

News Review of Current Events

CONGRESS DOES LITTLE

President's "Must" Program Virtually Wrecked . . . Panay Bombing Still a Live Issue



Ambassador Hiroshi Saito of Japan and Mme. Saito photographed as they were leaving the Japanese embassy in Washington for the White House to attend the state reception for the diplomatic corps. Shortly afterwards Saito broadcast to the American people what amounted to an apology for the bombing of the Panay in the Yangtze river, calling it a "shocking blunder."

Edward W. Pickard
SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK

F.D.R.'s Program Wrecked

HAVING accomplished practically nothing during five weeks of wrangling, at a cost of about a million and a half dollars, congress adjourned for the holidays. The President's five-point legislative program was left almost a total wreck, not one of the measures he asked for having been finally enacted and one of them having been absolutely defeated.

As the time for quitting approached Mr. Roosevelt called Vice President Garner to the White House to help devise a plan of salvage. With the veteran went Speaker Bankhead and Senator Barkley and Representative Sam Rayburn, majority leaders of the senate and house. The topic of discussion was what should be done with the debris of the administration program and how much should be demanded of congress in the next session.

Just before adjournment the senate passed the housing bill, which the house had already approved. But it was necessary to send the measure to conference, so final enactment was delayed.

Crop control bills were passed by both senate and house, but they differed widely and early final enactment was impossible because the joint conference between committees of the two houses to reconcile the measures could not get into action before January.

Chairman O'Connor of the house rules committee said that a good deal actually was accomplished during the special session in the way of "spade work" which would enable the law makers to get along faster with their work in the regular January session. This was especially true concerning revision of the tax laws.

Wage-Hour Bill Killed

WHEN the bill for regulation of wages and hours, approved by the senate in August, came up for action in the house the President suffered one of his greatest legislative defeats. Southern Democrats and the Republican minority combined to send the measure back to the labor committee, which meant its definite defeat. This bill, which would have set up an administrator with dictatorial powers over labor and business management, was considered only second in importance to the farm bill. It had the support of the C. I. O., so John Lewis shared in the defeat. The A. F. of L. had offered a substitute which was rejected, as President Green had expected it would be.

No action was taken on the President's other "must" measures, which were for revision of anti-trust laws, regional planning and federal government reorganization.

Cummings Accuses Judge

CONGRESS was asked by Attorney General Cummings to investigate the conduct of United States District Judge Ferdinand Geiger of Milwaukee in connection with the latter's discharge of a grand jury which was investigating the automobile finance industry. In a letter to Chairman Sumners of the house judiciary committee Cummings charged that Geiger's conduct was "so obstructive to the administration of justice that I could

not justify a failure to bring it to your knowledge."

Geiger, presiding over the Eastern Wisconsin federal district, discharged the grand jury without permitting it to report after a three months' investigation into the activities of three companies, which, Cummings said, were "identified in interest" with General Motors corporation, Ford Motor company and Chrysler corporation.

Cummings charged that the grand jury was prepared to return indictments when it was dismissed.

Panay Incident

WHILE Washington was awaiting a formal reply from Tokyo to the American notes concerning the murderous attack by Japanese airmen and machine gunners on the U. S. gunboat Panay, it was reported that Hirohito, emperor of Japan, had taken personal charge of the matter. If true, this would be a severe blow to the all-powerful military and naval factions in the Japanese government which have been doing about as they chose. It would be an astonishing development in another way, for hitherto the "Son of Heaven" has always held himself aloof from such concerns. The Japanese cabinet was called in extraordinary session to discuss the Panay incident and determine what reply should be made to the American protests.

Washington's second note was especially sharply worded because of the revelation that the Panay and the boats carrying its dead and wounded to shore were fired upon by machine gunners in Japanese army boats.

In Washington it was revealed that conversations were in progress among the American, British and French governments looking to joint to protect their nationals from Japanese attacks and to bring about peace in the Far East.

