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News Review of Current Events the World Over

Assassination of Senator Long Stirs the Nation—Great Britain Ready to Take Sanctions Against Italy—Ickes Versus Hopkins.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
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HUEY P. LONG, United States senator and political dictator of Louisiana, is dead, the victim of an assassin's bullet. As he passed through a corridor of the state-house in Baton Rouge, where the legislature was passing more laws to solidify his control over the state, he was shot once through the body by Dr. Carl A. Weiss, Jr., of Baton Rouge, one of the "Kingfish's" political opponents. The assassin was immediately shot to death by the senator's ever present bodyguards.

The surgeons and physicians worked unceasingly to save Long, but his strength steadily waned and shortly after 4 o'clock Tuesday morning, about thirty hours after the shooting, he passed away.

Long's body lay in state in the rotunda of the Capitol building while many thousands passed by the bier. The impressive funeral services were held on the front terrace and the dead senator was interred in a sunken garden of the Capitol grounds. Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, the young minister who deserted a rich parish in Shreveport to follow Long, was the only speaker at the funeral. The only music was the song, "Every Man a King," played in minor key and dirge time by the State University band.

Though the man who killed Long was known as one of his political foes, the real story of the assassination was shrouded in uncertainty. Earl Christenberry, secretary of the late senator, declared that Long was murdered as a result of a conspiracy; that a number of his enemies formed a "jury of death," and that Doctor Weiss was selected by lot to fire the fatal bullet. To those who are familiar with the conditions in Louisiana this story does not sound especially fantastic.

What will become of Long's "empire" is a question that agitates all his followers, and all the people of the state as well. For the present, it seemed likely, the members of the Long machine will sink their personal ambitions and try to hold the organization intact. It will be difficult for them to decide on a successor to the "Kingfish" as their leader. Gov. O. K. Allen is considered too mild and peace-loving. Seymour Weiss—no relative of the assassin—treasurer of the Long organization, is the strongest man in the lot, but he always has drawn back from holding a public position. Allen A. Ellender, speaker of the house, may be the man finally selected.

MUSSOLINI tacitly consented to the appointment of a committee of five nations by the League of Nations council to handle the Italo-Ethiopian imbroglio, and after protest agreed that Great Britain and France should be among the members of the body. The other members are Spain, Turkey and Poland.

Senor Salvador de Madariaga of Spain is the chairman, and he and his associates at once began the task assigned them. Each country is represented by its chief delegate, being besides Madariaga, Eden of England, Laval of France, Rostu Arras of Turkey and Josef Beck of Poland.

Soon after the assembly of the league opened its session, Sir Samuel Hoare, British foreign secretary, electrified the gathering by an outspoken warning to Italy and France. He declared Great Britain recognized Italy's need for expansion and raw materials but would not admit these could not be obtained peaceably. Pounding the tribune, he said:

"Britain stands for steady collective resistance to all acts of unprovoked aggression." He paused, struck the tribune again, and repeated quietly: "Steady collective resistance to all acts of unprovoked aggression."

Sir Samuel more than intimated that Great Britain was prepared to take sanctions against Italy in case of aggression provided all the other members of the league shared the risk; and if not, then England was prepared to isolate herself from the continent. This seemed to put it up to Premier Laval of France, to choose between the friendship of Britain and that of Italy. Laval, meanwhile, was trying to persuade Mussolini to accept another plan he had devised and postponed his speech to the assembly.

Representatives of the Netherlands and Sweden were the first to support Hoare's position, announcing their countries would fulfill all obligations, including collective penalties, if any member became a victim of aggression.

In two speeches in Rome Mussolini gave indication that he would not be diverted from his purpose to conquer Ethiopia. Though in one he said "the Italian people want peace provided it is accompanied by justice," in the other he declared "we shall march straight on." The Ethiopian government announced that "telegrams from the northern frontier show that the Italians are making important troop movements on the Ethiopian and Eritrean frontiers, indicating an early offensive against Ethiopia."

Accepting the advice of his "brain trust," which includes Everett A. Colson of the United States, Emperor Haile Selassie instructed his representatives in Geneva to reject all solutions thus far offered by the powers for settling the quarrel with Italy.

PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATOR ICKES and Work Progress Administrator Hopkins got into such a quarrel over the spending of the \$4,000,000,000 fund that the President had to call them to Hyde Park, together with the third and neutral member of the works relief triumvirate—Frank G. Walker, the director of the national emergency council and administrator of applications.

Others called to the important works relief parley included Daniel Bell, director of the budget; Charles West, under-secretary of Interior; Corredon Gill, assistant of Hopkins; Fred Ironsides, administrative assistant of Walker, and Col. Horatio Hackett, chief of housing in the PWA.

