

BRISBANE THIS WEEK

No Core, No War
Sloan Sees Light
The Holy City Falls
G. B. Shaw Writes

A small boy, asked for the core of his apple, said: "There ain't going to be no core."

Laval, French premier, tired of dangerous going-on in the Mediterranean, groused bluntly: "There ain't going to be no war," requesting England to remove her battleships from the Mediterranean.

The wise British have known all along that there was to be no war, but thought it well to indulge in virtuous demonstrations.

Britons rarely make diplomatic mistakes: diplomats of other countries are children to them, although France is an exception to that rule.

Washington believes the war will end in 60 days, and has probably been told so by somebody in Europe.

Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., president of General Motors, announces "all signals set for increased automobile sales next year," and no doubt about it.

He approves an automobile show in November, instead of January, as giving the people more time to realize that the important car is the winter car, when the automobile "wears the rubbers" for the whole family.

Capturing Aksum will impress Ethiopians. The holy city, surrendered by the Ethiopians without a shot, contains the tombs of all Ethiopian rulers since the time of Sheba. The Coptic Christian bishop of Aksum voluntarily gave the keys of the city to the Italian Gen. Emilio de Bono, at Adowa. He accepted the keys, proclaimed Italy's annexation of Aksum, sent a force to surround the city and prevent looting the monasteries and the ancient cathedral of St. Mary Zion.

That cathedral the original Ark of the Covenant is believed to be preserved. Ethiopian history relates that when Solomon sent the son of his high priest, with other sons of great dignitaries, to accompany Sheba's son after his visit to his father, the son of the high priest took the original Ark of the Covenant with him, substituting an imitation ark, much to the indignation of Solomon and that high priest. In Justice to the high priest's son, it must be stated that an angel appeared and gave him instructions about stealing the ark.

George Bernard Shaw discovers that Ethiopia, so-called, is an aggregation of tribes, one ruled fairly well by Halle Selassie, who is called "Emperor," the others doing about as well.

In some of these tribes, what pleases the natives would seem strange to us. For instance, among the Danakil's a lady will not marry a gentleman until he proves that he has killed at least four men. And he must prove it by bringing back the easily identified fragments of four mutilated bodies. Married life with such a lady should never be dull.

Wars come, wars go, Standard Oil goes on forever, working.

Walter Teagle, head of Standard Oil of New Jersey, with oil wells scattered over the world, offers to buy every barrel of oil that Russia exports, many million barrels a year. To avoid ill feeling, Mr. Teagle would let British Royal Dutch-Shell and Anglo-Iranian have part of Russia's surplus.

Your Uncle Sam is very rich now, never had so much gold in his life. The total pile, "an all time high," amounts to more than fifteen billions of dollars.

It wouldn't be such a big pile of gold if the government had not ingeniously raised the price of the gold ounce.

Gold has been coming rapidly from Europe lately, including some gold that frightened Americans sent abroad for its health.

The United States is becoming more and more a gambling nation, and, in consequence, less and less a thinking, working nation. Gambling makes real work seem not worth while. Why work if you can play the horses? Can you imagine Washington, Lincoln or Edison studying "past performances"?

Mr. Damon Runyon writes:

"A few years ago, the Broadway betting men would have sneered at the idea of wagering on college football games. Now it is the biggest betting medium of any sport, with betting brokers issuing regular printed quotations on the various games every week."

At the Methodist Protestant church conference a committee of the Lord's day recommends that churches be lighted like motion picture "cathedrals." The committee complains: "The Church of Christ is in comparative darkness with often but a single light over the door and at the speaker's desk to save expense."

New Jersey Justice decides that Hauptmann, convicted of murdering the Lindbergh child, may live a little longer, to take an appeal to the United States Supreme court. The Supreme court may, in its discretion, decline to investigate Hauptmann's conviction. In that case, the curtain falls.

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News Review of Current Events the World Over

Laval in Uncomfortable Position as Anglo-Italian Relations Grow Worse—Senator Vandenberg "Not a Candidate."

