often been called "the key nation of Europe." Now, as never before, this designation is apt. For the eyes of all European governments are watching the shifts and changes in the French Cabinets these days, and foreign policies of many countries are modified accordingly,

An article in "Current History" points out that, since the National (Chamberlain) Government of Great Britain is a Government of the Right or Conservative elements, it is greatly to its interest to have a government of the Right in France, too. Hence the break-up of the French Popular Front, coming simultaneously with the resignation of Leon Blum, Leftist Premier, last week, was cheered mightily in London.

In Berlin, too, the fall of the Blum Cabinet was hailed as the opening of a new era, with French policy more favorably disposed toward Germany. A likelihood of the early drawing away from the Franco-Soviet pact by the new French Government was also cause for rejoicing there, strengthening Hitler's hand to make faster work of Czechoslovakia (or Alsace-Lorraine or Danzig or Lithuania).

At home in France the nation was apparently not so pleased. Leon Jouhaux, French labor leader, claiming followers numbering six million, was furious at the forced break-up of the Popular Front, threatened a general strike of all industry. Socialists and Communists alike, who together form the largest bloc in the Chamber, cried "Down with the Daladier Government!" The former would not lend the government their support when invited to do so; the latter were excluded as being too extreme for a Centre or Right government,

For a moment, then, France was close to revolution which was kept from coming to a head by the realization that "another 1789" in France would precipitate a general European war. Why? Because civil war in France would create a situation there directly comparable to the situation in Spain; the armies of Hitler and Mussolini would undoubtedly plunge into the conflict and there you would have it.

The new government is representative of only a small section of the French people, with pressure being brought to bear on it from both the Right and the Left. The crisis is still on; France will be worth watching for the next few weeks and every new development will be significant.

CONSERVATIVE LEADER: Every day in every way the list of prospective candidates for leadership of Canbigger and bigger. Sometimes rumor | ton, N.Y.

WATCH FRANCE: France has | augments it, later to be denied. present five candidates are prominently mentioned: Arthur Purvis, former Chairman of the National Employment Commission: Hon. Dr. R. J. Manion, former Minister of Railways and Canals: Hon. J. Earl Lawson, once Minister without portfolio in the Bennett Cabinet: Denton Massey, Toronto M. P., and Sydney Smith, President of the University of Manitoba.

> WHAT HITLER MAY PROPOSE: The foreign affairs commentator who writes under the pen-name of Augur reported last week in his private service to London subscribers that Germany would propose a sensational deal for extensive territorial acquisition when Chancellor Hitler visits Premier Mussolini in Rome next

Augur said Germany would ask a free hand in gradual absorption of the tion. Danubian region as far as the Black Sea. In exchange, it would offer to help Italy eventually to take from France the rich strip of French territory along the Italian border including the Savoie region and the Mediterranean port of Nice: the Mediterranean island of Corsica, and the North African possession of Tunisia.

PRESIDENTIAL SETBACK: President Roosevelt's administration staggered under an overwhelming blow dealt in the United States House of Representatives last week when number of Democrat members "crossed the floor of the House" and voted with the other side against the President's Government Re-organization Bill. The issue was one of increasing Presidential powers to permit long overdue reforms to be made in the executive tranch of the government.

Observers say the defeat in such a manner of the Re-organization Bill means a big drop in the prestige of the President, that it will mark the beginning of a nation-wide struggle between F.D.R. and his "big business"

READY IN AUGUST: The longheralded transatlantic air service on a twenty-four-hour schedule between New York and Foynes, Ireland, will start this summer, perhaps by the first of August, it was officially announced from New York last week. (Passengers and mail will be carried-commercial flights must wait till later.) According to the schedule, two planes will take off simultaneously from opposite sides of the Atlantic, an Imperial Airways "pick-a-back" plane from Ireland, a Pan-American Airways ada's Conservative Party is growing | Boeing seaplane from Port Washing-

#### Says Stratosphere The Has Possibilities **BOOK SHELF** Harnessing and Storing of Atomic By ELIZABETH EEDY

Huxley.

