News Review of Current Events the World Over

European Powers Agree on Blockade of Spain to Insulate the War—Farm Tenant Program—Supreme Court Controversy Grows.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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SO FAR as the international non-intervention committee can do it, the war in Spain is now insulated. Representatives of 26 European nations agreed that no more volunteers for either side in the civil conflict should be permitted to enter the Iberian peninsula, effective at midnight February 20; and they laid plans for a complete blockade by land and sea that would prevent the importation of any more men or war munitions. Only Portugal dissented, objecting to establishment of frontier guards on her territory; Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Russia ignored the Portuguese protests and went ahead with the blockade plans, which are to be put into effect by March 6.

The decisions were reached after France delivered a virtual ultimatum to her fellow committee members to end their bickering and warned Italy she would not stand for "open invasion of Spain." The French were quick to place guards at all strategic points along the Franco-Spanish frontier.

The international naval patrols presumably will not have authority to stop vessels suspected of carrying arms and men to Spain, but will report ship movements to the committee for action and will place observers on the vessels to check cargoes.

Supposing this blockade to be successful, it may well be that the Spanish civil war will die of inanition. Then may be brought about that which the international committee seeks—international mediation between the insurgents and the loyalist government.

For the present both sides are renewing their efforts for decisive victory. The fascists, still driving hard at the "life line" that connects Madrid and Valencia, also are attacking the capital itself again. Their airplanes made two night bombing assaults on the city and its environs, killing a number of persons; and their artillery constantly shells the highways to Valencia.

The loyalist government, at its temporary seat in Valencia, took a new mandate of absolute power from all Popular Front parties and mobilized all available man power to oppose the insurgent forces. All military classes of the last five years were drafted for immediate war service.

PRIME MINISTER STANLEY BALDWIN'S government of Great Britain is asking for $7,500,000,000 to finance its "war plan in time of peace," and is meeting with determined opposition from the Liberals, Laborites and others in parliament. These especially object to the plan for enlargement of the nation's land, sea and air forces by a $2,000,000,000 loan and increased taxation.

Sec'y of Navy Swanson

Commenting on the British naval construction program, Admiral William D. Leahy, chief of naval operations of the American navy, served notice that any foreign nations expanding their navies beyond the standards of recent treaties might expect that the United States would match their construction. He said it was his understanding that this nation was definitely committed to the maintenance of a "navy second to none." To maintain that principle, he declared, it would become necessary for the United States to build new ships if other powers did.

The present United States building program calls for start of construction this year on two new capital ships. Great Britain already has laid the keels of two new craft and the program announced in London calls for the start, after April 1, of construction of a third new vessel. When Britain lays a third keel, then this government is likely to start similar construction.

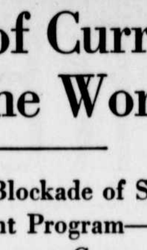
IN A special message to congress President Roosevelt urged legislation to "improve the present intolerable condition" of 3,000,000 farm tenants, presenting this four-point program:

1. Action to open the doors of ownership to tenants who now have the requisite ability and experience.
2. Modest loans, with the necessary guidance and education to prevent small owners from slipping into tenancy.
3. The retirement by public agencies of land proved to be unsuited for farming and assistance to the families living thereon in finding homes on good land.
4. Cooperation with state and local agencies of government to improve the general leasing system.

Congressional leaders promised immediate action, and Chairman Jones of the house agriculture committee said the Jones-Bankhead $500,000,000 farm tenant bill now before congress would be made the basis for the new legislation.

The President's farm tenancy committee, headed by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, recommended that congress make available "a definite sum each year for a number of years" for a land-purchase program, but mentioned no definite figure. Wallace said, however, he thought Jones' proposal for $50,000,000 annual appropriation for ten years is "reasonable."

THOUGH President Roosevelt persisted in his intention to force through congress his measure to "reform" the federal judiciary, law-makers who have been his warm supporters are coming out one by one in hot opposition to his plan to pack the Supreme court. Among them are Senator Bennett C. Clark of Missouri and Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, both leading Democrats. They studied the scheme carefully before issuing their statements. The announcements of these men was scarcely offset by a radio address by Attorney General Homer S. Cummings, dutifully defending the President's plan.



Senator Clark

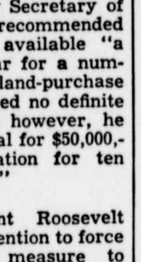
Senator Clark said he was entirely in accord with the minor proposals in Mr. Roosevelt's scheme, but was totally unable to agree with the provisions for packing the Supreme court.

Then came Senator Wheeler, stalwart radical, with a statement which it was reported he made public over the protests of the White House. He said in part:

"I am, always have been, and will continue to be opposed to the usurpation of legislative functions by the courts; I am, have been, and will be opposed to usurpation of legislative and judicial functions by the executive branch of the government.