Mr. Roosevelt was determined to have peace, and told those present that the prime necessity at this time is to make jobs quickly, always keeping in mind the idea of turning workers back to private industry as business warrants. This looked like a victory for Hopkins, who favors quick jobs, over Ickes, champion of permanent public works. The President has declared that he hopes 3,500,000 persons can be removed from the relief rolls and put to work by the first of November.

LEGAL attack on the Guffey soft coal act has been opened by 16 coal companies operating in Harlan county, Kentucky, in Federal court at Louisville. They brought suit for injunction against its enforcement, charging that it violates the federal Constitution in these ways:

1. It violated the fifth amendment, which forbids taking property without due process of law.
2. It violated the tenth amendment, which reserves to the states, or to the people, all rights not granted the federal government or forbidden the states.
3. It attempts to delegate legislative power.
4. The section levying a 15 per cent tax on all coal production, with a 90 per cent refund to producers submitting to the code provided by the act, is "an unconstitutional attempt on the part of congress, under the guise of taxation, to punish those producers of bituminous coal who are unwilling to surrender their constitutional rights."
5. Congress has no jurisdiction over and no power to legislate upon certain matters covered by the act or the code. The companies declared they would refuse to submit to the act and the code it authorizes.

UNIVERSITY of Michigan is rejoicing over a gift of \$5,000,000 for enlargement of its graduate school. The money is donated by the Horace H. and Mary A. Rackham fund, based on the bulk of the estate of the late Horace H. Rackham, Detroit philanthropist.

One million dollars will be spent to purchase a square block of land adjoining the present campus and for a new building. The remainder will be employed as an endowment. The income will be used to promote research. By the terms of the agreement the school will be known as the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies.

SEEN and HEARD
around the
NATIONAL CAPITAL
 By Carter Field
 FAMOUS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT



Washington.—Black rust in the Northwest, particularly in the Dakotas and Minnesota, and to a lesser extent—due to less rain—in Montana, is going to upset a lot of AAA calculations on wheat this year. For example, all government figures so far are very misleading, in that they estimate bushels of wheat, but take no account of the fact that due to the peculiar type of ravaging black rust effects, the same number of bushels of wheat will produce less flour.

Conservative estimates in Minneapolis and St. Paul, for example, are that from 40 to 50 per cent of the wheat crop expected in the whole Northwest will be unmillable. That is, it would not, in the normal course of events, be ground into flour. This is complicated further by the processing taxes.

The processing tax is based on the bushel of wheat that goes into the flour mill. Now a bushel of wheat which has been affected by black rust will produce only a fraction of the flour that a normal bushel of wheat would. In ordinary times, this would be carefully calculated, and would be reflected in a much lower price paid for that wheat by the miller. But the fact that the processing tax is based on the bushel of wheat, not on the barrel of flour, upsets normal calculations.

Black rust strikes the wheat on one side—always the southern side. If the weather is dry, it does not spread around the kernel. If the weather is damp, it does. It makes a ring all around, and as most of the nourishment comes up near the circumference of the kernel, instead of through the center, the food of the kernel is choked off. This means that in a bushel of rust-infected wheat, there is an unusually large percentage of bran, and an unusually small percentage which can be ground into white flour.

Canada Also Hit

The duty on wheat from Canada is 42 cents a bushel. Canada also suffered from black rust this year, but Canada has a tremendous carry-over—considerably more than 100,000,000 bushels, which is not affected by black rust. Moreover, the government of Canada has decided to liquidate this wheat, which it has been holding in much the same way that the United States government held cotton, and as the Brazilian government held coffee.

This hold-over Canadian wheat, experts say, can easily pay the 42 cents duty, and the processing tax, and still be a bargain for Minneapolis millers in contrast with about one half of the northwestern wheat. This is due to the complication of the processing tax, plus the fact that half or more of the northwestern wheat assays such a small proportion of flour.

Predictions by experts are that at least 50,000,000 bushels of this hold-over Canadian wheat will be bought by United States millers, and probably nearer 100,000,000 bushels.

The rust-infected wheat thus driven out will have to be sold as cattle feed. But there enters another complication. There is already in the Northwest a great plenty of cattle feed. All forage crops were good this year, due to the very moisture which hurt the wheat. Forage crops, due to their bulk as compared with their value, cannot be hauled economically for long distances. Which means that if they are to be consumed at all, they must be consumed in the northwestern states.