Governor, is back, too, with some

take alarm and move mysteriously

The charaterization, the witty

style and the swift-moving action of

the plot grip the reader's interest

from the first page to the last, and

vividly re-create, from the writer's

first-hand knowledge, the sights,

wilds in which the scene is set.

sounds and smells of the African

Murder on Safari, by Elspeth Hux-

ley, pub. by Reginald Saunders, To-

To Stop Avalanches

By planting thousands of alder

bushes on the upper slopes of the

Alps, the Swiss Government hope to

These tremendous falls of snow,

which rush down the mountain sides

at express speed, have caused heavy

loss of life and great damage to pro-

perty in years gone by. The object

of planting the bushes is to hold the

snows in the upper Alps and so check

the first movement which gathers

himself as bait.

check avalanches.

Energy Are Among Them \* MURDER ON SAFARI, by Elspeth

The great potentialities to be derived from the exploration of the strat-A new type of murder story came osphere, among which the harnessing into being last autumn with the puband storing of atomic energy was. lication of Elspeth Huxley's "Murder perhaps, the most important, were at Government House," which was at discussed by Squadron Leader John once a satire on high official life in A. Sully, until recently commanding Chania colony and a cracking good officer of an R.C.A.F. squadron at thriller. All-round fun. Now Mrs. Winnipeg, in addressing the Kiwanis Huxley has done it again with "Mur-Club of Montreal last week. The speaker expressed the view that the der on Safari." conquest of the stratosphere was but Vachell, the Canadian sleuth who tracked down the killer of Chania's

a matter of time. Purposes of the explorations being even stranger problems to solve. Can made in the stratosphere, said Squada herd of buffaloes prove the alibi ron Leader Scully, were many. Scienof Rutley, Lady Baradate's conceited tists were trying to discover what the changes in air pressure and temchauffeur? Why did the elephants peratures were at that level in comparison with sea level, and what was away? Who put walnuts on the imthe wind speed, believed to blow steadprovised coffin containing the remains ily from the east. Efforts also were of Lady Baradale? Then there's the directed to finding out what the electhrilling climax, in which Vachell trical conductivity of the air at stratsets a trap for the murderer with osphere height was for broadcasting purposes and for the navigation of air machines.

Would Revolutionize Industry

The explorers also were interested in discovering all they could about the sheet of ozone which was supposed to envelop the earth at a great height and which stops or "dampens" the ultra short-waves which scientists say would otherwise destroy all life on earth. The effect of the rarefied air of the stratosphere on radio signals was another problem waiting

"Most important consideration of all, however," the speaker said, "was that the discovery of how to harness and store atomic energy would completely revolutionize industry, and would probably be the salvation of civilization when the earth's present stock of coal and oil came to an end."

British imports last year totalled \$5,148,560,000, a high record of many years.

Construction is so extensive in Colombia that a shortage of materials is

threatened. Guards along the Russian border

are using dogs to detect trespassers.

force as it rushes downwards. Chinese pigtails are being used in making textiles in Bradford, Eng-

# South America Progressing More Rapidly Than North

# Australia Plans Research Course

Institutions On Aeronautics to Cost Million Dollars

Hon. R. G. Casey, federal treasurer, has announced Aurtralia will set up aeronautical and engineering research institutions at a capital cost of \$1,-

The establishments will be based on recommendations contained in a report by H. E. Wimperis, former director of the British Air Ministry at Farnborough.

Mr. Casey said the Wimperis report directed attention to the need for creating a chair and department of aeronautics, with a reader in meteorology, at one of the universities. This would ensure a supply of aeronautical engineers for military and civil avia-Experimental Work

An establishment equipped for experimental work in wind-tunnels for engine tests, and for the physical tests of aircraft instruments and other apparatus, would cost \$572,000 with an annual maintenance cost of about \$50,-000, Mr. Casey estimated.

In addition, capital cost of building and equipment for a national reference standards laboratory at Canberra would be \$320,000, with a maintenance cost of roughly \$40,000. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# News In Review

Fear War With Russia TOKIO. - The danger of conflict with Soviet Russia is increasingly claiming the attention of Japanese leaders and the public.

Persistent rumors of preparations -lacking official confirmation - and bellicose statements on both sides have intensified public anxiety. In informed quarters it was understood Japan recently moved some

regular army units from China battlefronts to Manchoukuo to man the border of Manchoukuo and Soviet Siberia.

