

into summarised form. The information will be then made available to Government agencies, to management and to employees. The War Production Board will be advised in advance by procurement agencies of all cutbacks, so that full consideration may be given to all factors involved in the selection of facilities to be released from war production. The requirement that contract terminations should be cleared by the WPB will, however, be waived on V-E Day because of the administrative difficulties involved in clearing the vast number of contracts which will then be terminated. It is understood, however, that the procurement agencies will report to the WPB all possible information relative to cutbacks in advance of V-E Day.

Congress has now adjourned and will reconvene on the 14th November, after the Presidential election. One of the pieces of legislation which is likely to be considered is a Bill dealing with compulsory peace-time military training. Early in September General Marshall issued a circular outlining the War Department's views. After assuming that the United States would maintain such temporary military forces in co-operation with the Allies as would be necessary "to lay the foundations for a peaceful world order," the circular also assumed that Congress would enact "as the essential foundation of an effective national military organisation, that every able-bodied young American shall be trained to defend his country; and that for a reasonable period after his training he shall be incorporated in a reserve, all or any necessary part of which shall be subject to active military duty in the event of an emergency requiring reinforcement of the regular army."

General Marshall's plan was generally applauded. A few days later General Arnold, the Commanding General of the United States army air forces, expressed the view that air power was the key to the American future in peace and war. "With reference to the future," he said, "we must look into our post-war military policy. Our civilian reserve must be trained in advance and ready to go when it is needed. Universal training is an essential national policy if we are to meet the obligations which the inescapably associated with our rôle as one of the greatest of world powers. We may not always have the first impact of war absorbed by other nations." Mr. Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy, in an address at Chicago to the American Legion (the last war's ex-servicemen's organisation) endorsed General Arnold's views, maintaining that future wars can only be prevented by universal military training, the maintenance of a strong navy, close and continuing study of national security based on constant vigilance in world problems, and the maintenance of scientific research. "Economy" declared Mr. Forrestal, "is not the sole criterion of what we shall spend on our army and navy." At the same conference the American Legion passed a resolution calling on Congress to pass the necessary legislation to establish universal military service in peace-time. The Legion urged that this legislation should be made effective immediately after the expiration of the Selective Service Act.

[See also under "Middle East," "France," "Poland," "Scandinavia" and "United Nations."]

LATIN AMERICA.

Although Colonel Perón has spoken privately of the Argentine Government's desire for a "rapid Allied victory," and of its wish to see both the restoration of constitutionality and an undertaking with the Allies (including the United States), he and his colleagues have continued to refrain from any important public pronouncements. This restraint is more likely to be the result of nervousness and indecision than of confidence. Save for Dr. Solar, Under-Secretary of Finance, who has resigned, the personnel of the Government has not changed since last week.

The nearest thing to an official Argentine statement has come from the Argentine ambassador to Brazil, who said that differences between his country and the United States arose from the fact that Argentina did not believe that its policies should be dictated from abroad. Mr. Cordell Hull, upon being asked in the course of a press conference to comment upon the implication that the United States was seeking to dictate Argentine policy, replied that he had not referred to the democratic people of Argentina in his definite condemnation of the Fascist clique in control of the country.

El Momento Argentina of Buenos Aires is a violently ultra-nationalist newspaper which supplemented the notorious *Pampero* as a medium for the

dissemination of anti-Allied propaganda and Transocean news. In a special edition last week it reported that President Vargas's Government had been overthrown by an Integralista coup, and that the President himself was the prisoner of the victorious junta. The paper has been suspended by the Argentine authorities and its director arrested; his excuse apparently was that the news was picked up from a Berlin broadcast of which, however, the radio monitors in London and New York can find no trace.

Mr. Jefferson Caffery, the United States Ambassador to Brazil, who has been appointed to represent his Government with the French Committee of National Liberation, paid a farewell tribute to Brazil's contribution to the Allied cause. He recalled the erstwhile activities of pro-Germans in the country and attributed their disappearance from the scene to the way in which Brazil's leaders had brought the entire nation to the Allied side, "flouting and routing the enemy within their own frontiers."

On the 19th September Mgr. Silvani, the Papal Delegate in Chile, spoke of the "inexhaustible Russian army which Stalin had been able to organise and bring to a high point of efficiency" and of "the trilogy, Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin, who have been able to frame the victory." Both *La Prensa* and *El Mundo*, of Buenos Aires, thought that this speech might well anticipate a movement on the part of the Vatican towards an *entente* with the U.S.S.R. (see also under "Vatican").

The Executive Committee of the Chilean Radical Party is not having things all its own way in bringing Radicals into opposition to President Ríos (see last week's *Summary*). Several of the civil governors, who are Radicals, have announced their intention of remaining in office as long as they have the confidence of the President and there have been some demands for an extraordinary convention of the party, presumably to reconsider the decision of the Executive Committee.

The *coup d'Etat* of October 1941, which deposed Sr. Arnulfo Arias from the presidency of Panama, was regarded as removing from office one whose sympathy with American security and the Allied cause was, to say the least, suspect. A counter-revolution in favour of the ex-President in November 1941 proved abortive, and since his deposition he has been in exile, latterly in Buenos Aires. According to an interview which he gave on the 7th September the Panamanian Government has taken the (somewhat risky) step of sanctioning his return to Panama about the 23rd September.

UNITED NATIONS.

World Organisation Conversations.

The end of the first stage of the Dumbarton Oaks conversations between representatives of the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union and the United States of America had not been reached on the 27th September, but it was expected daily. When the first stage of the conversations ends the United Kingdom and United States delegations will hold discussions with a delegation from the Chinese Republic. This stage is not expected to last for more than a few days.

It is not yet certain when the conclusions reached as a result of these conversations will be published or communicated to the other United Nations. The procedure at present contemplated is that, after further consultation between the Governments represented at Dumbarton Oaks with reference to outstanding points, including the major difference of view concerning the voting rights of the permanent members of the proposed Security Council, the complete proposals will be submitted to a full conference of the United Nations as the basis of discussion.

The draft statement of provisionally agreed recommendations indicates that, despite some set-backs, the conversations at Dumbarton Oaks have been most valuable and useful. The President's summing up "90 per cent. darned good!" does not seem exaggerated. Briefly summarised, the main outlines of the provisionally agreed conclusions are as follows:—

It is recommended that an international organisation should be established under the title of "The United Nations." The main purpose of the organisation should be to maintain international peace and security, to develop friendly relations among nations, and to further international co-operation in the solution of economic and social problems. The organisation should be based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all peace-loving States, and membership should be open to all such States. It should have as its principal organs a General