From all of which experts predict that there will be tremendous buying of young pigs for fattening, and young cattle, in the Dakotas, Minnesota, and Montana, this year, and that while the production of beef may not affect prices before 1937, the price of pork will be forced down by next summer, no matter what the AAA may do.

Atlantic-Gulf Canal

Aside entirely from the question of whether the construction of the Atlantic-Gulf canal across northern Florida will ruin the fresh water supply of that portion of the state south of the proposed ditch down to Lake Okechobe, the proposition is really on all fours with the much talked about Passamaquoddy.

It has been considered for many years. Always it has been rejected, after study by engineers. Always the reason has been the same. It is entirely practical as an engineering project—indeed it presents few real difficulties from that angle, if this contamination of Florida's fresh water supply is waved to one side. But is it economically sound? The answer has always been "No."

Careful study, even this time, produced a report to President Roosevelt that if the total volume of business which might be expected should materialize, still the proposition would not pay interest on its cost and operating expenses. There is no hair line about this. The experts had no doubt about it whatever.

But there is an even gloomier angle. Three-fourths of the present tonnage moving from Gulf ports to North Atlantic American ports, and across the Atlantic (tonnage for South Atlantic ports of course would not use it) consists at present of oil. No one is in a position to state how long this tonnage will continue so to move. Oil fields now shipping by way of the Gulf may continue shipping for many years.

On the other hand, their production may slump any time. Also it is always possible that pipe lines may be found more economical for moving the product.

So that no one knows at what moment three-fourths of the existing tonnage that this canal might expect may be cut off.

Can't Foretell Tonnage

Against this the contention is made in defense that no one can foretell what business may arise to provide plenty of tonnage for the canal. It is quite possible. Many railroads doing a large business today, and serving very real needs, were constructed to accommodate traffic which has long since disappeared—would never have been built if their builders, and the investors who provided the construction costs, had suspected that the traffic they were built to handle might evaporate.

The immediate pressure for the canal, of course, is to provide some useful work for idle men—something that will not be mere boondoggling. On the theory that this work may be useful—may even prove profitable for reasons not now realized—the work is justified by its defenders. And it is a real job. The canal will be 195 miles long. It involves moving almost twice as much dirt as was involved in digging the Panama canal—slides and all. Though on account of the difference in terrain, climate, etc., the expense will not be anything like as great.

Incidentally, traffic on the Panama canal is far greater than anyone at the time conceived it could be. So that there has been strong pressure economically, as well as for the more obvious reason of national defense, for a Nicaraguan canal. Engineers, leaving out of consideration the question of keeping a canal open despite air raids and sabotage in war, would like to double the number of locks at Panama, thus doubling the amount of tonnage which could move through it.

About Politics

It is an old saying in politics that the man "out in front" in the race for the Presidential nomination of a big party—six months before the convention—is bound to be killed off. The theory is that all the other candidates are shooting at him. Also that the public is highly changeable, and forgets easily.

There are exceptions to all rules, as evidenced in this case by the present incumbent of the White House, Franklin D. Roosevelt, was well out in front for the Democratic nomination for 18 months prior to the 1932 Democratic convention. He sprang into the lead when he was re-elected governor of New York, by a tremendous majority, in November, 1930. His boom defied all traditions by staying there, despite all sorts of ups and downs, right through the whole period. To use a racing term, his boom was never headed. There was never a day from November, 1930, until his nomination in June, 1932, when fair betting odds would not have favored him against any other candidate. Or for that matter, against any two other candidates.

Politicians of both parties are wondering if an exception will come this time in the Republican party. At present the two leaders, so far out in front that it seems hardly worth while to figure who is third and who is fourth, are Senator William E. Borah and Col. Frank Knox, publisher of the Chicago Daily News.

Almost any politician, familiar with national politics, will tell his friends confidentially that if either of the two is nominated, it will be Knox. This theory is also based on old fixations, which may easily be proved wrong. Stripped down to its essentials, the theory on which these politicians eliminate Borah is two-fold. First, that he is too old. Second, that the "regulars" have never wanted Borah, and hence would not want him now.