Chinese Prepare Push SHANGHAL - Chinese said this week they were preparing a gigantic drive toward the Yangtse River in an effort to retake Nanking, the capital they lost to the Japanese Dec. 11. New victories along the Tientsin-Pukow Railway and Taierchwang fronts were seen by the Chinese as an inspiration for the new offensive. A strong Chinese force along the Tientsin-Pukow line was reported ready to strike out toward Pengpu,

Consider Next Move BERLIN,-Chancellor Hitler's next step was debated this week in the wake of the greatest vote of confi-

about 100 miles north of Nanking,

dence ever accorded him. His creation of a greater Germany by annexation of Austria March 13 drew the approval of more than 99 per cent. of the nearly 50,000,000 persons who voted in the April 10 plebis-

Germans speculated whether he bankrupt broker and former president would be inspired to take rapid action of the New York Stock Exchange, was on other Nazi "unfinished" business.

Would Spend \$5,000,000,000

WASHINGTON. - A potential \$5,-000,000,000 program of spending-forrecovery took more definite form this week when President Roosevelt and grand larceny in the misuse of securhis advisers agreed to ask the United States Congress for increased relief appropriations.

In Some Respects, Says Senator Webster, Who Declares That -Interest In the Southern Continent Is Growing Day By Day.

The importance of the nations of the South American continent is today being increasingly recognized by European powers and by the United States, Senator Lorne C. Webster said at Montreal last week in recounting the impressions made on him by a 60-day 15,000 mile visit to that

The unsettled European situation is largely responsible for this new attention to South America, Senator Webster believes; the new attention being exemplified by German, Italian and more recently British radio broadcasts directed at South American listeners. Everywhere in South America representatives of the various world powers are engaged in fostering closer commercial and political intercourse with that continent.

Thoroughly Modern In some respects, the Senator found, South America has passed North America in development. For instance South America has a regular Trans-Atlantic airplane service, car rying passengers, mail and perishable express. Some o' the universities of South America ante-date North American institutions as McGill and Harvard by as much as a hundred years. Good roads are much in evidence throughout the continent, and thoroughly modern motor cars, railways, radios, moving pictures, etc., are to be

"Much of the South American native population is being Anglicized by movies made in the United States and Britain," Senator Webster revealed, "with the younger generation learning the language quite well by this means."

The Younger Generation "The same younger generation is developing an intense na ionalistic spirit, a spirit very much in evidence in other parts of the world," the senator found, "and young leaders are rising rapidly through the continent."

The colorful historical background of South America, and the many attractions it has to offer, give it great potentialities as a tourist mecca, according to the Senator. "Names like Morgan, Raleigh and Captain Kidd, Drake and the Spanish Main, are brought vividly to mind by South America," he said, "and their association with the lands visited lends a distinct fascination."

#### Poor Things

Some girls marry and have nothing but their husbands to show for it .-Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

They also canvassed the possibilities of broadening the Federal Government's present housing activities. such as the United States Housing Authority's program of clearing slums and building homes for low income

Sent Down For Five Years NEW YORK. - Richard Whitney, sentenced last week to serve from five to ten years in prison for grand

Whitney, whose brokerage firm, Richard Whitney & Company, failed on March 8, had pleaded guilty to two indictments charging first degree ities entrusted to his care by the New York Yacht Club and members of his family.

A Delightful Surprise for London (England) Couple

It isn't every British subject who finds his King and Queen at the door in answer to a knock. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Whitaker, old age pensioners (at the right) had that delightful and surprising experience in their London flat, March 29, just as they were preparing for tea. At the left, the King and Queen, during the teatime

CANADA THE EMPIRE

THE WORLD AT LARGE

PRESS

#### CANADA

Morning's the Time

A watch that is wound in the morning will last longer. The tightly wound main spring will stand the shocks and jars of day better than a loose main spring. For the same reason people are fresher and do better work in the mornings. By night they get run down .- Windsor Star.

#### Better Be Careful

Dr. W. T. Crombie, Superintendent of Queen Alexandra Sanitarium, London, Ontario, and noted authority on tuberculosis, has an unpleasant thought for us. If proper tests were taken, he asserts half of the population of Canada would be shown to have tuberculosis. Not that they should be in sanitaria, decidedly not, lel in a British Dominion. but they should protect themselves | clause declares it to be illegal for | that Canadians spent \$603,530 on the against care and overwork lest they find themselves there. - Canadian Magazine.

