

## The Financial Difficulties that Overthrew Daladier

THE expected happened in France when the Cabinet headed by Premier Edouard Daladier was overthrown. He had asked a vote of confidence on his program of fiscal reforms and added taxation, designed to balance the Budget, which shows a prospective deficit of 6,000,000,000 francs. (About \$337,500,000.)

The final vote recorded 329 deputies opposing the Daladier Cabinet and 241 supporting it. There are 615 seats in the Chamber. Most of the supporting votes, as the Paris correspondent of the New York *Herald Tribune* notes, came from the Radical-Socialist party to which Mr. Daladier belongs and with which the Socialist group heretofore had a working agreement. In the test the Socialist group split, one part under Pierre Renaudel voting with the Government, while the Simon-purists, under Leon Blum, voted against it.

No easy task faced the successor of Mr. Daladier, and when the premiership was offered to Albert Sarraut he said he considered the situation "so serious and confused as to demand the maximum of cooperation with the Premier by authoritative leaders of finance, economics and politics."

While the debate which ended the Daladier Cabinet was going on in the Chamber, the Paris correspondent of the New York *Times* relates, policemen and municipal guards took extraordinary precautions

against rioting by taxpayers. Traffic was detoured from the neighborhood of the Chamber and streets leading to it were barricaded by police trucks. Attempts at demonstrations were put down by the arrests of the leaders and the taxpayers were forced to retire to other parts of the city.

The French public is said to be deeply resentful at the proposal of increased taxation, but at the same time, we are told, if added taxes are not voted soon there will be serious danger for the French franc. A well-known British economist has declared that only now is it being realized that the franc merely "looks well because other currencies look so ill."

As to reductions in government salaries, a Paris correspondent of the United Press called attention to the fact that bureaucracy in France is strongly organized and that the Socialists had given plain indication they would not as a body support pay-cuts. The cuts were progressive, 3 per cent. on salaries of 10,000 francs (\$560) a year up to 9 per cent. on salaries above 60,000 francs (\$3,360).

One feature of the Daladier Government  
(Continued on page 37)



THE FRENCHMAN'S BURDEN  
—La Victoire (Paris)

## Revolution in Siam No Longer Peaceful

THE slight disturbance with which Siam passed from an absolute to a limited monarchy in June, 1932, was considered a model of how a well-bred revolution can be managed. Nor was there too much excitement in the past month of June when the reactionary *coup* that took place earlier in the year was reversed. But in the new trouble that has broken out, the revolution is not at all peaceful. Two regiments of up-country troops mutinied and seized the Donmuang airdrome. Before they were driven away from it they poisoned the water supply there and in their retreat burned railway bridges.

What made the revolt most painful to King Prajadhipok and Queen Rambai Barni is that it was led by Prince Bavaradej. With the recapture by the Government of the Donmuang airdrome it was expected that the insurrection could not last long. But despite reassuring communiqués the situation was reported to be most critical by a correspondent of the London *Daily Mail* at Kuala Lumpur, who informed his newspaper that Siam was facing the double menace of financial collapse and dissolution of the monarchy.

The utmost concern was indicated for the interests of foreign residents in Bangkok who have large investments in Siam.

Yet notwithstanding the serious position of the country, an Associated Press cable from London advised us that elections are proceeding for a new Assembly under the Constitution established by the revolution of 1932.

Meanwhile Prince Bavaradej, leader of

the rebellion, was said to have retired to the mountains northeast of Bangkok. At the same time the King and Queen fled to Singora in south Siam near the Malayan border.

Persons who visited the King within the last year, said a writer in the New York *Herald Tribune*, know that he was gravely concerned over the future of his country, but felt he could do nothing to direct it himself, because the kingdom had become a limited monarchy and his absolute powers had been ended. In poor health, suffering from a number of serious diseases besides

the ailment to his eyes which brought him to the United States in 1931, the King has appeared to these visitors as a tragic figure, anxious to serve his people but incapacitated.

It is known, according to this informant, that he feared chiefly two things: the adoption of a policy of Communism which, he felt, would certainly bring unfriendly foreign intervention; and a serious civil war which he thought would bring intervention, perhaps friendly, but in all probability of a kind that would mark the beginning of the end of independence for his people.



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### SIAM, BANGKOK

Demons guarding one of the entrances to the Temple of the Emerald Buddha

# The Construction of Boulder Dam

*As High as a Fifty-Story Building and Nearly Two City Blocks Wide at the Base, the Structure Will Imprison Two Years' Flow of the Colorado River*

By DR. ELWOOD MEAD

Commissioner, United States Bureau of Reclamation

**R**ISING in majestic proportions between the sheer walls of a mountain canyon in the desert Southwest, Boulder Dam is the greatest engineering structure of the twentieth century. When it is completed the water of the turbulent Colorado River will be harnessed to the service of man. The reservoir above this dam will hold two years' flow of a river which drains a quarter of a million square miles of mountain and desert. That water will meet the household and industrial needs of the 10,000,000 people who will live below and depend on this great structure. It will protect the 70,000 inhabitants of Imperial Valley from the ever-present menace of ruin by drought or flood. It will give to the Southwest cheap hydroelectric power for its factories and mines.