"There is nothing democratic, progressive, or fundamentally sound in the proposal advanced by the administration."

Attorney General Cummings advanced these two reasons for supporting the President's proposal:



Atty. Gen. Cummings

New blood should be injected into the judiciary in order that the Constitution shall be construed in keeping with the changing needs produced by new complexities of national life.

The congestion of dockets in the federal courts is largely due to the inability of aged and infirm judges to perform their share of the work.

Investigation has shown, however, that the second reason is unsound.

Commenting on Mr. Cummings' speech, Senator Glass of Virginia said: "I think it indicates that the country is in infinitely greater need of an attorney general than of additional judges on the Supreme court or of judicial wet nurses for six of the present members of the court."

Senator Minton of Indiana defended the plan in a radio address but probably did it more harm than good, for he frankly admitted the purpose of the administration is to change the personnel and views of the Supreme court, in order that President Roosevelt's New Deal program will be held constitutional.

Other senators who came out against the President's plan were Nye of North Dakota, radical Republican; Bone of Washington, Democrat; Burke of Nebraska, Democrat; and Van Nuys of Indiana, Democrat. On the other side were McAdoo of California; Thomas of Utah and La Follette of Wisconsin.

Senators Bone and Wheeler introduced a resolution for a constitutional amendment that would give congress the power to override Supreme court decisions by a two-thirds vote of both houses, but only after a national election involving congressional seats has intervened so that the people have had a chance to speak on the issue.

The American Federation of Labor and Labor's Nonpartisan league declared their support of the court packing scheme, and the National Grange expressed its opposition. Legislatures of many states adopted resolutions for or against the plan, most of them being in opposition.

Mr. Roosevelt received several groups of senators, some of whom are among those opposing the packing of the Supreme court, and reiterated his intention to push his plan through congress without modification. He said the people had voted for a New Deal and were going to get it.

REPRESENTATIVES of the soft coal operators met with John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, in New York to start negotiations for a new wage and hour agreement for 400,000 miners. Mr. Lewis said to the operators: "There is no friction in our industry. Peace dwells in the coal fields. I hope this conference will be successful in working out a new agreement without loss of time to a single worker."

Thereupon he presented the demands of the union, which were promptly dubbed "utterly impossible" and "quite amazing" by Charles O'Neill, president of the Eastern Coal Sales corporation.

Chief demands made by Lewis are:

1. A six hour day and a five day week in place of the present work week of 35 hours.
2. An increase in daily wages from $5.50 to $6 in the north, and from $5.10 to $5.60 in the south.
3. Time and a half for overtime and double time for Sundays and holidays.
4. A minimum of 200 days' employment each year.

The operators proposed a 40 hour week with no increase in wages.

SCAFFOLDING on the Golden Gate bridge at San Francisco collapsed and crashed through the great safety net, carrying with it thirteen men who plunged 200 feet into the bay. Ten were killed and the others seriously injured.

The tragedy, first major accident during construction of the $36,000,000 span, which is to open next May, was caused by a broken roller caster. The state industrial accident commissioner said an inspector had twice reported that the scaffolding was unsafe, but this was emphatically denied by Philip Hart, president of the construction company.

PAUL V. McNUTT, former governor of Indiana, has been appointed to the desirable post of high commissioner to the Philippines, at a salary of $18,000 a year and with residence in a huge palace in Manila. Mr. McNutt is still considered one of the possibilities for the Presidential nomination by the Democrats in 1940. It had been thought he might get a place in the present cabinet.

THIRTY-EIGHT Germans have been under arrest in Russia for several months and are held without trial. The German ambassador to Moscow, Count von der Schulenberg, has made "serious" representations to the Soviet government and demanded that a representative of the embassy be permitted to interview the prisoners. Presumably the men are suspected of espionage and sabotage, in connection with the anti-Stalin conspiracy.

ONE officer and five enlisted men of the marine corps were killed and ten others were injured when a 5-inch shell exploded in the improperly closed breech of a gun on the battleship Wyoming. The accident occurred during battle maneuvers off the coast of southern California.

The men killed were: Capt. Edward J. Trumble, Alexandria, Va.; John Bauer, Cincinnati, Ohio; Albert Enos, Cambridge, Mass.; Joseph W. Bozynski, Pittsburgh; Clinton Walker, Boykin, S. C.; and Richard Frye, Johnstown, Pa.

GEN. SENJURO HAYASHI, premier and foreign minister of Japan, in a formal statement of policy to the parliament, said his government would "pay special attention" to the adjustment of the empire's relations with soviet Russia and China, and urged those nations to cease their quarrels with Japan and try to comprehend Japan's position and aims in East Asia. He called attention to the fact that Japan no longer is bound by any naval limitations treaty but declared "there shall be no change in our policy of strict adherence to the principle of nonmenace and nonaggression."

