

Europe Is Feverishly Preparing For War

It Will Make Western Front In World War Look Like Football Contest. Says Correspondent—Steel Mills Are Running Night And Day.

By JOHN MARCUS MURRAY, (Traveling Correspondent of the World-Wide News Service)

Vienna, March 25.—Europe is feverishly preparing for a war that is liable to break out any day, anywhere. She no longer talks about the "next war." It is the "coming war." From the channel to the Mediterranean, from the Pyrenees to the Russian frontiers and beyond steel works are running day and night.

In Czechoslovakia the Pilsen and Brunn arms factories are running three shifts. The famous Shoda factory, controlled by French interests, is turning out guns and bullets at a war-time rate. Six weeks ago, I visited these two cities. Behind a 30-foot high stone wall—the avenues and byways to the works being guarded by sentries—7,000 Czechoslovakian workers are feverishly turning out war machines.

On the day I arrived in Pilsen I learned that early that morning 14 spies had been arrested. Three days previously three spies had been executed. I was advised not to go near the works.

However, I taxied through the streets, leading to the arsenal. I was stopped three times by sentries, who inquired the nature of my visit.

Four months ago the Skoda works had been employing 4,000 men. Today they are employing 7,000.

At Le Creusot, the Schneider Creusote company, the United Steel Corporation of France, is working at full capacity. In the early days of 1931, the plant had been running at a 40 per cent capacity. Towards the end of 1932, it ran at 85 per cent capacity. During the last 10 weeks it has been running at a hundred per cent capacity, plus two shifts. Any stranger arriving in this armament town who dares to venture within 200 yards of any avenue leading to the works will have to give plausible satisfaction to the sentries that at most his motive is idle curiosity.

World War Tame Affair

When the "coming war" breaks out, it will start with a fury that will make the western front of the great war appear like a football contest.

In my travels during the last five years up and down Europe, I found that everybody seemed to want a war.

The average German, with all his whining about his desperate home conditions, would fight to take Silesia and Danzig from the hated Poles. The Hungarians have been inflamed to redeem their lost territories.

The Austrians want to fight because they feel that an out-and-out war could not be worse than what they are now enduring.

The Poles will fight because they have to fight to keep what they now have.

The Czechs are the most level-headed people in Europe. But if they want to maintain the integrity of their soil, they will have to fight, for Hungary and Austria have claims on it.

The Rumanians, who are undecided whether to fight their Lothario king or to fight someone else, were never good fighters. They are France's allies, and even if at the last moment they decide not to fight on the side of France, they will have to fight to keep what the Treaty of Versailles gave them at the expense of Hungary.

Jugoslavia will fight anyone, at any time. The Slavs love fighting.

Bulgaria, still smarting under the decisions of the treaty, will fall on the flank of Jugoslavia.

Albania, the satellite of Italy, is counted on the side of the Italo-Austro-Hungarian-German alignment.

Turkey and Greece will watch which way the wind blows.

Probable Lineup.

When the great war breaks out, it will probably be between a Franco-Polish alliance and a German-Hungarian-Italian lineup. Even leading Austrian military authorities, with whom I have been talking the last few days, admit that when such a war breaks out, France will be in Berlin within two weeks, and Mussolini will be looking for a different clime. France today is estimated to be 40 per cent more powerful, militarily, than Germany was when she was bullying Europe previous to 1914.

Unless Italy in the very early weeks of the war produces brilliant victories, the fascist "black shirter" who can salute dramatically and pose theatrically, but are poor fight-

ers, will be looking for different colored shirts in order to get away from the "neck-tie parties" that will be awaiting them throughout Italy.

A leading Italian estimates that an army of 60,000 Italians outside the Italian frontier, fully armed and supported by the French, will be the first march into Italy to wrench its country from the fascist rule.

Hilter's ruffians, made up of corner loafers, will find that the Germany that walked through Belgium in the early days of the great war was a Germany united, even the rank and file of the socialist party standing for the kaiser and the Fatherland. In those early days the Jewry of Europe stood by Germany. Today the financial Jew of Europe refuses to support Hitler.