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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PIERRE LAVAL, premier of France, found himself in a tight place because of his efforts to retain the friendship of both Great Britain and Italy and to keep his government from being upset by its foes at home. In the process of trying to find a way to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Italo-Ethiopian war, Laval proposed that Britain withdraw its big home fleet from the Mediterranean to mollify Mussolini. This suggestion was laid before the British cabinet and turned down flatly.

The cabinet gave hearty approval to the policy at Geneva of Capt. Anthony Eden and Samuel Hoare, secretary for foreign affairs. Its stand was reported to be substantially this: Mussolini will respect nothing but force. He would interpret any withdrawal of Britain's Mediterranean forces as a sign of weakness. If Mussolini wants to clear the way for Italo-Ethiopian peace talks, let him halt his armies in Ethiopia and accept league terms as basis for negotiation as Ethiopia already has done.

Furthermore, the British government called on Laval for a definite reply to its question whether France would cooperate with the British fleet if there were an open break with Italy. The French answers to this query had been too wobbly to suit Downing street. Particularly the English wanted to know if their fleet would be permitted to use the French naval dockyards. It was believed that if Laval could not satisfy the British, the latter would withdraw from active leadership in the League of Nations and refuse to renew the Locarno commitments on which France relies for protection against Germany.

DISPATCHES from the African war front are subjected to so severe a censorship that they are not only unsatisfactory but often quite unreliable. All kinds of sensational stories are circulated and some of them may be true. One such is the report from Djibouti, French Somaliland, that Italians killed a number of British Somaliland subjects near the Ethiopian frontier, some of the victims being members of the camel corps that is a part of the colonial army. British Vice Consul Lowe heard, also, that Italians had gassed and shot a lot of cattle and goats in British Somaliland.

Certainly relations between Italy and Great Britain were growing worse daily and there were many predictions that the two nations would be at each other's throats before long. The British have been in a deadly cold humor ever since they found out that Mussolini's friends had been trying to stir up an anti-British revolt in Egypt. Now the border between Egypt and Italian Libya is the scene of swift concentration of troops on both sides.

ETHIOPIA'S representatives in Geneva were told by delegates of several nations that Mussolini was ready to end the warfare if he were given considerable cessions of territory and certain large economic advantages. This tentative offer was transmitted to Addis Ababa, and the reply of Emperor Halle Selassie was a determined "No."

The Italians want virtual control over the entire country, and the emperor is not willing to give up a yard of territory.

THE ITALIANS in northern Ethiopia were jubilant over the desertion of Degiac Halle Selassie Gugsa and several thousand warriors. This Gugsa is a son-in-law of the emperor and a descendant of King John who reigned in the last century. The traitor was installed as ras or chieftain of the occupied territory.

The Italian troops indicated the next serious fighting would be in the southern sector, where the emperor's son-in-law, Ras Desta Denu, was leading an army of 100,000 by forced marches to attack the Italians in the flank. The latter, under Gen. Rudolfo Graziani, were moving toward Harrar from the Somaliland frontier.

Seemingly reliable reports from medical missionaries in the southern sector, the Ogaden zone, said the Italians were making free use of chlorine gas and of dum-dum bullets which for many years have been outlawed in all "civilized" warfare.

SENATOR ARTHUR H. VANDENBERG of Michigan, who has been mentioned frequently as a possible Republican nominee for the Presidency, came back from a summer tour of Europe and declared flatly he is "not a candidate for anything on earth." He did not attempt to predict who would be named by the Republicans, but did say he felt the G. O. P. would win in 1936.

I think President Roosevelt wrote his obituary in his first speech in Congress in March, 1933," he said, "and historians will show it, when he said 'most liberal governments have been wrecked on the rocks of loose fiscal policies and we must take care to avoid that.'

Liberal spending by the New Deal was defended by Senator Fletcher of Florida, chairman of the Senate banking committee. In an interview he said that "government activities, and expenditures have restored about \$10,000,000,000 of bank credit lost in the \$21,000,000,000 deflation of 1930-33.

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"Business is going to get the benefit of that. The money the government is putting out is going to people who are putting it in the banks. It is increasing purchasing power and likewise expanding the credit facilities of the banks."