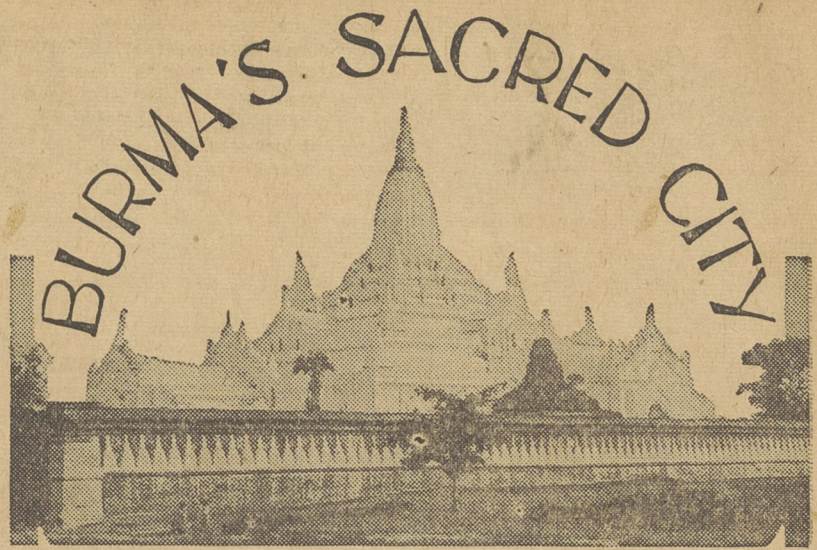
As to Borah

That is one of the reasons the recent poll of Republican local leaders by Robert H. Lucas was so interesting. Apparently these local leaders thought Borah would make a very strong candidate in their communities, whether they personally would prefer another type or not.

As to his age, Borah is in marvelous condition considering his 70 years. Friends are fond of saying he has all the Mormon virtues. By which they mean he uses no tea, coffee, tobacco or alcohol. He is a sparing eater, and has kept up his horseback riding even in Washington. He insists on his beauty sleep every night, cares nothing about society, never subjects himself to any undue strains. For example, even when he was tremendously interested in filibusters, he never made the long, grueling, time-killing speeches for which some other senators are famous.

All his life he has been a lone wolf in politics. In the senate he has never been a cog in the machine. He would never be "regular."

The strength of Colonel Knox, as shown in various polls, is simply revolutionary from a political standpoint. One has to go back to Horace Greely for a precedent, and even that is not a good one.



The Ananda, a Temple of Pagan.

Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

PAGAN, Burma's Sacred City, is solemnity and mystery; about it is enchantment. Here, 90 miles southwest of Mandalay, the traveler finds himself in the midst of a veritable forest of temples and pagodas, large and small, nearly perfect or almost unrecognizable because of decay. Before their vast bulks the traveler becomes painfully conscious of his littleness and insignificance. His mere presence seems an impertinence. The crumbling walls, the fallen pinnacles and the desolation are eloquent of the vanity of fame, the hollowness of glory, and the futility of human effort.

Of the 5,000 or more temples that are still to be seen, the Ananda, the Thatyinnu, and Gawdawpalin, standing all three within a circle of a quarter of a mile radius, are surpassingly beautiful and majestic.

The Ananda rises like a structure of foam. On its summit, like the flame upon some altar, a slender, golden spire gathers the radiance of the sun and flings it forth again to every quarter. It is the first of all the temples to command the traveler's attention; it is the last upon which he gazes as the swift steamer bears him away.

The Thatyinnu has suffered more from time and neglect than has the Ananda. Its walls are blackened and much of the detail of its ornamentation has fallen away. It is hardly beautiful; it is majestic.

Lovely View From Circuit House.

Past the Gawdawpalin the path leads on to the circuit house. At every step is revealed some new grouping of effects, some new harmonies of proportion or felicities of detail, and from the spacious veranda of the resthouse the view is one never to be forgotten. Westward the river and the hills, silver and gold and blue in the sunset; near at hand the Gawdawpalin, with orange light and soft purple shadows mingling and shifting over its huge battlements; farther away the Ananda and the Thatyinnu, now indistinct in the twilight; and all around, the half-seen outlines of pagodas.

Heroic achievements, the basest villainy, successful subtlety—all these are mingled in the history of this ruined city.

The greatness of Pagan, and with it reliable Burmese history, dates from the accession of Anawrata, about A. D. 1017. This truly remarkable monarch won by the sword a splendid empire and established a dynasty that continued in power for more than 200 years. At the beginning of his reign he devoted himself to the moral and religious uplift of his people. A corrupt and degrading "Naga-worship," or obedience to devils, in the form of serpents, had come through Assam from northern India.

Anawrata's Great Reform.

Soon after Anawrata ascended the throne Buddhist missionaries arrived at Pagan from the country of the Talaings, a people dwelling to the south and, as a result of the frequent and easy communication with India by sea, highly civilized. These Talaing missionaries found the king a zealous convert. He expelled the priests of the abominable cult that for so many years had debauched his people, strictly proscribed the Naga worship, and did everything in his power to further the efforts of the preachers.