France, the all powerful, is now beginning to show evidences of "nerves." She does not want war, although she prepared the field. She thought she was building security by systematically weakening Germany and coddling Poland, Rumania, Szechoslovakia and Jugoslavia. A few years ago she felt so secure that she practically told England to "go to blazes." Three months ago it was not quite safe for an American to be recognized in Paris or provincial cafes.

During the last days, however, France has been making gestures to pay America. France, too, wanted war to keep what she has. But lately she has discovered that it is going to be quite expensive, in money and blood, to keep what she has taken under the terms of the Versailles treaty.

Up to a short time ago, France was quite certain that Rumania and Jugoslavia were two of her most powerful supporters. Rumania's king has been busy fighting his people over his mistress—the red haired Jewess—and if war should break out Carol will have his hands full dealing with his rebellious subjects.

Jugoslavia Breathes Revolution. Jugoslavia, too, is breathing a revolution. It is a question whether or not the rebellious elements in the analysis will decide to hate Italy more than they hate Belgrade. If pitched against Italy a united Jugoslavia could lick Mussolini's black shirter out of their socks. But Jugoslavia as she is today is hopelessly divided.

So France can not expect much from Jugoslavia and will have to crush Italy and Germany with Poland and Czechoslovakia. And she is preparing for a swift and vicious war.

For some years British statesmen have been telling France that England will keep out of the next European fight. Up to a few months ago France laughed at this warning. Lately, realizing that continental opposition to her military arrogance has been rapidly augmenting, she has been trying to woo Britain to an alliance. The British foreign office, a few days ago, again declared, unmistakably this time, that France "having made her bed must lie in it."

France has a powerful army and the most powerful war machine that any nation ever possessed in man's history. She is nearly self-sufficient in her food supply, and she has the biggest supply of the world's gold. But German war zealots maintain that even a powerful army, food and gold can not win the final battle. They claim they have the spirit to fight that the French lack.

You can tell the heat of Europe's war excitement by the number of spy arrests. The coming war is at hand. Where will it break out? In the most unexpected corner.

WATER SCARCE—OIL PLENTIFUL—

When we think of oil, we usually think of Texas, Pennsylvania, and other well-known producing regions. We overlook Aruba, an island of the colony Curacao, Dutch West Indies, which is one of the largest oil producing areas in the world, in proportion to size and population. This island is only 69 miles square, has a population of 5,375, and in 1931 produced 2,500,000 barrels of gasoline, 22,000,000 barrels of fuel oil, and nearly 1,000,000 barrels of gas oil. In this region water is very scarce, which is a handicap for an even larger production of oil. Water is sold at a retail price of about 8c per bucket.

Three cars of sweet potatoes were sold by Martin County farmers last week through the Carolina Sweet Potato Association at Florence.

Shipments of Broccolis are going forward from Scotland county by express until the crop matures to the extent that carlot shipments can be made.

Ira Woodall Found Dead Near Highway

Smithfield, March 26.—Coroner James H. Kirkman was called to Benson late Saturday afternoon to investigate the death of Ira Woodall. The deceased was a brother of Representative Preston Woodall. His home was about three miles from Benson. He had been married and leaves three children. A jury was empanelled and they rendered a verdict that the deceased came to his death March 24, "by exposure to the weather."

The evidence tended to show the deceased, who was a crippled man and walked with crutches, was seen to pass by the home of a neighbor, and when asked where he was going, stated that he was going to the home of a friend to spend the night. His lifeless body was found Saturday afternoon about 2 o'clock, where he had fallen into a small ditch, about two feet wide and two feet deep. It appeared he was so stunned by the fall, he was unable to get up and died there from exposure to the cold weather.

Cuts In Veteran's Pay Proposed By Roosevelt

Washington, March 13.—Although President Roosevelt has not committed himself to details as to how savings from veterans' costs would be effected under the economy bill, some members of Congress have been given a compilation showing directions that might be taken and amounts estimated to be saved.