Prime Minister Chamberlain and Foreign Minister Eden told the British house of commons that Britain seeks a settlement of all world grievances without war but that "we are not forgetful of the duty to protect British interests."

Alf Landon, as head of the Republican party, telegraphed President Roosevelt his pledge of support of his policy in dealing with Japan, and in accepting it the President took occasion to condemn an isolationist attitude and to assert that "we owe some measure of co-operation and even leadership in maintaining standards of conduct helpful to the ultimate goal of general peace."

Frank B. Kellogg Passes

FRANK B. KELLOGG, eminent statesman and diplomat, died at his home in St. Paul, Minn., at the age of eighty-one years. During his long public service he was United States senator, secretary of state, ambassador to Great Britain and member of the world court. Internationally he was best known as co-author of the Kellogg-Briand pact by which 64 nations were pledged to settle their disputes without resort to war. For this Mr. Kellogg was awarded the Nobel peace prize for 1929.

Utilities Conference

AFTER a third conference with heads of utility operating companies, the President felt that good progress was being made toward an understanding. In his press conference it was disclosed that he and the men he conferred with all approved of the "prudent investment" theory of valuation of utility properties outlined by Justice Brandeis 13 years ago. That theory is:

"The term prudent investment is not used in a critical sense. There should not be excluded from the findings of the base, investments which, under ordinary circumstances, would be deemed reasonable. The term is applied for the purpose of excluding what might be found to be dishonest or obviously wasteful or imprudent expenditures. Every investment may be assumed to have been made in the exercise of reasonable judgment, unless the contrary is shown."

Mr. Roosevelt suggested at the press conference that the fear, which all agree is responsible for the current depression, is not fear of administration but is a psychology of fear being fostered by newspapers for purposes which are a mystery to him and to the country.

Labor Peace Parley Ends

THERE will be no early peace between the American Federation of Labor and the C. I. O. The negotiations in Washington came to a sudden end when the federation's representatives refused to consider anything but unconditional surrender of the Lewis forces, which the C. I. O. men scornfully rejected. The strategy of Green and his lieutenants was dictated by information that the C. I. O. was on the verge of bankruptcy, that its ranks were torn by dissension over the communist element and that there were numerous desertions.

Ambassador Bingham Dies

ROBERT WORTH BINGHAM, American ambassador to Great Britain, died in Johns Hopkins hospital, Baltimore, of a rare abdominal ailment. He was sixty-six years of age and already had submitted his resignation because of ill health. Mr. Bingham was one of President Roosevelt's first diplomatic appointees. Previously he had gained considerable fame as a newspaper publisher in Louisville, Ky. His body was taken to that city for burial and lay in state in the Kentucky capitol in Frankfort. King George and Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain cabled a message of condolence.

Another notable death was that of Gen. Erich von Ludendorff, German commander in the World War, at Munich. He won international fame as Von Hindenburg's chief of staff on both the eastern and western fronts and then was made chief quartermaster general of the German army. Just before the war ended he quarreled with the kaiser and was dismissed from his post. In his later years the embittered old warrior attacked all factions in Germany, though friendly relations with the Hohenzollerns were re-established on his seventieth birthday.

War Vote Plan Blocked

OPPOSITION of President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull was believed to have effectually blocked the proposal of Representative Louis Ludlow for submission of a constitutional amendment requiring a popular referendum before the declaration of war except in case of invasion of the country. Ludlow obtained the necessary 218 signatures to force the house to consider the plan during the regular session, but no one expects its approval in the near future.

Wire Tapping Banned

THE Supreme court ruled the 1934 communications act prohibits use in federal criminal proceedings of evidence obtained by wire-tapping.

The decision, delivered by Justice Roberts, reversed a ruling by the second Circuit court of appeals upholding the government's use of such evidence in obtaining conviction of four men on a charge of smuggling alcohol into New York. Justices Sutherland and McReynolds dissented.

Frank To Help G.O.P.