## The Biggest

Two and one-half years ago contractors all over the country were eagerly awaiting invitations to bid on this structure. It was to be not only the highest dam in the world, but nearly twice as high as any dam then built. Its height, 730 feet, was equal to a fifty-story building in Manhattan. It was to be 650 feet thick at the base, or nearly two city blocks. All its features are superlatives. The reservoir will be the largest artificial lake in the world, 115 miles long, 520 feet deep and holding enough water to cover the State of New York to a depth of one foot. Some of the tunnels to divert the river and carry off floods have the greatest cross-section of any yet excavated. The

power-house to be built below the dam will have the largest single hydroelectric generators the world has yet seen.

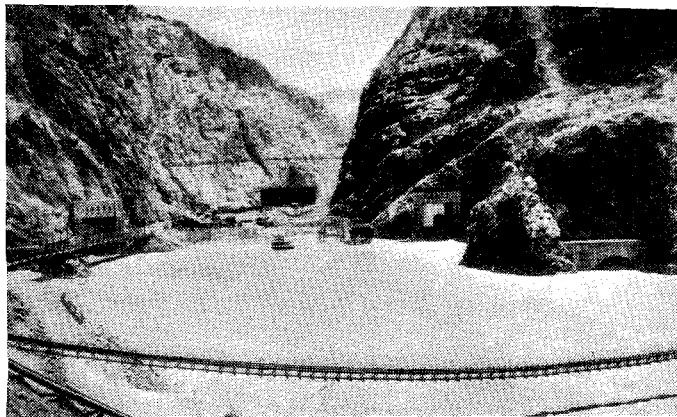
On June 6 of this year the first yard of concrete was placed in the dam. In the interval between this and the signing of the contract, a turbulent river, which has carried 250,000 cubic feet a second, or more than the average flow of the Mississippi at St. Louis, had been turned from its course and was flowing out of sight through four concrete-lined tunnels, each about 4,000 feet long and fifty feet in diameter. A section of the river channel, about half a mile in length, where the dam was to be placed, was as dry as an Arizona highway; 400,000 cubic yards of gravel and broken rock had been taken out of what had been the river's bed. The solid rock on which the dam was to rest was exposed for all to see. Two coffer-dams of earth, ninety-eight and sixty feet high, both with reinforced concrete facings, diverted the river into the tunnels at the upper end and kept it from flowing back into its former channel at the lower end.

More research and experiment has gone into working out the details of this dam than in any similar structure ever built. The designer, Jack Savage, brought to this task the knowledge and experience growing out of having designed in succession, the three highest dams in the world.

The equipment of the contractor represents a new era in engineering. The two concrete-mixing plants are the largest and most complete ever built. They cost over \$1,000,000 and are automatic in their operations. The plant for washing and sorting the aggregates is also the largest in the world and cost over \$500,000. These precautions and actions insure that the dam when built will withstand a pressure on its upper face of 3,250,000 tons, or 45,000 pounds per square foot and that the pressure will be so distributed that the tremendous thrust against the side walls and the loads in every part of the structure can be carried with safety.

Along with complete engineering plans and equipment have gone carefully thought out provisions for the health and comfort

of workers. In summer the air in the canyon feels as tho it came out of a furnace. Temperatures of 140 degrees in the shade in the daytime and 107 degrees as a minimum at night make a drain on the vitality of workers. How to offset this was the problem of R. F. Walter, Chief Engineer, Walker R. Young, Construction Engineer, and myself during the year reclama-



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The lower end of the tunnels, which are discharging 73,000 cubic feet of water per second

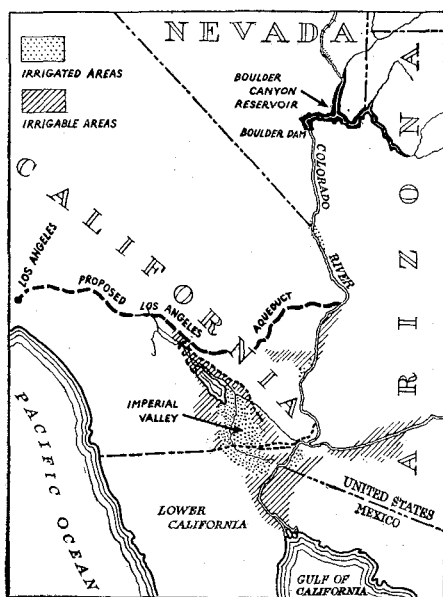
tion engineers were laying out the tunnels, the roads and dam preparatory to calling for bids.

The result was the model construction camp of Boulder City, laid out by a city planner, and its water supply and sewerage systems designed by two distinguished engineers in their respective lines.

A few words need to be said about the power-plant which is to be installed below the dam. The water which will flow through its turbines will produce an average yearly power revenue of \$6,500,000. It has been sold under a fifty-year contract for enough to pay the Government's outlay with 4 per cent. interest and provide a large surplus.

The electric generators will be the largest ever built, forty feet in diameter, thirty-two feet high and will weigh 2,000,000 pounds. The turbines will also be the largest ever built.

Lowering these pipe sections into the depths of the canyon and placing them in the tunnels is an engineering feat of great hazard and difficulty. A single section will weigh 150 tons and there are single units which will weigh 185 tons. These have to be carried to the rim of the canyon and lowered 700 feet into it. To do this there has had to be installed the largest and strongest overhead carrier in the world.



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The bed of the Colorado River as it will be after completion of the dam