over submarine piracy in the Mediterranean.

Germany and Italy's "community of interests" have emerged in recent months, he said, "more and more an element in the defense of Europe against chaotic imbecility."

His manifesto continued: "Our (anti-communistic) agreement with Japan serves the same fundamental mission—to stand together in defense of world civilization."

Postage Stamp War

HONDURAS and Nicaragua were on the verge of running up the curtain on their own little show in honor of Mars, the god of war—all over a postage stamp. Nicaragua issued a stamp bearing a map which showed an area along the Honduras boundary as "territory in dispute." Honduras claimed it was an affront to their sovereignty, citing the Spanish award which both sides accepted in 1906 and which was supposed to have settled the territory question. Honduras were further incensed when Nicaraguan radio speakers hinted the Honduran army couldn't lick a postage stamp, and proposed sending troops into that country.

They're Not All Professors— Those Absent-Minded Ones

Absent-mindedness isn't confined to the professors, says the Commentator.

The late Dwight W. Morrow once telephoned his secretary from Philadelphia, to inquire, "What am I in Philadelphia for?"

Secretary Henry A. Wallace, when he was in Czechoslovakia, packed his passport in a trunk that was shipped to London, while he set off in the opposite direction.

And J. David Stern, publisher of the New York Post and Philadelphia Record, was hurrying along

the street when he met a friend. "Come on and have lunch with me," the friend said.

"If we go nearby," Stern said, "I'm late as it is."

They entered the nearest restaurant and sat down. Stern complained that he didn't know what was the matter with him, he didn't seem to be hungry.

"Beg pardon, sir," the waiter said, "but it's no wonder, sir. You just finished your lunch about ten minutes ago."

Clouds Pass By

The clouds I feared and worried about, and concerning which I wanted so much precious strength, lost their frown and revealed themselves as my friends. Other clouds never arrived—they were purely imaginary, or they melted away before they reached my threshold.—J. H. Jowett.

Helper of Humanity

He who helps a child helps humanity with a distinctness, with an immediateness, which no other help give to human creatures in any other stage of their human life can possibly give again.—Phillips Brooks.

A Great Motto

ONE of America's great business organizations has adopted a motto for the guidance of its people—a little five-letter word with a big meaning. It has been cut in huge granite letters over the entrance of a recently constructed building used as a training school. It is made the theme of many employee discussions. It hangs over the desk of company executives. The word is THINK.

Educators, philosophers, preachers throughout the ages have written and talked about it. Rodin gave the world a famous statue called "The Thinker." "Think" is a significant word. It represents the only means by which human progress can be accomplished. It annoys people who have lazy minds, because thinking means mental effort. Practically all the accidents in the world are caused because people don't think. Thousands fail in life simply because they don't think. Others give great inventions to the world because they do think.—The Pick-Up.

A Safety Tip FOR YOUR WEEK-END TRIP



TAPPING RUBBER TREES ON FIRESTONE PLANTATIONS IN LIBERIA

From the Firestone plantations in Liberia comes an ever-increasing supply of the world's finest rubber. Money saved here and in manufacturing and distribution enable Firestone to sell a safer, first-quality tire at lower prices.

Here's Why FIRESTONE STANDARD TIRES GIVE YOU MORE FOR YOUR MONEY

DON'T take chances on your Week End trip. Protect yourself and family by equipping your car with a set of new first-quality Firestone Standard Tires. Firestone builds extra quality and extra safety into these tires and sells them at lower prices because Firestone controls rubber and cotton supplies at their sources, manufactures with greater efficiency and distributes at lower cost.

YOU GET EXTRA PROTECTION AGAINST BLOWOUTS—eight extra pounds of rubber are added to every 100 pounds of cord because every fiber of every cord in every ply is saturated with liquid rubber by the Firestone patented Gum-Dipping Process. This counteracts the internal friction and heat that ordinarily cause blowouts.

YOU GET EXTRA PROTECTION AGAINST PUNCTURES—because there are two extra layers of Gum-Dipped cords under the tread.

YOU GET EXTRA PROTECTION AGAINST SKIDDING—because the tread is scientifically designed.

YOU GET LONGER NON-SKID MILEAGE—because of the extra-tough, long-wearing tread.

You need all of these features to make your car tire-safe on your Week End trip. Firestone gives them to you at lower cost. Join the Firestone SAVE A LIFE Campaign today by equipping your car with a set of new Firestone Standard Tires—today's top tire value.

DON'T RISK YOUR LIFE ON SMOOTH WORN TIRES!

DO YOU KNOW

THAT last year highway accidents cost the lives of more than 38,000 men, women and children?
THAT a million more were injured?
THAT more than 40,000 of these deaths and injuries were caused directly by punctures, blowouts and skidding due to smooth, worn, unsafe tires?

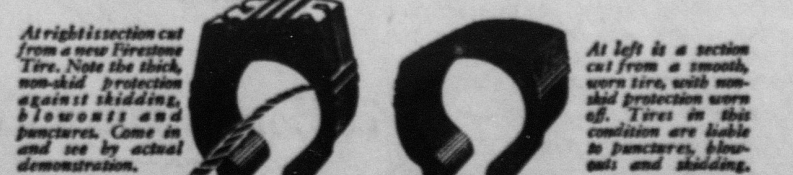
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