DR. GLENN FRANK, former president of the University of Wisconsin, was selected to be chairman of a committee to draft a new charter for the Republican party. He said he probably would accept this job of formulating the party's policies, and National Chairman Hamilton said the committee would be an absolutely independent agency of the party. Many members of the committee have been named by the executive committee of the national committee.

Frank is identified with the liberal wing of the G. O. P., but he is not friendly with the La Follette's of Wisconsin, since they forced him out of his post at the university.

Spanish Loyalist Victory

SPANISH government forces won a decided victory by capturing Teruel, the key point of the rebel salient into loyalist territory 135 miles east of Madrid. The place had been besieged for seven days and losses were heavy on both sides. Madrid hailed this as the greatest loyalist victory of the whole war. It tends to check Franco's movement toward the coast between Valencia and Barcelona.

What Irvin S. Cobb Thinks about

After Dinner Speeches. HOUSTON, TEXAS.—Late-ly, for my sins, I've had to listen to a jag of after-dinner oratory, including plenty of mine. I hope people like to hear me. I do.

Feature writers say professional after-dinner speakers are dying out. That may be true in New York, where folks are anxious to get the dinner over with so they may hurry to the night-spots and do some sincere and earnest drinking in an effort to forget what the stock market did to them yesterday and what it's going to do to them tomorrow.



But out in the hinterlands the new crop of native orators is a bountiful one; and the typical silver tongues of the great open spaces—I'm speaking of their neighborhoods although I might include their mouths—are still convinced that the sweetest music on earth is the sound of one's own voice uplifted in eloquence.

An English preacher had the best formula: Stand up to be seen, speak up to be heard, shut up to be appreciated. If he'd left out all but the last part, 'twould have been a perfect recipe.

Tomorrow's Treasures.

WANT to acquire untold wealth for your latter years, or, anyhow, for your grateful heirs?

Then collect things. Collect cheap things which are both common and commonplace. Then sit down and wait for these objects to become obsolete and therefore priceless. Yesterday's necessity is today's junk, but will be tomorrow's treasured antique.

Assume you'd saved up old circus bills, or Mississippi river steamboat menus, or buggy whips, or those handpainted sloop-jars formerly found in all truly refined homes. Henry Ford or some museum would take a lot at any price.

I'm putting aside literary works of a purely imaginative conception. I have one perfect specimen of idyllic creation—a time-table of the old Florida East Coast railroad, also a complete working synopsis of the Townsend plan—just sheer fantasy. But the most fanciful romances are the platform pledges adopted at national conventions of the two great parties during the last twenty years—there's real fiction for you!

Germany's Colonies.

EVERY nation is united in the magnanimous attitude that to Germany should be restored the colonies taken from her by the winning side in the World's war—except the nations that acquired the said colonies in the split-up.

That's the main hitch. It's more than a hitch. It's a hard knot, tied originally with hate and sealed now with greed. In other words, sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander—unless it happens to be our gander, which naturally alters the case.

Nor seemingly has it occurred to any government that the original owners of Germany's former territorial possessions might like to have a say about whom they're going to belong to in future. But then, if ever we started considering the wishes of despoiled native tribes over the world, where would the white man's noble civilization be?

Cosmopolites.

THE last time before this that Captain Mike Hogg and Major Raymond Dickson returned to their ranch at Cast Blanca, Mex., they were just back from New York.

That night, at the bunkhouse, the hands, mostly Texas lads, foregathered to hear the bosses tell about the wonders of the great city. One or two of them had visited New York, so these cosmopolites proceeded to exhibit their familiarity with its sights.

"Major," said one, "I reckon old Grant's tomb's still doin' business at the same stand, eh?"

"And I bet the aquarium is right where she was when I was there," said another. "And all them tall buildin's."

There was present one lanky youth who had never been fifty miles away from where he was born, in a bend of the Rio Grande; probably never had seen a town of more than a thousand inhabitants. But with all these seasoned travelers showing off, he didn't mean to be left out. He waited for an opening.

