

speeches which, in their references to home affairs, smack strongly of the Hearst-McCormack philosophy. But the National Committee and the National Convention will be breaking violently with their recent (not their more remote) past, if they do not support United States participation in collective security.

One point of some interest has shown itself in recent discussion on this subject, namely a tendency to suggest that talk of the powers and responsibilities of the four great Powers has been somewhat overdone and that the position of the small States must not be forgotten. This has arisen from a number of factors. The Russo-Polish affair, and President Beneš's visit, have served as reminders of the difficulties that can be caused, and the help that could be given, by the action of lesser Powers. Warnings of the desperate needs and weaknesses of China, which have come recently from some of her best friends (see under "Far East"), may have sounded inconsistent with the responsibilities attributed to her as one of the "Big Four." French problems impinge on the course of United States policy at many points, and it is natural that consideration should be given to the rôle of France after the war, and the possibility that the smaller States might find in her a centre if not a leader. Finally the Pan-American system, which involves a continuous effort on the part of the United States to avoid calling attention to inescapable inequalities, is an essential part of its post-war political planning. Vice-President Wallace, on his recent visit to Chile, said that he hoped that country would play an important part in the peace.

LATIN AMERICA.

The Uruguayan Government suspended diplomatic relations with Vichy on the 13th May, on the ground that Pétain's Government was no longer in possession of full sovereign rights and was unable to ensure respect for diplomatic privileges. Similar action was taken by Peru in January, and by Chile in February, while the majority of the more northerly republics of Latin America severed relations with Vichy after the German entry into Unoccupied France, Brazil at this time "interrupted" but did not sever relations, while Colombia declined to recognise the Vichy representative at representing France. The presence in Latin America, however, of ex-Vichy representatives, some of whom were distinguished by their collaborationist attitude, is an additional cause of embarrassment to that arising from the division between the followers of General Giraud and those of General de Gaulle. *La France Nouvelle*, which represents the latter in Argentina, has given occasion for complaints by the United States Embassy on account of its attacks on United States policy.

General Franco's speech at Almeria on the 9th May, in which he appealed for peace, declared that none of the belligerents had strength to destroy the other and invoked the spectre of Communism, has met with an even more unfavourable reception in the Latin American Press than the earlier pacific explorations of Count Jordana (*Summary* No. 186). The leading Argentine papers treated it with scorn, and Sr. Ortiz Echagüe, one of the most distinguished of Latin American correspondents, argued in *La Nación* that this *ballon d'essai* of a patched-up peace only appeared when it was evident that the Axis Powers had lost all hope of winning the war and would be glad to find a way out of losing it. Comments from other Latin American States would seem to indicate that the sole effect of repetitions of this sort is a further decline in General Franco's reputation.

The Argentine Congress meets on the 27th May. At preliminary sessions, at the end of April, Sr. Cantilo was re-elected President of the Chamber and Sr. Patrón Costas President of the Senate. The possibility that President Castillo's choice of the latter as the official candidate in the forthcoming Presidential elections (see *Summary* No. 183) might precipitate a split in the National Democratic party, owing to the opposition of Dr. Moreno, the Governor of Buenos Aires Province, was removed in April when Dr. Moreno resigned. Buenos Aires Province carries 88 electoral votes, and Dr. Moreno's resignation was a personal triumph for President Castillo, who thus showed his ability to make dissidents within his own party bow the knee. The leaders of the Government coalition have now announced that their candidate for the Vice-Presidency is Dr. Iriondo, an anti-Personalist Radical and Governor of Santa Fé. This choice gratifies both the Anti-Personalist element in the Government coalition and the powerful Santa Fé interests. It may prove the more important because of Sr. Patrón Costas's years and health. Dr. Iriondo, however, is himself 70 years old. After months of tortuous negotiations, the Radicals and the Socialists, for their part, have drawn closer together. They

have yet, however, to agree on a joint ticket for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency; and their prospects of victory are, in any event, remote.

After a highly successful visit to Ottawa on the 12th May, President Peñaranda of Bolivia announced that his country intended to appoint a Minister to Canada (which so far maintains diplomatic relations only with Argentina, Brazil and Chile among the Latin American States). The President expressed hopes also for the expansion of trade between Bolivia and Canada and suggested that Canadian investments might assist industrial development in Bolivia.

Japan is recently reported to have lodged a protest with the Government of Peru because of the economic pressure to which Japanese in that country are being subjected. Peru's relations with Ecuador do not improve. The frontier dispute still remains a burning grievance in Ecuador, and there have, from time to time, been rumours of actual or potential Peruvian invasion of Ecuadorean territory. Pro-Allied groups in Ecuador have attempted to use the alleged Peruvian menace (as well as African victories) as an argument for an Ecuadorean declaration of war against the Axis, presumably on the ground that Ecuador would then be assured of stronger support among the other American nations at war.

In view of recent discussions in the United States on post-war problems, and the relative position of great and small Powers in any future international structure, it is of interest to recall that *El Mercurio* of Chile, in an article published in March, emphasised the need of a universal system on the lines advocated by the Inter-American Juridical Committee (see *Summary* No. 185) and the need for closer collaboration between Great Britain, the United States and the Latin American States, and declined to recognise the claims of China (in contrast to the Latin American area) as a Great Power (see also under "United States" above).