

(Heywood Broun Is on Vacation.)

ROME, March 31.—Benito Mussolini is seeking a solution to all his troubles—with Britain, with Geneva, with France and with sanctions—on the battlefields of Ethiopia. And Britain, France and Geneva are letting him do it.

Europe's fear of another world conflict is partly based on the imbroglio in Africa, with its far more serious accompaniments—in the Mediterranean, Central Europe and the Far East. But statesmen are finding it exceedingly hard to chart a course.

Blunders of the first magnitude have been committed at Geneva and other capitals, the biggest and most perilous being the mobilization of the British fleet against Italy. The second was Geneva's half-measure sanctions which went far enough to constitute a constant irritant and threaten to upset all Europe, yet not far enough to be effective.

As matters now stand, therefore, nobody can back down. Britain is committed. France is committed. Italy is committed. Ethiopia is committed. And the League of Nations is committed. Something has got to happen to break the deadlock and that must be one of two things: Drastic action to crush Italy, or a policy of standing back and waiting for a decisive blow in Ethiopia. As military sanctions or other

telling blows against this country would almost certainly set Europe on fire, the powers—that be apparently have decided to mark time.

When the hour strikes, I understand, Geneva has a plan. But until H. Duce either scores a decisive victory against Ethiopia's Lion of Judah, or meets with equally decisive reverses, it will be held in abeyance.

In diplomatic circles here, British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden is believed to have given a clew to the broad principles of this plan when he referred to the League proposal of last September.

League Plan Recalled

"I HOPE that proposal will neither be forgotten nor laid aside," he said. He thus clearly indicated that when the time comes for a new effort at peace, he regards the plan as a perfectly valid starting point. And Capt. Eden is now Adam in the Garden of the League.

The league proposal was contained in a report of the Committee of Five appointed to draft an acceptable peace plan. It was based on Ethiopia's expressed willingness to accept League assistance in the reconstruction of the dark empire.

Turned down by H. Duce last fall, the plan, as it stands, is even less acceptable today. Italian armies have made advances since September. More decisive activities are expected. If and when they come, the above plan then would need but little change to make it fit the League formula.

When Right Is Wrong

CANDOR compels the admission that neither of the two leading League powers went to Geneva with exactly clean hands. Britain and France struck a bargain with Italy in 1915 which neither of them has yet wholly made good. They are therefore laboring under normal difficulties. They are between the devil of having to do something for a former ally whom they double-crossed, and the deep sea of their obligations to the League and to their own national interests.

Italy can not forget that in 1915 she was promised that "in the event of France and Great Britain increasing their colonial territories in Africa at the expense of Germany," Italy might "claim some equitable compensation" in the dark continent.

Tomorrow—"Whither Mussolini?"

There's a Chuckle in Sloan's Report

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Usually you can find a chuckle that wasn't meant to be there, in the report of any big business executive to his stockholders. This report follows a fixed formula. First, they solemnly denounce the New Deal. Then they brag about how much money they are making.

Alfred P. Sloan Jr., president of General Motors, says sadly in his annual report that the New Deal is postponing recovery. Then come the figures, dazzlingly. Net sales last year gained 34 per cent over 1934. Net profits were \$3.69 a share compared with \$1.99 a share in the preceding year. Sales, earnings and pay rolls were the highest since 1929. What does Mr. Sloan mean, postponed recovery?

ALTHOUGH he is committed to support President Roosevelt for re-election, John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, is flirting with his intimates over the dream of building a Farmer-Labor Party after 1936 is out of the way.

This has been a dream for years among reformers who have felt that both old parties were bottled up by the same curse. The only trouble about organizing a Farmer-Labor Party is that President Roosevelt already has beaten them to it. He has built a coalition of farmers and labor which is the real basis of his strength. This isn't generally realized because Mr. Roosevelt didn't bother to put a new label on what he was doing. The Democratic Party is the Farmer-Labor Party now.

STANDING out above numerous technicalities in the Sugar Institute decision, you will find in the opinion of Chief Justice Hughes a friendly gesture toward the suggestion in President Roosevelt's recent relief message that there is nothing in the anti-trust laws to prevent business from working in concert to stimulate trade. Chief Justice Hughes says in his opinion that business, by voluntary cooperation, might accomplish more beneficial results than could be obtained by legal compulsion.

SOMETHING else is happening which should give private business pause. An article in the April Scribner's, "The Masses Go Into Big Business," tells of the rise of co-operative selling in this country. Some 2,000,000 members of 6500 consumer co-operatives did a business of more than \$1,000,000 a day last year. There are 2000 co-operative gas and oil filling stations in the country.