One such, placing the total to be saved at \$383,530,000, follows:

Estimated Annual Savings
1—Eliminate pensions to remarried widows, \$2,487,000.

(a) Civil war and Indian wars, \$109,000.

(b) Spanish war, \$378,000.

2—Restrict hospitalization and domiciliary care:

(a) Income provisions on non-service connected cases, \$9,000,000.

3—Reduce benefits to \$20 for single men hospitalized or domiciled, \$5,370,000.

4—Emergency officers' retirement act restricted to causative factor cases, \$3,880,000.

5—One rating table, five rates, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100 average impairment, \$40,000,000.

6—Eliminate term insurance claims \$15,000,000.

7—Eliminate disability allowances \$101,652,000.

8—Eliminate Spanish war pension where government can rebut service origin, \$95,000,000.

Income provision Spanish war soldier pensions, service connected, \$1,653,000.

9—Eliminate all presumption for disability compensation and emergency officers, regulation 11, included, \$100,000,000.

(a) Presumptive under amendment June 7, 1924, \$40,640,000.

(b) All other presumptions, \$59,300,000.

10—Enlistment after November 11, 1918, at pension rates, \$4,000,000.

11—Retroactive payment limited to date of filing claim, \$25,000,000.

12—Reduce \$50 statutory award for arrested T. B. to \$25 after five years, \$9,000,000.

13—Eliminate \$25 payment in tuberculosis cases where there has been no activity, \$1,500,000.

14—Repeal sections 305 and 309, included in No. 6, \$6,000,000.

15—Eliminate \$2.65 per diem allowance, \$300,000.

16—Eliminate compensation or pension to civil service employees of the federal government, \$15,600,000.

17—Establish courts of final veteran's appeal, \$2,000,000.

18—Eliminate furnishing of clothing, \$600,000.

19—Recentralize veterans' activities, \$8,000,000.

20—Eliminate \$25 compensation for specific losses, \$2,000,000.

21—Permanent cases not to be rerated, \$1,000,000.

22—Reduce all remaining benefits by 10 percent, \$28,774,000.

Savings from salaries and expenses, \$12,970,000.

Total saving, \$485,192,000.

Minus 25 per cent of direct benefits for overlapping, \$101,662,000.

Net approximate savings, \$383,530,000.

HOARDERS GIVEN FOUR MORE DAYS TO RETURN THEIR GOLD

New York, March 13.—Gold hoarders were given four more days in which to restore their metal to the nation's reserves today.

THE PRICE OF A DRINK.

"Five cents a glass!" Does any one think That that is really the price of a drink? "Five cents a glass," I hear you say, "Why, that isn't much to pay." Ah, no, indeed; 'tis very small sum You are passing over 'twixt finger and thumb. And if that were all that you gave away, It wouldn't be very much to pay.

The price of a drink. Let him decide Who has lost his courage and lost his pride, And lies a grovelling heap of clay, Not far removed from a beast, today.

The price of a drink! Let that one tell Who sleeps tonight in a murderer's cell, And feels within him the fires of hell.

Honor and virtue, love and truth, All the glory and pride of youth, Hopes of manhood, the wreaths of fame, High endeavor and noble aim, These are the treasures thrown away

As the price of drink, from day to day. "Five cents a glass!" How Satan laughed, As over the bar the young man quaffed The beaded liquor; for the demon knew The terrible work that drink would do;

And ere the morning the victim lay With his life-blood swiftly ebbing away; And that was the price he paid, alas! For the pleasure of taking a social glass.

The price of a drink! If you want to know What some are willing to pay for it, go Through that wretched tenement over there, With dingy windows and broken stair, Where foul disease, like a vampire, crawls

With outstretched wings o'er the mouldy walls, There poverty dwells with her hungry brood, Wild-eyed as demons for lack of food; There shame, in a corner, crouches low;

There violence deals its cruel blow; And innocent ones are thus accused To pay the price of another's thirst. "Five cents a glass!" Oh, if that were all, The sacrifice would, indeed, be small!

But the money's worth is the least amount We pay; and whoever will keep account Will learn the terrible waste and blight That follows the ruinous appetite.