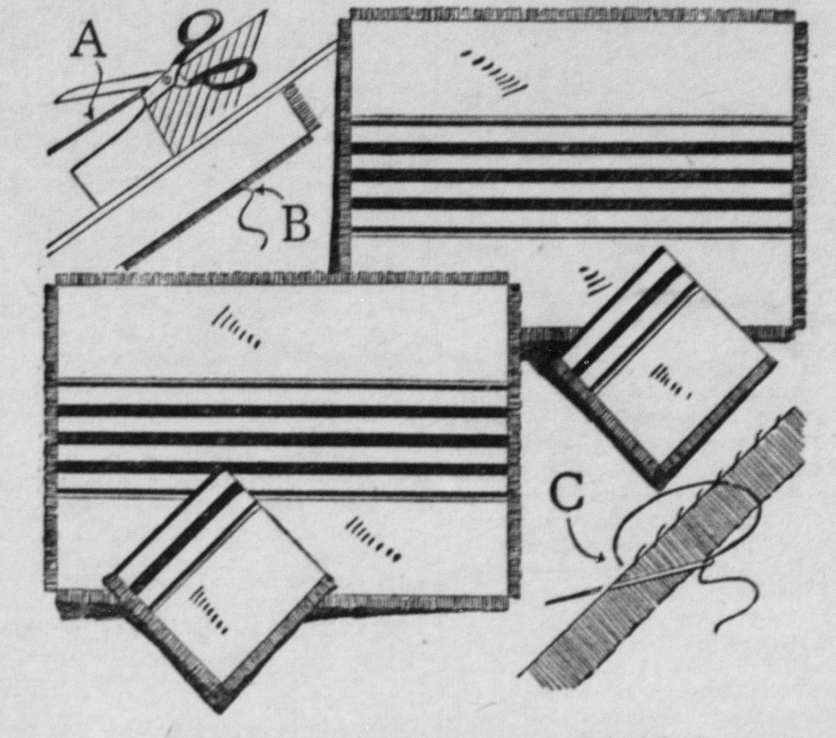
"Cap'n Mike," he said, "tell me, is that there feller still runnin' the hotel in New York?"

IRVIN S. COBB
WNU Service.

Old Center of Education One of the oldest centers of education in America, the University of Havana, was founded January 5, 1723, by a Dominican priest, with the authorization of Pope Innocent XIII. It remained under Papal jurisdiction until 1842, when it was officially secularized.

HOW TO SEW

by Ruth Wyeth Spears



Make Luncheon Sets of Striped Material.

THE napkins and mats are fringed and then whipped to keep them from raveling and to strengthen the edge. This is a very quick and easy finish to use for linens of the coarser weaves and is in harmony with peasant dishes and provincial furniture.

In cutting the material for the mats and napkins it is best to pull a thread to guide you so that the edges will be perfectly straight and fringe easily. Cut right along the little opening made in the material by drawing the thread as

shown at A. Plan the size of the mats and napkins so that the material will cut to good advantage and the stripes will arrange themselves in a pleasing way through the center of each piece. Napkins for this purpose may be as small as nine inches square though many people like them a little larger than this. The mats are usually about eleven by eighteen inches.

Pull out the threads to make the fringe at the edge as I have shown here at B. From a half to three-quarters of an inch is a good depth for the fringe. Save the threads you pull out and use them for whipping the edge as I have shown here at C.

Every Homemaker should have a copy of Mrs. Spears' new book, SEWING. Forty-eight pages of step-by-step directions for making slipcovers and dressing tables; restoring and upholstering chairs, couches; making curtains for every type of room and purpose. Making lampshades, rugs, ottomans and other useful articles for the home. Readers wishing a copy should send name and address, enclosing 25 cents, to Mrs. Spears, 210 South Desplaines St., Chicago, Illinois.



Fly in the Ointment

Attorney (to wife seeking divorce)—How long have your relations been unpleasant?