Arthur Bertram B. Fowler says this is a revolt against profit taking. Co-operatives sell at the market but the profits, instead of going to absentee stockholders, are returned to consumers in ratio to purchases. The idea long ago became entrenched in Europe. Sweden's success with it is attracting wide attention here through the study of Marquis W. Childs' "Sweden: The Middle Way."

The co-operative movement discards political action as a method of dealing with economic ills and goes into business for itself. Unlike Socialism, it is a device for bringing down prices without abolishing the profit motive. It merely shifts the seat of the profit motive from the seller to the purchaser. Co-operatives hold second place in Minnesota as state-wide distributors of gas and oil. In North Dakota, where they are organized in 88 towns, they lead all private companies in gasoline sales.

This is a kind of undeclared revolution. Instead of attacking the existing private distribution system, the consumers just quietly muscle in on the game themselves.

The Indianapolis Times

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1936

Second Section

Entered as Second-Class Matter
at Postoffice, Indianapolis, Ind.

THE TROOPS MOVE UP AGAIN

France Answers Hitler's Occupation of the Rhineland



1. Hitler reviews his troops.
2. A French supply train moves up.
3. Kation time for poilus.
4. France's defense at Strasbourg.
5. The generals inspect their troops.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

BY DREW PEARSON and ROBERT S. ALLEN

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Friends who talked with Herbert Hoover during his recent New York visit are saying he is extremely hot under the collar at Gov. Alf Landon.

Trouble seems to be Landon's deal with Gov. Merriam of California for control of the state's delegation.

Hoover wants an uninstructed delegation, but one that will take orders from him. He views the Landon-Merriam trade as a personal affront. And when he read about it in the papers, he called up Landon by long-distance telephone and protested.

According to the account Hoover gave his friends, this is what Landon replied:

"Well, Mr. Hearst wanted me to enter the California field, and in a choice between you and Mr. Hearst I think it best to follow Mr. Hearst's wishes."

When dinner was over, they walked out, picked up band instruments they had left in the

lobby, and began to play riotous tunes while followers shouted, "We want Wickhem! Wickhem for President!"

It was Wickhem's "Mennonite Band" and it helped materially in putting across his election as head of the Young Democrats in the face of Jimmy Roosevelt's opposition.

Today Wickhem has started a campaign, under Jim Farley's direction, to line up the youth of the country for Roosevelt.

When soup was brought, they frowned, ordered a big punch bowl, poured their individual portions into the common bowl, and all proceeded to eat from that.

According to the account Hoover gave his friends, this is what Landon replied:

"Well, Mr. Hearst wanted me to enter the California field, and in a choice between you and Mr. Hearst I think it best to follow Mr. Hearst's wishes."

THE decision of a New York Federal court declaring unconstitutional the embargo on arms sales to Bolivia and Paraguay, is going to put Chief Justice Hughes in an exceedingly ouch spot.

For Mr. Hughes, while Secretary of State, was the author and chief advocate of an act of Congress almost identical to the one colleague on the New York Federal bench now has declared unconstitutional.

What Judge Mortimer Byers in New York objected to was the fact that Congress delegated the power to embargo arms sales "if the President finds" this is prolonging the war. The delegation of this power, Judge Byers held, was unconstitutional.

The law which Chief Justice Hughes wrote while Secretary of State in 1922 specifies that "when the President finds" revolution exists in any Pan-American country he may embargo arms shipments to the revolutionaries.

Not infrequently a convict who is dying from some incurable disease will confess to a crime he has not committed in the hope of getting some one else freed.

(Copyright, 1936, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

BENNY



By J. Carver Pusey

Fair Enough

by
WESTBROOK PEGLER

LONDON, March 31.—The Irish Hospitals Sweepstakes has been silenced in the English press, but there is no suppressing the fact that the lottery was run again in connection with the Grand National, the great four-mile suicide race at Aintree, near Liverpool, Friday afternoon. This naturally leads one of Irish ancestry to wonder how his kinsfolk on the old sod are coming along in their convalescence.

Surely they must almost be able to recognize friends, or even sit up and snap viciously at a slab of steak after all these years, considering that they are supposed to have had the benefit of more than \$40,000,000 worth of medical attention since the lottery began as a more or less private enterprise in 1930. There are not quite three million souls in the Irish Free State and unless the majority of the population has been enjoying very poor health the dividends from the great international gamble should have been sufficient to relieve the sick of every ill money can cure.