Sugiyama

Hayashi's cabinet decided on a budget reduction of approximately 8½ per cent; Lieut. Gen. Hajime Sugiyama, the new war minister, objected to any cut in the huge army budget, but it was reduced slightly.

RESTORATION of the Hapsburg dynasty in Austria was openly advocated by Chancellor Kurt Schuschnigg, who committed his government party to that proposition. He intimated that a plebiscite would be held to decide the question.

The chancellor asserted that increasing official support would be given to the campaign to place Archduke Otto of Hapsburg again on the throne which his father, the Emperor Karl, "temporarily renounced" November 11, 1918. The archduke is twenty-four years old.

HEADED by President Roosevelt and Vice President Garner, 1,600 Democratic government officials, state committeemen and prominent figures in the worlds of business and sports honored James A. Farley with a banquet in Washington. Mr. Garner was master of ceremonies and called the roll of distinguished guests by states. Mr. Roosevelt made a speech.

HOT SAUCES ARE EASY TO MIX UP

Use Proper Recipes and Follow Them Strictly.

By EDITH M. BARBER.

ONE of the most popular of the fine hot sauces with almost every one is the well-known Hollandaise. It is one of the easiest sauces to make if the proper recipe is followed. Too often, however, it is made unsuccessfully, although more pains than are necessary are taken in its production. Many recipes for Hollandaise call for washing the butter. Contrary to general opinion, this has no effect on the texture of the sauce. These directions originally were put into American recipes for this French sauce in the interest of flavor. Unsalted butter is commonly used in Europe and produces a sauce with a delicate bland flavor. In this country, however, a little salt in the sauce is generally liked. Why take salt out and then put it back?

The egg yolks, lemon juice and half the butter should be put into a small saucepan, which should be held over hot water while the butter is melting and the sauce thickening and while you stir vigorously. The rest of the butter should then be stirred in and the sauce beaten until it again thickens. Warning! Do not use a double boiler for this sauce unless you are very careful not to allow the water to boil in the lower part. Warning number two! When the sauce has thickened, set it aside if you are not ready to use it at once. and reheat it, stirring constantly, just before serving.

There are many variations of this type of sauce. You will find them under various names in different cook books. Most authorities agree that tarragon vinegar, in which herbs have been cooked, is used instead of lemon juice for Bearnaise. For a Mousseline sauce, heavy cream is beaten into Hollandaise. For a Trianon, sherry, instead of all or part of the lemon juice, is used.

A very delicate sauce, not unlike a Hollandaise, is made by combining egg yolks, sour cream and tarragon vinegar. This sauce may be cooked in a small double boiler until it thickens after a vigorous beating. For the lack of a better name I call this special sauce. It may be used with fish or vegetables.

The boiled salad dressings which may be served hot or cold do not belong exactly in any classification. They are thickened with a little flour but also demand egg yolks. The recipe for Bavarian sauce which I obtained in Germany is suitable to be used as a sauce for fish or veal or as a dressing for greens, over which it should be poured while it is hot.

Hollandaise Sauce.

½ cup butter
2 egg yolks
1 tablespoon lemon juice
¼ teaspoon salt
Few grains cayenne

Divide the butter into two pieces, put one piece in a saucepan with the yolks of eggs and lemon juice, place the saucepan in a larger one containing hot water, stir constantly until the butter is melted, then add the second piece of butter and stir until it thickens. Remove from the fire, season with salt and cayenne and serve at once. If the mixture curdles from overcooking add two tablespoons of heavy cream and beat well.

Bearnaise Sauce.

Make foundation recipe for Hollandaise sauce, but substitute tarragon vinegar for lemon juice and add two teaspoons chopped parsley just before serving.

Mousseline Sauce.

Make foundation recipe for Hollandaise sauce and beat in gradually one-half cup heavy cream.

Special Sauce.

2 egg yolks
¾ cup sour cream
1 tablespoon tarragon vinegar
Salt
Paprika

Beat egg yolks slightly; add other ingredients and stir over hot water until sauce begins to thicken. This sauce is delicious with cauliflower, asparagus, broccoli or with fish.

Mint Sauce.

½ cup vinegar
1 tablespoon sugar
⅓ cup chopped mint leaves

Heat vinegar, remove from the fire, add the sugar and stir until dissolved. Add the mint leaves and stand in a warm place for one hour. More sugar may be used.

Maitre d'Hotel Butter.

¼ cup butter
1 tablespoon minced parsley
1 tablespoon lemon juice

Cream butter and add parsley and lemon juice and beat well. Serve with broiled meats or fish.

German Dressing.