Wife—My relations have always been as nice as pie. It's his who've caused all the trouble.

You can't catch cold from leaving off your bad habits.

Not There

He was new to the course. "Caddie, caddie," he wailed, "this is a terrible course."

Caddie—You left the course 20 minutes ago. This is somebody's rock garden.

Building Contractor (who is called upon to respond to a toast at a public dinner)—Ladies and gentlemen, I am not accustomed to public speaking, and feel very out of place here—er—my proper place is on the scaffold.

That's Me

O'Flanagan (to hospital attendant)—Phwat did ye say the doctor's name was?

Attendant—Doctor Kilpatrick.

O'Flanagan—That settles it. No doctor wid that name will get a chance to operate on me—not if I know it.

Attendant—Why not?

O'Flanagan—I'm Patrick.



Uncle Phil Says:

Charged for Ignorance

There are no new laws of Nature, but men never seem to learn the importance of those that already exist.

If we must gossip, let us gossip about the important people dead and gone. That's what most of the new biographers do.

We envy the Indian for at least one thing. He doesn't make excuses.

Reason why it is so hard to suppress noise in the big city is because big cities up to 1890 used to be proud of their noise.

Deadens Our Outlook

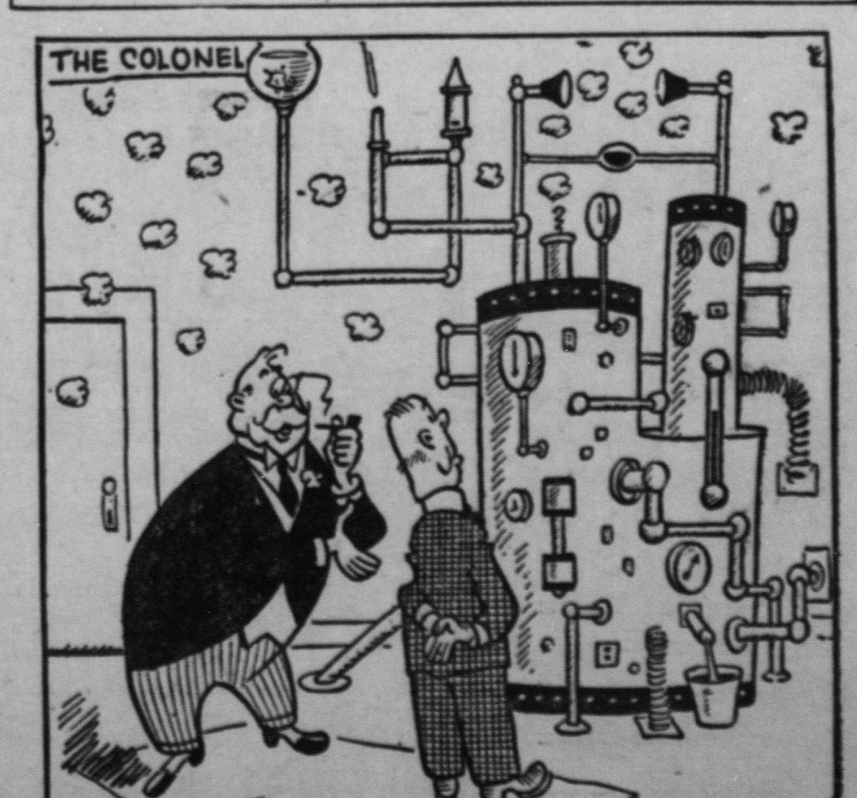
It never did any good to dwell on gloom and regret.

Almost every man is important—to some one.

Why do men like to march in parades? None of the Emersons, Carlyles, Maupassants, Montaignes, Charles Lambs or Dr. Samuel Johnsons have ever figured out.

CHEW LONG BILL NAVY TOBACCO 5¢ PLUG

LIFE'S LIKE THAT By Fred Neher



Copyright by Fred Neher
"I'd like to take out a patent on it, but I'll be darned if I know what it is."