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It's all over the leadership of the important Building Trades Union. This fight has been hanging as a threat over the heads of the Federation for many weeks. It came out into the open today with rival factions in a mood so quarrelsome that angry words and threats were exchanged right on the floor of the Convention.

William Green, President of the Federation, has been doing his best to make peace between the two rival ^{camps in} ~~factions in~~ the Building Trades Union. The result of his efforts was a sharp complaint that he and the Executive Council of the Federation had exceeded their authority. The question was taken to the floor of the Convention, and the vote was interpreted as a rebuke to President Green and the Council by an overwhelming majority. And the ^{problems} ~~questions~~ at issue between the two factions in the Building Trades Union remain still unsettled.

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ROOSEVELT

The famous Roosevelt luck evidently extends to the youngest members of the President's family. The fact that young John Roosevelt and his older brother are still alive seems almost to indicate that the day of miracles is not yet ended. A photograph of the car in which Master John crashed through a safety gate slap into a swiftly speeding electric train, shows the front end of that vehicle just one tangled mass of crumpled junk. However, the young gentleman showed some presence of mind. When he realized that he couldn't stop in time to avoid crashing through that safety gate, he contrived to swerve his car so that he side-swiped the train instead of dashing into it headlong.

It may be vulgar curiosity, but I'll venture a lot of people would give a good deal to know just what reply Papa made to the radio message in which Sonny notified him of the accident. The Barney Oldfield proclivities of the President's offspring ~~ix~~ have ~~xxxx~~ had rather more than their share of publicity in the last few months.

GREECE

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It seems only yesterday that everyone was saying that the days of royalty were numbered, that the king-business was practically at an end. But now that has to be said with ~~con-~~ ~~siderable~~ reservations. The royalist ^(triumph) ~~cause~~ that has been expected so long in Greece is now an accomplished fact. Ex-King George the Second, who was kicked out twelve years ago, has received a telegram saying, "All is forgiven. ^{You are now kicked in again.} The lamp is in the window, and the sacrificial calf is ready." Or words to that effect. In short, the people of Hellas want their King again. Pending his return, the country of Pericles and Aristophanes, ^{and Diogenes,} is under the rule of a military dictator. Premier Tsaldaris and his Cabinet ^{— out.} have been decorated with the royal noble order of the boot, And General Kondylis, former ~~ly~~ Minister of War, heads a Cabinet composed entirely of royalists.

That puts General Kondylis in rather a peculiar position. As a Royalist, he is a convert. It is not so long ago that he was an ardent democrat, declaring that, "The people of Hellas are essentially Republican." His adoption of the Royalist faith is so recent as to be almost sudden. The general belief is that,

as and if, King George returns to his throne in Athens, he will be more or less of a figurehead. The ~~royal~~^{real} ruler, they say, will be George Kondylis. He is known as the iron man of Greece. ~~He is~~ also celebrated for his ability to say the right thing at the right time. His popular nickname is "Thunderbolt".

Whatever else he may be, he is obviously a man of genuine ability. He rose to his present position from the lowest ranks in the army. At the age of twenty, he was a guerilla sharpshooter. From that he rose to be corporal, member of Parliament, Prime Minister, Field Marshal, and now again Prime Minister.

Ex-George in London, however, says he'll not take the throne unless the Greek people have a vote about it and say they want him.

GENEVA

The proceedings at Geneva today were more or less cut and dried. Everything went off according to program. The outcome is that fifty-one nations of the world unite to proclaim Italy an outcast. Fifty-two governments volunteer to combine in a boycott of Mussolini and his country. So the land of Dante and D'Annunzio, of Verdi and Leonardo da Vinci, tonight is officially outlawed. That is, so far as the League of Nations is concerned. As foreshadowed yesterday, the only dissenting votes out of sympathy with the League were those of Austria, Hungary and Italy herself, which of course didn't count. And unimportant Albania refrained from voting.