The senator expressed the belief business was "reviving," declared relief and other emergency expenditures would drop as continued improvement was shown, and predicted many work projects would be of lasting benefit, particularly the ship canal now being constructed across northern Florida.

IT DOESN'T take much these days to cause the Republicans to rejoice. The latest event hailed by them as a harbinger of victory next year was merely a by-election in Massachusetts to fill a vacancy in the state senate. The district normally is Republican and this time as usual a Republican was elected. The reason for the G. O. P. shuns was found in the decreased vote polled by the Democrats, and the fact that Salem, a mill town and former Democratic stronghold, was captured by the Republicans.

Democratic leaders said the issues in the election were purely local and that the reverse at most was a rebuff to the administration of Democratic Gov. James Curley. The Republican leaders asserted that the New Deal no less than Curley was involved.

SENATOR CARTER GLASS of Virginia has had his differences with the Roosevelt administration and is likely to have others, but he remains a loyal Democrat. He says he is "a constitutional Democrat within the Democratic party" and adds:

"I would not support any movement to split the party. I refused to join the Liberty League and have refused to join any organization whose aims run counter to the party."

Mr. Glass is certain that President Roosevelt will be renominated without serious opposition. "There is no organized opposition to his nomination in sight within the party," Glass says. "If he lives, he will be renominated by the Democratic party. Not to do so would be a confession of failure."

IN SOME quarters Col. Theodore Roosevelt is credited with considerable influence among the Republicans of the eastern states, and often he is mentioned as a possible Presidential candidate. Another potential candidate, strong in the West, Senator William E. Borah of Idaho, recently wrote to Colonel Roosevelt proposing that the 1936 Republican campaign be based on a "trust-busting" issue. The colonel turned down the plan. He replied that, while he was in sympathy with the senator's attitude on monopolies, he felt there are many other issues as great or greater. Among these he named "scandalous waste of the people's money, government extravagance, multitudinous taxes, and attempts to subvert our type of government."

"I entirely agree," Colonel Roosevelt wrote, "that monopolies are evil, for I am a firm believer in the established American principle of competition. I have stated this over and over again during the last eighteen months."

"I do not agree, however, that this will be the major issue of the campaign."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT turned his back on the Pacific and began his return voyage on the cruiser Houston. The vessel was started through the Panama canal while the President went to Fort Clayton and other posts to inspect the garrisons, and to the new Madden dam on the Chagres river. He boarded the cruiser at Pedro Miguel locks and, with President Arias of Panama and Mrs. Arias as guests, proceeded to the Atlantic.

VICE PRESIDENT JOHN GARNER and a large number of senators and representatives sailed from Seattle for Manila to represent the United States at the formal establishment of the Philippines commonwealth and the inauguration of President Manuel Quezon on November 19.

For the first time in history both the President and the Vice President were outside United States territory at the same time. Secretary of State Hull was the ranking official left in Washington and consequently was the temporary head of the government. However, Mr. Roosevelt was in close and continual communication with the capital by wireless throughout his cruise.

MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM L. SIBERT, one of the three men who really built the Panama canal and last surviving member of the canal commission, died at the age of seventy-five at his country home near Bowling Green, Ky. He was buried in Arlington National cemetery with full military honors.

General Sibert's career as engineer and soldier was distinguished. He was made brigadier general by special act of congress for his services in connection with the building of the Panama canal. During the World War he commanded the First division of the A. E. F.

He retired in 1920 to engage in private engineering work and subsequently served as chairman of the Alabama state docks commission in construction of the state docks at Mobile. From 1928 to 1932 he was chairman of the Boulder dam commission, and in 1932 and 1933 was president of the American Association of Port Authorities.

ON JUAN of Bourbon, the twenty-two-year-old son of former King Alfonso of Spain, and the Infanta Maria de la Esperanza of the Sicilian house of Bourbon, were married in Rome, blessed by Pope Pius and started for London on a honeymoon trip that probably will take them around the world, including a visit in the United States. The young man is of international importance only because he is the heir presumptive to the Spanish throne, and there are chances that the monarchy will be restored by the Spaniards.