2 strips bacon
1 tablespoon flour
2 egg yolks
¼ cup water
¼ cup vinegar
Pepper, salt, paprika

Cut bacon in small pieces, fry lightly and remove from fire. Add flour and blend well with bacon fat. Stir in beaten egg yolks, add water and vinegar and stir over a low fire a few minutes until smooth. Season to taste with pepper, salt, and paprika.

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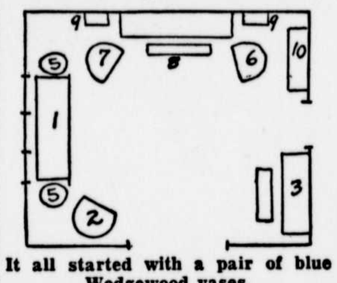
Household Hints

By BETTY WELLS

IT ALL started with a pair of blue Wedgewood vases. They were wedding gifts—heavenly ones—and the bride said, "Let's have our living room in blue!" Many a beautiful room starts, just that way. Maybe the nucleus will be a Ming vase or a good Hitchcock chair or a family sampler, as the case may be. This particular bride has her blue living room now and everyone is happy, including those who visit her there.

The walls of the rather large, square room are oyster white and the floor is covered with a Chinese rug in beige with blue figures. A sofa (1) and an easy chair (2) form the main furniture group and go beneath three windows with occasional tables (5) conveniently by. The sofa is covered in blue frieze and the chair in sand colored frieze. A new type spinet piano (3) stands in an opposite wall with the secretary (10) near. Two more easy chairs (6 and 7) stand in front of the fireplace—one is in dulled apricot velvet, the other is old gold. A long low table (8) stands in front of the fireplace and two small



It all started with a pair of blue Wedgewood vases.

cabinets (9) hold lamps at either side.

The three windows together are treated as one with straight window curtains of fine net and to-the-floor draperies finished at the top with a curving swag drapery. The draperies are of English chintz with a dark blue ground and a mellowed floral design.

A pair of crystal lamps, a marine painting over the fireplace, accessories in brass, two Currier and Ives prints in blond wood frames—and the room is complete.

Well, no, it isn't complete. For these are very newly-weds and their idea has been to create as happy and home-like a living room as they can afford now, but it will be an ever-growing, ever-changing room.

The Wedgewood vases? Oh, they stand on the mantel proud as peacocks!

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A "Fixing Fold."

Lights out. Fuse blown. Hey, where's a candle? Got any fuses? Oh, heavens! run over to the Browns and see if they have any.

It is just such crises as these that can make a pleasant home into rather a hectic one. We remember moments of sheer chaos resulting from blown fuses in the middle of a party. Other small but important details in the gentle art of keeping a home often can cause momentary headaches that seem pretty silly since a little planning might avert them.

We are strongly in favor of a "fixing fold" somewhere in the house. We have in mind a simple compact cabinet, preferably on the first floor, with such things as extra fuses, an electric torch, a screw driver and an assortment of nails and screws all ready to hand. You might even find space for it on the wall of the kitchen and we're certain that you could find the right

Lights Out, Fuse Blown.

size cabinet for such a purpose in the array of steel ones that most stores have now.

This cabinet would be inviolate—hands off except for emergencies. You might include strong twine and furniture glue in your list of "fix-its"—thumb tacks, mending tape, good sharp scissors (woe unto little Margaret if caught using them for paper dolls).

We have a hunch that most husbands who hate to work around the house are that way mainly because they never can find any tools. Flash a "fixing fold" on your own best half when he comes home this Saturday afternoon before you bring up that mile long list of little "please-fix-thises". First thing you know he'll be looking for something to tear up and rebuild! And he'll end up with a great deal more leisure time if the materials for mending and repairing household necessities are easy to find and ready to use.

And one more addition—a group of duplicate keys for all important doors in the house can be kept in this closet to smooth life's way.

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Household Questions

Winter Salad—Mix one cup of celery with one cup of tart apples and half cup of walnuts. Cut the celery and apples into very small dice and combine with mayonnaise or cream dressing. Add walnuts just before serving. Garnish with celery tips.

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Sometimes ink stains can be removed from the hands by rubbing them with the inside of a banana peel.

• • •

You can produce your own sour milk for use in sour-milk recipes by simply adding a teaspoon of vinegar to each cup of fresh sweet milk.

• • •

Cane-bottomed chairs should be brushed to remove all dust and then washed with salt and water and placed in the open air to dry. This treatment tightens up the cane.

• • •

If the roof should leak and stain your ceiling, cover the stain with block magnesia. Rub the block over the spot until the stain is covered, then smooth over with the tips of your fingers. It works like magic.

• • •

If you want to make bread crumbs in a hurry and have not a sieve or a large grater, put the bread in the oven or under the grill a few minutes to dry, but not to get brown. Then rub the two pieces together, and you will have quite good crumbs for eggs and bread crumbing or for stuffing.

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