

Mr. Walter Lippmann believes that after Governor Dewey's speech and the telegrams from the Republican Congressional leaders the Dumbarton Oaks proposals were established more firmly than ever as a bi-partisan commitment. Republican papers generally assert that there is no difference between Mr. Dewey's and Mr. Roosevelt's attitude towards international co-operation, but they believe that the United States is far more likely to achieve a sound foreign policy if Mr. Dewey is elected, since he will be able to co-operate with Congress. The "nationalists" (who are largely the old "isolationists") applaud Mr. Dewey's promise "to stay strictly within the Constitution," while the New Deal papers declare that the Republican candidate's statement concerning the powers of the United States delegate are dangerously ambiguous.

President Roosevelt, in a hard-hitting speech, spoke of the "ugly implication" which was first introduced by Mr. John Foster Dulles, Mr. Dewey's adviser on foreign affairs, that Republicans in Congress would co-operate with a President of their own party in establishing an organisation for world peace, but would not co-operate in the event of a Democratic victory. He charged Republicans with a deliberate and indefensible effort to place politics above patriotism. "I do not think the American people will take kindly to this policy of 'vote my way or I won't play,'" said the President at Philadelphia, and he referred to the achievement of his Administration in the preparation for, and conduct of, the war. To a mass meeting at Chicago the President referred to his message to Congress on the state of the union which he delivered last January and in which he outlined an economic Bill of Rights on which "a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all, regardless of station, race or creed." He foresaw an extension of the United States peace-time productive capacity and called for a programme which would provide America with 60 million productive jobs. "America must remain," asserted the President, "the land of high wages and efficient production. During the war we have been compelled to limit wages and salary increases to prevent runaway inflation. After the war we shall, of course, remove the control of wages and leave their determination to free collective bargaining between trades unions and employers. We shall lift production and price-control as soon as they are no longer needed." Mr. Roosevelt asserted his belief in free enterprise, and added that "the future of the worker and farmer lies in the well-being of private enterprise and the future of private enterprise lies in the well-being of the worker and the farmer." He expressed his confidence that, with Congressional approval, the foreign trade of the United States could be trebled after the war, thus providing millions more jobs and laying the sound economic foundation for a lasting peace.

Mr. Roosevelt's mass meetings in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, following on his tour of New York City, have done much to dispel what Mr. Marquis Childs has described "as the vilest whispering campaign" referring to the President's health. An amusing poll by the left-wing paper *P.M.* has disclosed that while the President did not "even have the sniffles" as a result of his tour in the rain in New York City, the majority of the reporters who covered the tour had developed colds, and that Mayor La Guardia had to retire to bed after completing half the trip. Nevertheless certain Republican papers reiterate that the choice of the electorate is not between Mr. Dewey and Mr. Roosevelt but between Mr. Dewey and Senator Truman, the Democratic candidate for the Vice-Presidency, the implication being that Mr. Roosevelt cannot last long. Senator Truman, in addition to association with the corrupt Pendagast machine, has now been accused of association with the Ku Klux Klan, which he indignantly repudiates.

Mr. Cordell Hull has issued a statement praising Mr. Roosevelt's handling of foreign affairs. "The President," he says, "is a statesman equipped by nature and experience as few statesmen have been in American history." He expressed confidence that history would record that the acts of the United States after the fall of France and before the United States entered into the war were indispensable "in staving off disaster to our nation and other free nations." Doubtless to help dispel rumours that the Administration was quarrelsome, Mr. Donald Nelson who, it is said, is about to leave on a new overseas mission for the President, has also issued a statement giving unqualified support to the President as the "man with the 'know-how' for the biggest job in the world."

There has been general rejoicing at the great American naval victory off the Philippines and Admiral King has remarked that this action has reduced the Japanese fleet "to not more than one-half of its maximum strength." This victory has naturally dominated the press and radio and has released a great deal of optimism which offsets to some extent the sober accounts of the extremely

hard fighting in Europe. The British gains in Holland have incidentally been greatly praised. Mr. Drew Pearson even alleges that General Marshall went so far as to say that the European war might still be over before Christmas.

There was at first much speculation on the reasons for the recall of General Stilwell from China. Some asserted that it was due to disagreements with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, though other commentators mentioned disagreements with Lord Louis Mountbatten, General Chennault and Admiral Nimitz. In some quarters his recall was interpreted as a snub to the Generalissimo, and there were rumours that he was to be given command of an American army that might land on the shores of China. The President then confirmed that personal differences with the Generalissimo were the trouble. It was "just one of those things," he said, adding that General Stilwell would be given a new command of equal importance.

Mr. Churchill's speech on the outcome of his visit to Moscow has been received as "a characteristically well-rounded Churchillian war review," and has been quoted widely. It has been generally interpreted as proof of genuinely improved Anglo-Soviet relations, though there is despondency at the failure to reach a solution of the Soviet-Polish problem. The Agreements on the Bulgarian Armistice terms and on Yugoslavia, however, are quoted as evidence that the alleged Anglo-Russian differences on the spheres of influence in the Balkans have been amicably resolved, though several columnists maintain that Mr. Churchill did not break down Marshal Stalin's suspicions of the Allies, and that he failed to attain his desires in South-East Europe.

Admiral Land, the Chairman of the Maritime Commission and Administrator of the War Shipping Administration, has released a statement saying that "the President has requested the Maritime Commission to prepare a bold and daring plan for improving the American Merchant Marine and maintaining its future position." As a result of his Conference with the President, at which Mr. Henry Kaiser, the ship builder, was also present, it was agreed to begin a merchant shipbuilding programme as part of the reconversion programme, and take steps to produce new models as soon as shipyard space and man-power were available, so that, as Mr. Henry Kaiser said, "the United States would be able to compete in the world trade with 1950 rather than 1930 models." This programme will, of course, not interfere with the provision of vessels and materials now required for the war.

[See also under "France," "Latin America," and "Far East."]

LATIN AMERICA.

The Argentine Government has addressed a note to the other American Governments in which it declares that it considers necessary the calling of a meeting of Foreign Ministers, according to the procedure laid down by the Lima Conference of 1938, in order to discuss the problems of Argentina's relations with other American countries. The circular is accompanied by the text of a communication delivered to the Council of the Pan-American Union requesting that a meeting be convened as soon as possible. On the 28th October the State Department declared that it had not received this communication, but that if it did, the United States would exchange views with the Governments of the other American Republics before taking a decision.

The Argentine request is, of course, a very pretty nettle. Amidst a great display of injured innocence, the circular note demands that in no case shall the juridical or institutional aspect of the régime be a subject for discussion, since this would establish an undesirable precedent. In the first sentence (and, indeed, throughout) all blame is carefully diverted from Argentina's door; the note affects anxiety about "the situation that has arisen with certain American countries because of the attitude they have adopted towards the Argentine Republic," and shows no small self-satisfaction in extolling Argentina's willingness "to discuss with her peers a fundamental aspect of her international conduct," since she feels that "no stable and authentic order can exist in the American community based on the arbitrary expulsion of one of its members."

In making this bid for sympathy, the Argentine Government seems intent on drawing an early dividend on such *démarches* as the hint of the holding of elections, the recent undertaking to withdraw soldiers from civilian posts, and the professed suppression of pro-Axis propaganda. The Vice-President, meanwhile, it is suggested, is perhaps leaving the door open for elections by statements to the effect that it is not the parliamentary system, but simply the old politicians who are discredited. Nevertheless, some reorganisation of political parties must