The dramatic feature of the day's proceedings was the ringing defense of his country pronounced by Baron Pompeo Aloisi. The tall, striking envoy of Mussolini made an impassioned plea, which was also a withering condemnation of the League. The Baron asked some questions. He wanted, for instance, to know why "during the war between Japan and China, two charter members of the League, it took the League seventeen months to consider the matter." Then on top of that the League took no action against Japan. He then,

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demanded, "Why did the Gran Chaco business last two years?" And *why* were ~~not~~ Bolivia and Paraguay ^{not} proclaimed outlawed? Why has Italy been signalled out for this prosecution?" Aloisi then pointed out: "In the last fifteen years, Italy has cooperated with the League as much as any other single country." To which he added the question: "How much has Ethiopia cooperated?" Baron Aloisi then made the charge that the League had not even given fair consideration to Italy's complaint against Ethiopia. In general, the burden of his plea was "justice for Italy".

Baron Aloisi's was the only speech of any length delivered today at Geneva. Premier Laval of France contented himself with the words, "France will face her obligations. I've said this to the Council, I now repeat it to the Assembly." Then he concluded, "The Covenant of the League of Nations is our international law."

Equally brief was the statement by Captain Anthony Eden, representing John Bull. He said: "The time has come for action. I am here" he added, "to declare the readiness of His Majesty's Government to take full part. ~~in such action.~~"

} Thus begins the ~~first formal decision of the League of Nations to attempt the purpose for which it was created, the~~

The first and so far the only consequence of that overwhelming vote has been to throw Europe tonight into what is almost a state of panic. Officially, that League decision makes all the fifty-one assenting nations allies of Ethiopia. According to the Covenant of the League, any one of those nations can declare war upon Italy without violating their vows and responsibilities as League Members. Of course such a procedure is of the utmost improbability. However, if the economic boycott is successful, it will be quite bad enough. For Italy will be unable to purchase supplies or anything else in any of those fifty-two countries.

There is one possibility that has not been considered at Geneva. It is all very well for governments to say: "We will not sell anything to Italy." But what will the manufacturers and business men of ~~whose~~ those countries have to say? More important still, what will they do? There is quite a fair chance that this vote at Geneva will merely put a premium upon bootlegging. ^{It} In every language ~~in~~ in the world there is a popular phrase which says, "business is business." Take our own country for instance. The State Department has just seen fit to repeat its warning to the people of the United States that any of our nationals who do business with Italy do so at their own risk. ~~It is interesting to~~ ~~observe that ~~these~~ this partially restores the condition that~~ ~~obtained in Eighteen Twelve. Any American who did business abroad~~ ~~in those days certainly did so at his own ~~risk~~ risk. But that~~ ~~stopped exceedingly few of them.~~

FOLLOW GENEVA

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The world did not have to wait long to hear Italy's answer to that vote by the League. The answer as spoken by Mussolini's delegates before they left Geneva was, "If your boycott means a blockade, that blockade will be considered a declaration of war."

~~Person~~ ~~Person~~

Ludwig.

Oct. 10,

1935.

INTRO TO EMIL LUDWIG

Every so often, when some certain topic is in the forefront of interest, you encounter a man who can give you some intimate close-range observations on that topic. ^{Such is} ~~That is~~ the case with us tonight. The man is ^{the} Emil Ludwig, one of the world's masters of the art of biography -- that same Emil Ludwig who put himself on top with his vivid and compelling life of Napoleon. He has ~~just~~ ^{for a lecture tour -- just in} landed on our shores ^{from} Europe, where he has been studying the problems and personalities of the ^{present} crisis. The personalities, especially -- as you would expect of a biographer.

So the author of "Napoleon" will tell us a thing or two about the Dictator who, in the present international flare-up, seems to feel, for better or for worse, that he too is a man of destiny. ~~The~~ ^{And now, Emil Ludwig.}

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The name of Mussolini is on all lips today. The whole world today condemns this war of conquest, and I am not here to defend him. But I am one of the few who could tell him personally all the truths which he can read in the papers.

For I was invited to philosophize with him, and that we did one hour every afternoon for more than two weeks. Because he knew that I always championed the freedom, which he restrained in his country, he was always on the defensive. But I must confess that he defended himself in grand style, for I was prepared to argue, and he was not.

