# MEN AND AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON

★ National Topics Interpreted by ★
★ WILLIAM BRUCKART ★

Washington. — In proposing a peace pact for the western hemisphere, President Roosevelt in his speech at Buenos Aires has directed attention to two important positions that the United States has taken in its foreign relations. Whether Mr. Roosevelt so intended or whether it is by the very nature of the circumstance, he nevertheless has set up before the American people the necessity for re-examination of the age-old Monroe doctrine and has brought up for fresh scrutiny the policies of President Woodrow Wilson that were designed to establish eventually world peace by collectivist action.

***Wilson Policies Fail***

I think that it must be admitted that the Wilson policies for international peace have not worked. Anyone who examines them squarely and frankly must recognize one outstanding inescapable fact: they have proved to be the illusions of an idealist.

They constitute a landmark, however, and in so doing it seems to me they should serve as a guide on what not to do. Candidly, the Wilson policies, beautiful in theory that they were, have been shown to be futile because they did not consider the perfidy nor the chicanery of European statsmen.

It requires only a brief review of the history of the League of Nations to reveal the definite conclusion that there is an absolute lack of sincerity on the part of the European statesmen. Each one has been concerned only with gains and advantages accruing to his own nation. His actions have been permeated to the core with selfishness, sometimes aggravated with desires for personal distinction. The league fell down in dealing with Russia's Stalin and Germany's Hitler. It took a mighty flop in the movement to check Italy's Mussolini in Ethiopia. Having flattened out, none of the three above mentioned has any respect for the league authority. When you add to this the absolute dismissal of the league as a world influence as was done by Japan, you have less than nothing left.

• • •

Mussolini said the other day that in order to straighten out the European tangle it would be necessary to wipe out all of the "Wilsonian illusions." He could have referred only to the Wilsonian slogan upon which we entered the World war, namely, the "war to make the world safer for democracy." Later, it will be remembered, the World war was "the war to end war." Neither of these slogans bore fruit. Each was an illusion, a dream of world peace held by a great man whose only weakness in assuming world leadership was that he trusted other statesmen as he trusted the American people, to arrive at a sound conclusion and stick to it.

***Wilsonian Illusions***

I am not prepared to say that the Wilson policies led us in a wrong direction. The fact remains, however, that the war that was to make the world safe for democracy led directly into destruction of democracy and the establishment of fascism and communism in various parts of the world as an important factor in the government of peoples.

All of this, of course, was not visible nor predictable at the time the policies were initiated. It is all too plain now, however, and that is why President Roosevelt can very well be governed in his new move with the Pan-Americas. He can proceed upon a Pan-American basis with at least a hope of success because it is quite apparent that the Americas, North and South, can protect themselves if arrangements for prevention of war relate only to the western hemisphere. International affairs will have to be considered, obviously. But among those authorities with whom I have talked about this problem, there seems to be little doubt that if the idea of collectivist action, first enunciated in the Wilson policies—is to avail anything, it must be applied not to the world but to a section of the world.

• • •

I noted in the official agenda, the program outline of the Buenos Aires conference, that no reference at all was made to the Monroe doctrine. Apparently, that course had to be followed. The Monroe doctrine is a ticklish matter among our neighbors to the South. Frankly, they do not like it.

***No Boss Wanted***

Considering all of the factors involved in the Monroe doctrine, there seems no conclusion ahead but eventual abandonment of that pronouncement. When I say that, I do not mean that the principles of the Monroe doctrine need be thrown into the ocean. Yet, the name has been the focal point around which much antagonism has been built up and the romantic Latin blood of South America can hardly be expected ever again to subscribe to the Monroe doctrine by that name.

What, then, is the course?

The Monroe doctrine, whether it was ever so intended, has placed the United States in a position where it is made to appear as a boss. No nation of people enjoys being bossed. So, if the Buenos Aires conference is to result in a definite understanding by which the peoples of the western hemisphere are welded together in an effective group, some understanding must be evolved which will replace the ill will engendered by the Monroe doctrine. Possibly, that understanding lies in the direction being followed by President Roosevelt. Apparently, he is willing to subordinate the Monroe doctrine and concede to those other peoples on behalf of the United States the end of our overlordship.

Undoubtedly, it will be a slow process. Present generations throughout the South American nations will be suspicious for a time and will move with caution but there are many who believe in eventual agreement among the western nations on a general policy that will keep us all out of European and Far Eastern entanglements to a greater extent than ever before.

The thing that may break down the apparent Roosevelt plan is the circumstance of drawn swords and cocked rifles in Europe at the moment. It is entirely possible that before concrete adhesion among the North and South American peoples can be accomplished, explosions in Europe may take place. If they do, propaganda agents of the conflicting powers will be abroad instanter. Attempts will be made to alienate various nations in the western hemisphere, to align them with one side or the other in the European controversy. It may well be that this condition will ruin the Roosevelt program before it gets under way but a start has been made and succeeding generations will profit if the peoples of North and South America can come to regard themselves as an individual group that is willing to make sacrifices necessary to cut off European connections when the European statesmen insist on fighting.

• • •

There was a great banquet held at one of the hotels in Washington a few days ago. It is not unusual for great banquets to be held in the capital city but most of them are just banquets. The one to which I refer, however, had a significance that is quite unusual. It commemorated the establishment of the United States patent office and celebrated its one hundredth birthday.