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JOHN L. LEWIS, president of the United Mine Workers, and his industrial union bloc lost a hot battle when the American Federation of Labor, in convention in Atlantic City, voted to continue the policy adopted last year in San Francisco. This policy was to organize workers in mass production industries, such as automobile and steel, along industrial lines with due protection of the rights of craft unions.

Lewis and his followers proposed that the mass production industries be organized, one union for each industry, with the craft unions kept out altogether.

PARLIAMENTARY elections in Canada resulted in the defeat of Premier Richard B. Bennett and the Conservatives who have been in control since 1930. The next premier will be Mackenzie King, leader of the Liberals who won 158 out of 245 seats in the house of commons. The new deal policies of the Bennett government were repudiated by the electors.

In the program outlined by King, in case he won, the great emphasis was laid on relieving unemployment and lowering tariffs back to 1930 levels. A reciprocal trade agreement with the United States was one of his strong arguments. Nationalization of the Bank of Canada, to control credit inflation and deflation was another plank.

One immediate result of the Liberal victory was the resignation of W. B. Herridge as Canadian minister to the United States, effective when the new administration takes hold. Herridge is a brother-in-law of Premier Bennett and his appointment to the Washington post was severely criticized by King during the campaign.

CAROL, king of Rumania, celebrated his forty-second birthday at his summer palace in Sinaia, and as the family gathered for the occasion Mme. Magda Lupescu, the king's intimate friend, arrived unexpectedly from Paris. The Peasant party had intended to make the day notable by "anti-Lupescu" demonstrations, hoping this would help to keep her in exile, but her return confounded the leaders.

King Carol. The agitation against Magda has now taken a decided anti-Semitic turn, her enemies circulating broadsides calling attention to her Jewish origin and charging that through her influence a large number of Jews are getting easy jobs in the public service.

The peasant leaders also redistributed a statement of Julius Maniu, outstanding foe of Mme. Lupescu, that she is "responsible for almost every ill which besets Rumania."

"I am a monarchist," Maniu's statement continued, "but every Rumanian should receive a good example from the palace. The crown must respect itself."

CONSTITUTIONALITY of two New Deal projects—the AAA processing taxes and the TVA operations in generating and selling power in competition with private power companies—is to be determined by the Supreme Court of the United States, and an early ruling on both is expected.

Among the court's early rulings was a refusal to consider the latest habeas corpus proceedings brought in behalf of Thomas Mooney, California's most famous prisoner. The court also refused to hear an attack on a law which strengthened the political machine of the late Senator Huey P. Long of Louisiana.

SECRETARY WALLACE should welcome the announcement by the American Liberty League that its committee of 58 noted lawyers has volunteered to defend small potato growers against the potato control law. Not that Mr. Wallace intends to violate the act by growing unlicensed spuds, but he has declared he is so opposed to the law that he will try in every way to avoid enforcing it.

FOR about twenty years John D. Rockefeller, Jr., has owned a 60-acre tract of land at the upper end of Manhattan island, known as Fort Tryon park, and has cared for it and beautified it. Now he has presented it to New York city as a public park—truly, a magnificent gift. The land, which is valued at \$6,000,000, extends from One Hundred Ninety-second street to Dyckman street.

STRATFORD HALL, the fine old colonial house in Westmoreland county, Virginia, which has been the home of the Lees for 200 years, was dedicated as a national shrine, its 1,100-acre estate being included in the gift to the public. The place was bought and restored by the Robert E. Lee Memorial foundation. President Roosevelt sent a message to be read at the dedication exercises, and many high officials were present. The house was built by Thomas Lee, colonial governor of Virginia, and was the birthplace of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

ONE of those incidents that may be peacefully settled or, on the other hand, may lead to war, occurred on the Siberian-Manchurian frontier 500 miles north of Vladivostok. A Japanese detachment crossed the border and became involved in a fight with Russian guards, and the Soviet government sent to Tokyo a "resolute" protest. In Moscow it was said a number of the Russian guards were killed; in Tokyo the report was that six Japanese and five Manchurians were killed.

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