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Program

First Preliminary Contest of the STATE TRIANGULAR DEBATE

SELMA VS. LUMBERTON

To be Held In the

ENGLISH-HISTORY CLASSROOM

of

SELMA HIGH SCHOOL

Friday Evening, March 31,

Seven O'clock

Query: Resolved, That North Carolina Should Adopt the Sales Tax As a Feature of Its State System of Revenue.

Affirmative (Selma)

Negative (Lumberton)

Katherine Aycock

Henry Ward

Hazel Driver

Louise McMillan, or

Murphy Bowman, Alt.

Grow Sugar Spuds Every Crop Year

Sweet potatoes are adapted to North Carolina. They help in the food supply. They are easily grown. They keep well when handled and housed properly. They are essential to any live-at-home program.

Therefore, says E. B. Morrow, extension horticulturist at State College, some sweet potatoes should be grown every year on every North Carolina farm. Nor should one consider the potatoes as an emergency crop. To the "in-and-out" the crop is a gamble but to the man who plans to have an adequate acreage each season, it is a source of food, feed and cash.

"A high yield per acre at a low cost of production per bushel is essential for profit," says Mr. Morrow. "High yields are secured by planting disease-free seed stock, by setting the plants reasonably early and by using a high grade fertilizer. We had 183 growers in eastern Carolina last year to use the improved Porto Rico strain developed by the Station and these men made an average of 58 bushels an acre more than with the regular seed. Other growers in 17 counties used the high grade fertilizer recommended and made an average increase per acre of 38 bushels."

Mr. Morrow says the Station recommends an 8-4-8 or an 8-4-10 mixture for average eastern Carolina soils. In addition to these good cultural methods, Mr. Morrow also recommends the use of curing houses in handling the harvested crop. For instance, he has records of 125 tobacco barns in 26 eastern counties being remodeled for housing the sweets. The total capacity was 189,000 bushels. The potatoes so cured are bringing from 10 to 25 cents a bushel more on the market than are banked potatoes.

A TEXAS "PANHANDLER." The "panhandling" business seems to be the only one that pays these days. One day the past week police at Fort Worth, Texas, trailed a man who makes a business of begging dimes on the street corners, and found that his business had been profitable to the extent of a hotel room and a large car with a chauffeur. A search of his room revealed \$50 in dimes and nickels. The man made his mistake when he took off his smoked glasses to inspect a dime that a woman had given him. The woman reported him to the police.

Brewers In Search For Brewmasters Burlington, Wis., March 19.—The mail of Marcus Magerlein, president of the National Brewers' Association has been exceptionally heavy these last few days, he said. Most of the letters, he said, are inquiries from brewers who want to hire expert brewmasters.

Mich. House Votes Mortgage Stay Bill Lansing, Mich., March 19.—A bill authorizing the courts to suspend mortgage foreclosures until May 1, 1935, was adopted by the House. It goes to the Senate.

U. B. Blalock Is Hopeful For Relief Raleigh, March 20.—We are quite hopeful that something is going to be done for American agriculture at this session of Congress.

So stated U. Benton Blalock, president of the American Cotton Cooperative Association, upon his return from Washington where he headed the cotton group in the conferences of farm group representatives with Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and the new Farm Board chairman, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., at which plans were worked out for the agriculture bill.

Asked for his opinion as to what effect the agriculture bill would have on cotton, Mr. Blalock replied that the "purpose of the Smith bill and any other plan or proposal under the bill would be to effect a heavy cut in the acreage of cotton and if successful in doing this would undoubtedly have an appreciable effect on prices next fall."

"Everyone recognizes that the great weight that is depressing the cotton market is just too much cotton," he added.

Coming to the bat for the peanut growers of North Carolina, Mr. Blalock, who was a member of the subcommittee which determined the crops to be taken care of by the bill, pleaded for the inclusion of peanuts. He was outvoted as it was thought best not to include too many crops at the outset.

The 16 Granges in Davidson County have a membership of 854 rural folks. All Granges are cooperating in purchasing supplies for farm and home.