***Birthday Observed***

Something like eleven hundred inventors, research scientists, representatives of industry and patent office officials entered the great dining room by candlelight. Then, the toastmaster waved a wand over one of the greatest inventions of modern times and the room was bathed in an electric brilliance the like of which has never been seen. The action typified, told the story of, scientific development in the United States and throughout the world.

© Western Newspaper Union.

## "Mirror Boy" Who Sees Backward

WHILE Eleanor Mangert, his school teacher, looks on, Harold Elliott, eleven-year-old Moundsville, W. Va., boy afflicted with "mirror image," copies a series of numbers and letters as they look to him. He spent a full day being interviewed and examined by psychiatric and medical experts at Johns Hopkins hospital. The experts traced his trouble to an early illness, but time and a more detailed case history of the boy will be needed to entirely solve the case.

# STAR DUST

## Movie • Radio

★★★ By VIRGINIA VALE ★★★

TO COSTUME Designer Royer went all of the research information on wardrobes for the 20th Century-Fox production "Lloyds of London," which embraced four distinct fashion periods between the years 1771 and 1806.

The overflow work for the wardrobe department caused an annex to be appropriated to house the day and night shifts of seamstresses, numbering eighty to each shift, and other wardrobe workers required to create the costumes.

—★—

The newest and one of the loveliest celebrities of the air is Deanna Durbin, the thirteen year old girl whom Eddie Cantor recently added to his Sunday night broadcasts over CBS.

**Eddie Cantor**

Little Miss Durbin is really young — quite unlike some of the girls fresh from Hollywood who have conveniently forgotten half a dozen years. If you have heard her on the air you know that she sings beautifully.

—★—

**Monte Blue, a favorite with film fans for many years, plays the lead in a picture that rekindles the pioneer agricultural west of a century ago. He has the role of John Deere, in "The Blacksmith's Gift," a story which recounts the life and times of the man who gave to the world the steel plow. The action takes place in 1837 in the Illinois of Abraham Lincoln's day.**

—★—

Mary Rogers, daughter of the beloved Will, has gone to work at the where her father made pictures, and has the bungalow dressing room which he used, and which no one else has had since his death.

The beautiful Mary deserves a lot of credit. Her father's influence would have helped with a movie career, but she went out and got theatrical experience instead.

—★—

When you see "White Hunter," sympathize with Warner Baxter and June Lang in the scenes where they battle against a tropical hurricane. The hurricane was made right in the studio, of course, but was none the less violent because of that. Baxter and Miss Lang spent a whole day with that storm, what with rehearsals and retakes and one thing and another, and were black and blue when it was over, where they had been bruised by objects blown against them by the wind.

**June Lang**

—★—

*ODDS AND ENDS . . . It cost Trevor $20,000 to visit her parents recently; she'd have received that sum for making a picture for an outside studio, when she finished "Career Woman" . . . The color in "The Garden of Allah" is beautiful, and Charles Boyer's performance is excellent, but Marlene Dietrich's makes you wish she hadn't been able to get the role away from Merle Oberon . . . When Eleanor Powell arrived in New York some time ago she gave an exhibition of tap dancing in the railway station, to the delight of the crowds.*

© Western Newspaper Union.

# Ask Me Another

## A General Quiz

© Bell Syndicate.—WNU Service.

1. In what zone do the trade winds blow?
2. What is meant by the gloaming?
3. In printing, what is a font?
4. What is a virtuoso?
5. Of what is gingham made?
6. Where was Gilead?
7. What does anthropoid mean?
8. About how long was a cubit?
9. Into what body of water does the Ganges flow?
10. In music, what is a triad?
11. Was Lafayette ever captured in battle?
12. Did women vote in some states before the Federal amendment granted them suffrage?

**Answers**

1. The torrid.
2. Dusk.
3. A complete assortment of type of a particular kind.
4. A master, in some art.
5. Cotton.
6. East of the Jordan.
7. Man-like.
8. 18 to 20 inches.
9. The Bay of Bengal.
10. A chord of three tones.
11. Yes, while defending the frontier of France.
12. Yes.

## Shot His Way Home

In 1876 the St. Louis National Baseball club had a player whose one and only ambition was to make a home run. After months of futile attempts, he reached a state of exasperation one day which caused him to stretch a two-base hit into a home run—by shooting two infielders. Intoxicated with success, he also shot the umpire.—Collier's Weekly.

From a MEDICAL JOURNAL THIS: ABOUT COLDS!

"The researches (of these doctors) led them to believe that colds result from an acid condition of the body. To overcome this they prescribe various alkalies." That's why, today... LUDEN'S MENTHOL COUGH DROPS 5¢ NOW CONTAIN AN ALKALINE FACTOR

Watch Your Kidneys!

Be Sure They Properly Cleanse the Blood

YOUR kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as nature intended—fail to remove impurities that poison the system when retained.

Then you may suffer nagging backache, dizziness, scanty or too frequent urination, getting up at night, puffiness under the eyes; feel nervous, miserable—all upset.

Don't delay? Use Doan's Pills. Doan's are especially for poorly functioning kidneys. They are recommended by grateful users the country over. Get them from any druggist.

DOAN'S PILLS



ADVERTISING

. . . is as essential to business as is rain to growing crops. It is the keystone in the arch of successful merchandising. Let us show you how to apply it to your business.