#### A Big Attraction

Every effort must be put forth b the authorities at Queen's Park to conserve and increase the game fish and wild life in general in this province. That the great Northern Ontario playgrounds and fisherman's paradise are the main attractions to American tourists who left something like \$295,000,000 in this province in 1937, is evidenced in the constant stream of inquiries flowing into the Canadian Travel Bureau each spring. -Guelph Mercury.

#### Camada's War Debt

As shown by the Canada Year Book the war and demobilization expenditures of Canada up to and including the fiscal year 1920 totalled \$1,670,406,236. In the next three years, 1921-23, there were further expenditures of \$23,000,000 odd and since then there have been additional small items chargeable to war. These figures apply only to actual war expenditures. To get the cost of the war there would have to be added to them the large, continuing, outlays for pensions. From 1914 to 1920 the gross debt of Canada rose steeply from \$544,391,369 to \$3,041,529,578 This enormous increase was chiefly but not entirely due to the war expenditures .- Kingston Whig-Stand

#### Those Royal Commissions

The Ottawa Journal laments the now familiar orgy of royal commissions which has marked our Canadian political scene in the past few

But it is a splendid way for a government to skate around responsibility; it is assumed that by appointing a commission they have "done something about it."

The list of commissions in the past few years would be an impressive one. Whether the price of clearing in modern light plane design is the the air in some cases was worth the cost is an open question. Yet one might well wonder where the responsibility of politicians in action begins and where it ends-or if the royal commission is going to become a convenient vehicle for holding electoral support.-Hamilton Spectator.

# THE EMPIRE

Inconsistency The whole of Hungary's agricultural labor market has been disorganized. Why? Because Germany has engaged 20,000 Hungarian agricultural laborers for work in East Prus-

Yet Germany still keeps up her demands for colonies, saying that she needs to find an outlet for her surplus population. - London Sunday Express.

#### "It Has No Parallel"

Those in Canada who cherish the freedom of speech, writing, and public meeting guaranteed by the Constitution are much concerned at the "Padlock" Act recently passed Quebec. The measure has no paralany house to be used to "propogate communism of bolshevism by any means whatsoever," though it is to be noted that in no part of the Act is any attempt made to define these pernicious doctrines . . . Among clementary principles of British constitutional government are freedom of speech, of the press, and of public meeting, subject to the limitations of the criminal law; the right of a man to a fair trial in open court if charged with an offence; and the freedom of the home from arbitrary search. All of these are violated by the new Act, and the anxiety of liberal opinion throughout Canada at the reactionary nature of the measure can well be understood.-Manchester Guardian.

## Expert Visions "Flivver" Plane

Forecasts Mass Production of Airplanes for Private Owners'

Dr. Alexander Klemin, head of New York University's school of acronautics, this week forecast mass production of "flivver" airplanes within five years which would incorporate revolutionary safety devices for the private owner.

In an article in the "Quadrangle" undergraduate publication, Dr. Klemin said developments making for greater safety would include an abolition of rudders to simplify operation, improved air brakes and devices to make "stalling" and "spinning"

The prices of the "flivvers", he added, would be down to those of popular automobiles. Vehicles may be made, he said, which could be used either as airplanes or automobiles.

#### Tricycle Landing Gear

He characterized as the most promising safety development the tricycle landing gear which simplifies landing. Another encouraging factor elimination of rudders, inasmuch as the novice pilot has a hard time coordinating his hands and feet in using ailerons, elevators and rudder, Dr. Klemin found. Lateral control. as in some pres-

ent day experimental types of planes, would be achieved by aileron opera-

The service costs of the "flivver." the article concluded, would be no greater than on the average automobile, and hangar rent would approximate garage rent.

# New Coal Furnace Runs For Weeks

Without Attention to Fuel Supply, Ash Removal or Damper Setting

The head of the house, weary after a season of coal stoking, can look forward to another winter when he won't have to fire the furnace more than once a fortnight, the Mellon Institute reported this week at Pitts-

Dr. E. R. Weidlein, director, at the end of the Institute's first year in its spacious \$6,000,000 home, told trustees of the development of anthracite heating equipment that operates "for weeks at a time" without attention. He told, too, how 218 scientists had spent \$1,062,830 in the year on scien-

tific research on things ranging from shirt collars to dish washing. Pointing to the possibilities of combining heating plants with other household utilities, and of using basements for recreation and other purposes, he said:

Installations of anthracite heating equipment are now operating for weeks at a time, without any attention whatever to the fuel supply, ash removal, or damper settings."