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I spoke with him about Ethiopia, when I came back from there. At that time he did not know Ethiopia very well -- even today he does not know Africa. Even a man so gifted cannot accomplish anything without personal experience. He is conscious of this shortcoming. As he ~~was~~ is not a strategist and he must leave the war command to others. I am sure that from the very first he never planned a complete conquest of the whole vast country. But by pressure he expects to get three times more than was offered to him before the first shot was fired.

He would need several years to conquer Ethiopia by force of arms. It would be a war in which nature and the elements would be against him, as they were against Napoleon in Russia. Therefore I believe he will stop this war in a few weeks or months. Europe's interest is in peace and not in the destiny of Ethiopia, and the powers will facilitate an exit for him. The war which faces Europe will come in any case, but not from Africa.

ETHIOPIA

So Emil Ludwig believes the nations of Europe will save Mussolini, or help him to save himself.

Meanwhile Ethiopia's declaration of censorship has conferred one benefit upon us. It has thrown a lot of sand into the machinery of the rumor mill. For the first evening in six months, not a single rumor has come out of that country.

Actually, there is nothing new to report from the African front, except the well verified fact that the Italian planes refrained from bombing the City of Axum, the holy city of the Ethiopians, ancient capital of the old Axumite kingdom.

cut 2 { Axum where the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord was supposed to repose after the Queen of Sheba brought it there from Jerusalem. Axum, the repository of many venerated early Christian relics.

It is from Addis Ababa and not from Rome that we learn that the monks were given ample time and opportunity to remove those relics to a safe hiding place.

Addis Ababa also admits heavy casualties on the southern front in the Province of Ogaden. The Duce's bombing planes

apparently were operating with terrific effectiveness. This air raid was the prelude to the long expected advance of the Italian infantry against that Djibuti railway line.

QUEEN

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The catchword of this next bit of news would seem to be -- long live the Queen! That might seem to be an odd slogan when we learn that the fair crowned-head is a Chinese pirate queen, that she has been captured -- and has just been found guilty by a Chinese courtmartial in Canton. The Far Eastern way ^{with} of pirates is short and grim.

She's been famous for years along the South China Coast. For ten years she was a terror from Shanghai to Hongkong, a thousand miles of ^{fantastic oriental shore.} ~~coasts~~ They say that the pirate queen was dominant among the pirates because of two qualities: her beauty and her ruthlessness. She has an almond-eyed loveliness that charms the Far Eastern heart. And she was as merciless as any slant-eyed buccaneer of the Yangtze, only more so. So ~~in~~ she was the miscreant admiral to a fleet of pirate junks, queening-it in beauty and ruthlessness.

I don't quite know how to explain the end of the story. Perhaps I'd better inquire of some of ^{Harold Peats} ~~the~~ far-journeying wanderers who are to stage ^{that} a series of ^{Saturday morning} Adventure Talks ~~with~~ ~~week after week,~~ at Carnegie Hall in New York. They might be able ~~in~~ to tell me the answer. But for the moment I can only suppose that it was the beauty of the pirate queen that saved her from the just reward of her

ruthlessness. According to China Coast justice the common sentence for a pirate is swift decapitation! The pirate queen found guilty by a Chinese Courtmartial has been merely sent to prison.

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ROUMANIA

Poor old King Carol of Roumania is in hot water again. It isn't the beautiful red head this time. It's a religious leader, a saint who is making trouble in Carol's country.

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They call him the "Rasputin of Roumania". He is a young priest whose real name is Nicholas Cimovitch. His eloquence and magnetism are such that he has obtained absolute sway over no fewer than Eighty thousand peasants in the region of Roumania called Bessarabia. Father Cimovitch's followers have become so obstreperous that they refuse to pay taxes. That is, they refuse to pay taxes to the government. They pay them to Cimovitch instead. And when the government sends troops to discipline them, they give the troops a good hiding and send them back with their tails between their legs.

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Like Rasputin, Cimovitch is supposed to have all sorts of miraculous powers. His followers firmly believe that he can walk through glass doors, can hold live coals in his hands, can see through brick walls and has magic knowledge of what is going on hundreds of miles away from him. The outcome of his activities is that now two battalions of Roumanian soldiers, in addition to a strong squad of Roumanian police, are marching to arrest the holy man. *on their way to stop him. And that stops me and e-l-u-t-m.*

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