At last reports the hospitals still had about \$25,000 coming as their share of the revenue and the good doctors were setting up a shrill clamor on behalf of their patients for a glimpse of this money. The hospitality of management to the journalists who have gone to Dublin to cover the draw has defeated its own purposes in many cases.



Tottering On to the Races

MEMBERS of the craft who have endured the tortures of sweepstakes hangovers report that the saddle bunion and foot bunions, the thirst and fatigue which plagued the war correspondents in Ethiopia and laid them low must have been mild distempers compared to the anguish of any man who regained consciousness in the foggy dawn of a Dublin day and yelled feebly for the coroner to come and take a look at the body.

This year the English brothers of Fleet-st have been spared the ordeal, for their papers are forbidden by English law to permit themselves even the remotest reference to the sweepstakes. The journalists of other nations, however, have had to carry on as usual, and some of the boys tottered out of Dublin this week with feeble steps and glazed vision in an advanced state of that ghostly ailment known as the shivering meemies.

It is still legal to send news of the Irish lottery to most nations, but the copy must be filed by some route which avoids England because the English refuse to handle it even in transit to foreign lands.

Many British public hospitals are supported by voluntary gifts and they were placed at a great apparent disadvantage when the British public spent millions of pounds of spare money on Irish lottery tickets. The Irish hospitals, about 50 in number, were in poverty, too, and probably their distress was worse than that of the British because the Irish civil war drove out of Ireland a great number of wealthy aristocrats who took the remnants of their fortunes with them.

Another Noble Experiment

SO the lottery in the first place was, as Mr. Hoover would put it, noble in purpose. But it is impossible to spend millions of dollars on medical research and individual treatment in a hurry, and the Irish government pointed out in answer to an urgent request for \$1,000,000 for scientific inquiry that such an appropriation all in one lump would be more likely to retard than promote progress. But the reasons for withholding \$25,000,000 from hospitals which are in serious want have not been explained officially.

A small proportion of the fund has been made available and your correspondent would have the figure if he were able to dig it out of the great and confusing mass of statistics in which he has been delving. Anyway the plight of the ailing kinsfolk of all those Americans of Irish ancestry who bought lottery tickets from motives tinged with philanthropy is apparently the last consideration of the management. Prior considerations are the Free State treasury, which now exacts a tax on the hospitals' share of the money before placing the remainder in cold storage, and fabulous cash royalties to the four individuals who started the lottery and ties up a fund of \$125,000 as a guarantee for the prize winners in 1930. The trouble is that the sweep succeeded too well.

It is now likely to die in its own success. The hospitals' share is too big to be spent usefully in a short time and the British boycott was imposed only because the lottery outré its philanthropic character and became a serious parasitic growth on the body of England.

Gen. Johnson Says—

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Ogden Mills is out for Gov. Landon. All that remains to complete the political portrait of this candidate is for Herbert Hoover, Ed Hutton and Liberty League to come through.

There is no tangible "money trust." At the corner of Broad and Wall-st there is no such sulphurous den of devils, horned and personal, as my Midwestern mother, and a good many million others, confidently believe. But we do have a group of gentlemen who think what their fathers thought—and for no other reason. They sincerely believe that government should do nothing about business or agriculture because, in the days of our grandfathers, it wasn't necessary.

Between them and the dangerous dizziness that is now going round and round, there is a middle course toward which the great bulk of Americans yearn "as the heart paneth." But who paneth to return to Hooverian reaction? A small paneth.

IT is hard to define, but anybody who has been about a bit could identify any one of them in the dark. They are careful men. When they indorse a candidate they know what they are doing. Their indorsement tags him as well as themselves.

They are entitled to their opinion, but why can't they wake up? Mr. Hoover and Mr. Mills are symbols of them and of disaster. Both ought to retire into silence. The Liberty League potlatch was so devoid of hope for what most people want that it turned the ebbing tide of New Deal popularity.

(Copyright, 1936, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

Times Books

ABOUT a year ago, a young American named Vic Hurley wrote a refreshing and interesting book called "Southeast of Zamboanga," in which he told what happened to him when he tried to start a one-man coconut plantation in the Philippines jungle.

Now Mr. Hurley is out with a new book about life in those far-off islands. This one is called "Men in Sun Helmets" (Dutton; \$2), and the vein Mr. Hurley worked so successfully in the first book seems to be running a bit thin.

Not that "Men in Sun Helmets" is dull; it is simply rather light. The first book recorded a dramatic and exciting adventure; this one throws together a series of incidents and anecdotes, and the effort to make them seem exotic and adventurous seems forced. (By Bruce Catton.)