#### Sweep Takes Million Of Canada's Money

Purchases For Irish Hospital Draw On Grand National Race Analyzed

Canadians spent \$1,100,170 on tickets in the Irish hospital sweepstakes on an estimate made for the Canadian Press by statisticians.

The figure was reached as an average of four estimates tused on the assumption that Canadian purchasers had the same probability of drawing prize winners as all other purchasers, These estimates were made of the number of ccasolation prizes drawn

by Canadian horses, horses starting and total prize money. In each case the amount of prize money going to Canadians was divided by the total amount of prize. This, of course, gave a fraction, which was multiplied by \$13,-730,010, the total world sale of tickets.

The statisticians found their four estimates varied only slightly, despite the different methods used in reaching them.

On The Derby Too

The estimate made on consolation prizes gave the total expenditure of Canadians as \$1,073,000, that on horses drawn \$1,130,000, horses starting \$1,-144,000, and by total prizes money, 1 \$1,054,000.

The statisticians also estimated British hospital sweepstake on the Derby last ye when total world sale of tickets was \$10,317,780, indicating a heavy increase in Canadian purchase of Grand National tickets over those bought on the Derby.

On the Grand National sweep, Canadians got 125 of the 1,600 consolation prizes, 104 of the 1,264 horses drawn, 48 of the 576 horses starting and \$618,650 of the total prize money of \$8,057,600.

#### Rat Gives Man A Rare Disease

Is Thrown Into Coma For Two Weeks After Contact With Rodent

DETROIT .- Ill five weeks through contamination by a rat, Samuel Tushman, 32, local poultry dealer, is recovering from a disease of which not more than a dozen cases have been reported in the United States. The malady is known as Weil's disease, or infectious jaundice.

Tushman said he contracted the disease after stumbling over a rat in his shop. He believed that the polson either seeped through his shoes, which were wet, or he was poisoned when he touched the boot with his hands. He was in a coma for two

Dr. Henry F. Vaughan, Detroit Health Commissioner, said that the disease was carried by a minute organism called "leptospira," which may be carried by rodents or other animals or may be found in water or playgrounds. The disease, he said, is usually mild. Only one other case has been reported in the city's medical

### Chinese Trade Shows Decline

Reaction of War-Jap and Foreign Companies Are Affected

Business reports from Shanghai last week emphasized the cumulative repercussions of the undeclared war upon Chinese trade as Japanese continued their push in Shantung Province toward the Lunghai railway.

Foreign firms' trade had slumped

sharply. Japanese business in occupied areas is reported to be less The Timmonsville Leaf Tobacco Company, of Richmond, Va., became the first foreign company to file no-

tice of suspension of business in People Poverty Stricken Business of most American tobacco companies is described as seriously impaired by destruction of factories warehouses, and stocks, inability to trade with the interior, and limiting by the central Chinese government of

available to Shanghai. The oil business also has dwindled and is faced, besides, with a possible Japanese government oil monopoly such as took over the business in Manchoukuo

the amount of foreign exchange made

A decline in kerosene consumption throughout the interior was attributed to the poverty-stricken condition of farmers, many of whose homes and crops have been destroyed.

#### Town For Sale

Want to buy a town? An entire township is for sale near Melbourne, Australia, with electricity and water

It's not very big, but it has its own Post Office and store. Its dozen or so houses were built for employees on a huge reservoir scheme which is now

And in case you ask who wants to buy a town, anyway, there is keen bidding among anglers' clubs and private fishermen, who want to establish anglers' settlement there.

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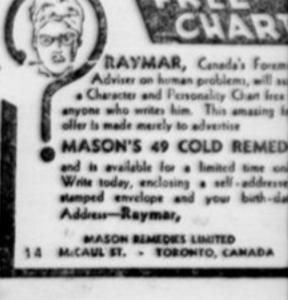
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