His fervor had, however, one lamentable result. Hearing that there were in Thaton, the Talaing capital, copies of the Buddhist Sacred Books and several precious relics, he sent a noble envoy to beg for such portions as might be spared. His reasonable request was refused in a singularly insolent and shortsighted manner.

With characteristic energy Anawrata assembled an army and a fleet and moved against Thaton. He was completely successful, and as the spoils of victory he carried back to Pagan not only the books and the priceless relics but the king and queen of the fallen city, together with principal nobles, rich treasure, 32 white elephants, and a host of 30,000 artificers and scholars.

This signal success only fanned the flame of Anawrata's zeal. A fresh field for enterprise was found in Ceylon. There was in that island a tooth of Gautama. Such a trophy was beyond price and its possession by Pagan would sanctify and enoble the king's name. Accordingly, with four trusty captains, mounted on matchless steeds, Anawrata hastened to the seashore and embarked for Ceylon at nightfall.

But unseen hands were fighting on the side of the sovereign of Ceylon and sacred tooth. The ship sped swiftly on through the night. Yet when the travelers awoke it was to find themselves anchored a little below Pagan!

Baffled but not defeated, Anawrata sent an envoy to Sangabodhi, the king, an envoy who bore many costly presents and who was instructed to demand the tooth of Gautama in return.

Gautama Supplied Teeth.

Sangabodhi, unwilling to surrender his most precious possession, yet fearful of arousing the ire of so dreadful a monarch as the king of Pagan, was in sore straits. In his distress he expressed the wish that he might have two such teeth. No sooner had he given utterance to this desire than the tooth produced a fellow exactly resembling itself! In fact, the two were indistinguishable until the original declared itself by rising into the air and performing miracles.

The duplicate was placed in a casket of gold and delivered to the envoy, who carried it back with great pomp to Pagan.

To solve the difficulty of choosing a site for the enshrinement of the prize, the casket was placed on the back of a white elephant, and it was announced that wherever the animal halted there should be the resting place of the tooth.

Much to the disappointment of all, the elephant bearing his precious burden crossed the river and knelt down near the Tangyi hills. This was very far from the palace, and the king expressed his regret that he also had not two sacred teeth. Here again the wish was father to the miracle. Immediately there were two teeth instead of one! The duplicate was placed on the elephant's back and the beast was hidden to move on.

Five times the elephant halted before reaching the neighborhood of the palace, and at each place the tooth was miraculously multiplied, until at last the site of the Lokananda was reached and the king professed himself satisfied. At each stop a shrine was built, and at the last was reared the pile which still remains as one of the monuments to Anawrata's greatness.

Anawrata's end was tragic. One day, as he was riding through the forest on an elephant, he struck his head against the branch of a tree in which dwelt two nats—Teinbin and his wife, Leinbin. In a fit of rage the monarch dragged Leinbin down from the tree and beat her mercifully.

Teinbin, in his turn, enraged at the king's cruelty, lay in wait for Anawrata in the depths of the jungle. Taking the form of a huge white buffalo, he furiously charged the unhappy monarch and succeeded in impaling him upon one of his horns. The body was never found.

Conquered by the Chinese.

For more than two centuries the successors of Anawrata more or less worthily maintained the dignity and prestige of Pagan. But in the north was developing a power that was soon to engulf not Pagan only, but almost the entire continent of Asia. Kublai Khan in 1254 conquered what is now Yunnan, and the Chinese were thus brought into contact with Burma. To the resulting conflict there could be but one issue. In 1286 Pagan fell before invaders from the north, never again to attain historical significance. Of the great battle between the two armies on the plain of Vociam, Marco Polo gives a graphic and spirited account.

Though, under the circumstances, the fall of Pagan was inevitable, the last king of that unfortunate capital stands in pitiful contrast to the great Anawrata. Known to history as Tayokpyemin, the King Who Ran Away From the Chinese, he was utterly unworthy of his noble office. In the Mingalazedi is an inscription which commemorates his achievements at the table. Here it is recorded that he never dined off fewer than three hundred dishes!

While the Chinese host was yet a long way from the city, the cowardly king fled down the river to Basselin. When the cooks whom he had taken with him were able to produce only 150 dishes, the full horror of his position dawned upon the unhappy monarch. He burst into childish tears and exclaimed, "Now I am poor indeed!"

When the invaders had taken their toll of Pagan and retired, he thought of returning. At Prome, however, he was met by one of his sons, who offered him poisoned food. For a time the weakling hesitated. At last, convinced that it was better to die so than by the sword, he yielded and met a fate that, as few writers have avoided the temptation to remark, was singularly appropriate to his character.