

THE WAR WEEK—Commentary on Current Events

Britain Scorns Hitler Peace; "Die Cast", Declares Berlin

Adolf Hitler's failure last week to induce Britain to accept his "final" peace offer left him with but one alternative — to make good his threat to "annihilate" Germany from whatever coast to Germany.

But as the zero hour approached, in the war's forty-fifth week, it was still a matter of guess-work how Hitler would go about breaking the power of Britain. Would he attempt to break through a wholesale invasion of the British Isles? Or would he try to bring the country to its knees by pulverizing it with mass air attacks at the same time imposing a starvation blockade by destruction of British shipping?

DOUBLE-BREAKER ASSAULT. Would the attack on Britain be coupled with a simultaneous blow in the Mediterranean? Many experts last week expressed that belief. The Battle of Britain could not be a simple, straightforward affair. The conflict would have to be divided into two interlocking phases—the direct German assault on England, and the Battle of the Mediterranean (Mussolini's affair) — for from the Axis standpoint, Britain's hold on the Mediterranean would have to be broken before victory could be achieved.

One factor during the week was seen as likely to postpone the German offensive for the time being, and that was the situation in the Balkans. Russia's thrusting of a finger into the Balkan political pot at a moment so inopportune to Germany might be causing Hitler serious worry and giving him occasion for pause.

THE ANSWER. Britain's answer to Hitler's "last chance" peace proposal came promptly in the decision of British air forces blasting anew at German targets; in the staggering new wave of aircraft which Britain gave up almost 70 per cent of the national income to finance the war; and in the words of Vice Premier, British Foreign Minister, reaffirming the will to fight on.

During the week, the Government announced that it had recognized the Czech-Slovak National Committee in exile, headed by former Czech Premier Dr. Eduard Beneš, as the legal government of the German-occupied nation.

Prime Minister Churchill told the House of Commons that he did not believe in the exodus of children to Canada and the United States; he thought the movement entirely unwarranted; the Admiralty announced the loss of the famous submarine "Salmon" (which he named "Hermann" last December); Germany air attacks covered practically the whole island, ranging from Scotland to the Channel and from the North Sea to the Irish Sea; aircraft and munitions factories were bombed, railroads and other communications, troop concentrations, constant defense works, port facilities.

TO GERMAN VIA SPAIN. Britain's second biggest worry of the week, next to actual invasion, was the Spanish situation. General Franco had just finished declaring that it was his duty to fulfill the desire of Queen Isabella and return Gibraltar to Spain; and that he had an army of 2,000,000 men ready to back up his contention. It was anticipated that he would make a move against the Rock, aided by German guns across the Bay from Gibraltar (which had been there since the time of the Spanish Civil War).

FRANCE: The Fascist regime of Marshal Henri Philippe Petain last week ordered the arrest and trial of former high French Government leaders, including Premier Edouard Daladier, because of their roles in "declaring and continuing the war" against Germany. The trial will be part of a new "domestic moral purge" of France by Petain's new auth-

ritarian regime. At the same time all Frenchmen, including Daladier, who fled from France after May 10, were ordered deprived of citizenship, their property and fortunes to be confiscated.

RUSSIA: Comforting word came from Moscow last week. Through diplomatic channels Josef V. Stalin informed Great Britain that Russia will keep out of the European war and sees no

reason to fear German domination of Europe, related sources disclosed. The Russian leader was reported to have said that the possibility of German domination of Europe presented no problem for Russia, because he refused to believe it would come about.

According to indications, last week Russia was following up its incorporation of the three Baltic States (Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) into the Soviet Union with efforts to arrive at further clarification of her relations with Finland.

TOWARD THE AXIS. A pro-Axis trend among the small countries of southeastern Europe was evident in many quarters last week. Rumania, which had been going more and more pro-Nazi for some time past, moved to confiscate the largest British oil company in Rumania; sent some of its chief ministers to confer with Ribbentrop on Balkan politics. To Berlin went Bulgarian government representatives, hoping to gain back the Dobruja from Rumania with the blessing of Hitler. Hungary appeared to think that Germany would shortly help her get part of Transylvania from Rumania. World Germany seek to "strengthen" the Balkans by a peaceful settlement, now of these revisionist claims.

CHINA WON'T QUIT. FAR EAST: The closing of the Burma Road and the Hong Kong route into China left Chiang-kai-shek's Central Chinese government with but one hope of securing supplies from the outside world—over the Old Silk Road, threatening up through the inaccessible, unknown Northwest into Russia. Nevertheless, undaunted, Generalissimo Chiang declared

the domestic field there would be a gradual intensification of the trend toward totalitarianism, without any immediate dramatic steps. The Japanese Government appeared to realize that, in general, it will stand or fall on general public opinion and hence will not follow blindly any line of action recommended by its extreme militarists. (One thing the Government knows without shadow of doubt and that is that the people want the China war stopped as soon as possible, and will concentrate every effort to that end.)

NEW DEAL IS DOMINANT. UNITED STATES: With the acceptance by President Roosevelt of a third-term nomination and the naming of Henry A. Wallace as his running-mate, the New Deal came back into control of the Democratic Party in the U-

and Cuba's strong suggestion that a Pan-American protectorate be established over all foreign-owned islands off North or South America. Disruptive forces were at work at the conference, and seen in more than one diplomatic manoeuvre on the part of the Latin-American republics.

IN WASHINGTON, the U. S. Justice and State Departments announced changes in immigration regulations to facilitate entry of "child guests" from abroad under the name of the Department of Justice ruled that United States citizens in Great Britain could enlist in the Royal Air Force without losing their citizenship, providing they did not take the British oath of allegiance.

Opposition to the passing of the T-11 providing for unemployment insurance benefits used to accumulate. Unemployment approved in principle when it came before House on second reading, strong pressure against it was applied in special committee by representatives of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. It was also expected to be opposed in the Senate, but labor groups were all for the measure.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT WHEAT. Three prairie wheat pools had made several suggestions to Federal authorities on how to relieve the anticipated shortage of wheat. The anticipated shortage of this summer's prairie grain harvest starts the four main points submitted by the pool organizing to the Government were: That the Canadian Wheat Board should handle all the wheat; that wheat be worked out for financing wheat stored on the farm; that farmers be protected against post indebtedness as present prices are too low to lease any crop plus after paying current taxes and family living expenses; that a domestic price be set for wheat which could be used to meet all or a portion of the Government loss on wheat when the final was less than the initial price.

Publicity FROM HITLER. An army shake-up took place in the Dominion last week which saw younger men placed in key positions. The new key men of the army in Canada are Major-General H. D. G. Crerar, chief of the general staff; Hon. J. C. Garner, minister of war; Hon. Angus L. Macdonald, minister of national defence; and Hon. James H. Duff, minister of naval services, were both added to the war committee of the Cabinet.

Canada achieved public opinion in a new quarter last week. Hitler referred to the Dominion in two different passages of his "last-chance-for-peace" speech. He spoke of British leaders clinging to the war from Communist propaganda, and every-thing seemed to indicate that the sun had not actually set as yet but the dawn was not far off. It would be 9 o'clock when he spoke, and he was observed, before the speech itself could appear in the press, that this was because of the sheer effigy that burned in this kingdom to protect and isolate it from the Hitler referred to the Dominion in two different passages of his "last-chance-for-peace" speech.

Obviously the villagers knew exactly what they were doing, for there was no confusion, and the chief of wood grew rapidly. Next in interest to the American public last week was the conference in Havana on Pan-American Defense attended by the Foreign Ministers of the 21 American republics (Canada ostensibly was not invited). Principal problems on the agenda were economic and military defense of the western hemisphere and disposition of European-owned New World colonies. Under fire were several proposals, chief among them the U. S.-sponsored trade-control plan for this whole hemisphere;

country had obtained or will obtain all the supplies necessary for America's armament program. . . the Senate Military Committee approved a revised bill providing for registration of 42,000,000 men, of whom 1,500,000 would be drafted in the first year. It was the first peacetime compulsory military training program in the history of the United States.

Canada: The war, unemployment insurance, each of the grain pools, and the Department of Justice ruled that United States citizens in Great Britain could enlist in the Royal Air Force without losing their citizenship, providing they did not take the British oath of allegiance.

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It Makes a Nicer Cool Drink "SALADA" ICED TEA

Lost Kingdom . . . OREN ARNOLD

CAST OF CHARACTERS. ROBERT BARRY — hero, explorer; MISS LANA — heroine, Barry's partner; HONEY BEE GIRL — Indian; member of Barry's party; HATES JONES — pioneer; member of Barry's party.

The Drummers Start. The westward was suddenly illuminated, as if a gigantic spotlight had been turned on. In that moment a new sound dominated the valley, and the course of action everywhere was changed.

CHAPTER XX. Just at dawn a weird chanting and hallooing awakened "Lissa." Bob got up, dear. Bob's starting already.

Which I To Die? The priest stamped and nodded and chanted and rattled the drum.

There's No Mistaking Their Nationality. The priest stamped and nodded and chanted and rattled the drum.

U. S. Passport Law Plays Queer Tricks. United States passport restrictions are keeping several Brockville (Ont.) residents off their own land.

Barbering Wife Saves Thousands. H. M. (Uncle Marion) Holland, 96 on July 27, and his 83-year-old wife, Pamela (Aunt Maud) of Marion, Ky., have celebrated 73 wedding anniversaries and figure they have saved \$2,700 because Uncle Marion didn't need to go to a barber shop.

TALKS TABLE

WAR-TIME FOODS (Continued). Last week I discussed the book "Food for Health" published by the Canadian Medical Association as a guide for all homemakers to prepare for their families needs having the necessary requirements for the body's needs but at a minimum cost.

READERS WRITE IN! Miss Chambers welcomes personal letters from interested readers. She is pleased to receive suggestions on topics for her column, and is even ready to listen to your "pet peeves."

Autumn Fashions' Mannish Trend. South American influence is also expected to continue. This is the nervous in-between season for the makers of women's clothes, a period when everybody watches everybody else, waiting to see which way fashion will jump.

Ice Cream and Cantaloupe. How about ice cream and cantaloupe for a porch supper during hot weather? Make it something special — cantaloupe à la mode, garnished with fresh peaches and blackberries for good measure.

The Truth About Mother Hubbard. A long-forgotten manuscript identified by the Bodleian Library, Oxford, England, proves that Mother Hubbard, of nursery-rhyme fame, really did exist. Miss May Stubbington came across the original manuscript of the famous nursery rhyme while going over some old family papers.

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COOL, SLIM FROCK FOR MATRONS

been taught 1 pint of milk per day per adult and 1 qt. for each child was the minimum. "Food For Health" specifies a little less, but if your family is one which does not have tea and coffee regularly you perhaps could cut down and save on the miscellaneous list, which we outlined last week for you:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Items include Milk, Cheese, Butter, Potatoes, Fresh vegetables, Dried vegetables, Fresh Fruit, Dried Fruit, Meat or fish, Eggs, Bread and Cereal, Flour and Cereal, Other foods and flavorings.

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PATTERN 4340 BY ANNE ADAMS. Women "in the know" of fashion realize that a combination of uncluttered lines and subtly slimming details spell distinction.

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