

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

Vol. LXIV

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1938

No. 17

News Review of Current Events

EUROPEAN WAR AVERTED

Britain, France and Russia Would Not Stand for German Aggression Against the Czechs



Here is an armored car detachment of Czechoslovakia's up-to-date army which was sent to the frontier to meet the threats of aggression by Fuehrer Hitler's troops that were massed on their side of the border.

Edward W. Pickard
SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK
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On the Verge of Hostilities

GERMAN and Czech troops by the thousands were massed on the frontier between the two countries. President Benes of Czechoslovakia and his cabinet decided to call 70,000 reserves to the colors. Poland assembled armed forces close to the Slovakia border. Hungary was reported to be taking "certain military measures." France was ready to defend her ally, Czechoslovakia, against Nazi aggression, and there was assurance that Great Britain and Russia would come to the aid of France if she were attacked without provocation. No wonder the governments of Europe were desperately worried by such a critical condition.

Hitler must have realized that the time was not ripe for aggressive action against the Czechs, for German authorities in Berlin solemnly assured Dr. Vojtech Mastny, Czech minister to Berlin, and the Czech military attache that Germany planned no military expedition against Czechoslovakia. This eased the situation somewhat, but the British cabinet continued to urge Benes and his government to make all possible concessions to Hitler concerning the demands of the Sudeten German minority. It was believed the Fuehrer would ultimately get about everything he wants from the Czechs without a fight. Both France and Britain were bringing strong pressure to bear on Berlin, and the British especially were determined to avert general war if it could be done.

Henlein's German party in the Sudeten districts of Czechoslovakia was winning victories in municipal elections, and this made the Nazis quite cocky in their attitude. They refused to negotiate with the government until their safety had been guaranteed.

Southerners Are Sore

KNOWING they were fighting a losing battle, Southern representatives bitterly contested the progress of the wage-hour bill through the house. The test vote on discharge of the rules committee was 322 to 73.

In the debate that followed Northern Democrats and most of the Republicans indicated their approval of the measure. The South opposed it mainly because it contains no differentials in favor of that section.

Two Taxation Decisions

IN TWO far-reaching decisions the United States Supreme court further narrowed the field of reciprocal intergovernmental tax immunity. The rulings continued the trend in the direction of President Roosevelt's theory that the federal and state governments can tax the salaries of each other's employees and the income of each other's securities without a constitutional amendment.

In a decision delivered by Justice Stone, the court upheld levying of federal income taxes on employees of the Port of New York authority. In a decision delivered by Justice Roberts, the court upheld federal

admission taxes on tickets to football games conducted by the university system of Georgia.

Martin Loses in Oregon

GOV. CHARLES H. MARTIN of Oregon, the veteran soldier who has been fighting against the C. I. O. and other radicals, was beaten for renomination in the Democratic primary by Henry Hess who had the backing of labor unions and of Secretary of the Interior Ickes. Charles A. Sprague was nominated for governor by the Republicans and they believe they have a good chance to win in the fall elections, for the Democrats, there as in Pennsylvania, were badly split.

Italy Warns France

ITALY intimated it would keep out of the Nazi-Czech quarrel, but Mussolini broke off the friendship talks with France and warned that continued French acquiescence in the shipment of arms to government Spain would not be tolerated. The Duce declared that unless France ceases aiding transmission of Soviet and Czech arms to Barcelona, Italy and Germany may be forced to increase their assistance to the insurgents. This naturally would endanger the new Anglo-Italian agreement.

Must Re-Hire Sit Strikers

THE National Labor Relations board ordered the Kuehne Manufacturing company, Flora, Ill., to reinstate with back pay 164 American Federation of Labor sit-down strikers.

It was the NLRB's third major sit-down decision, but the first involving an A. F. of L. union.

"Doom-Sealers," Says Farley

POSTMASTER GENERAL FARLEY attacked the critics of the administration's spending-lending program in an address to the Commonwealth club of Chicago.

"The doom-sealers," he said, "are again sending forth their mournful prophecies of evil because of government acts performed or suggested."

"Stocks are down a bit. There is a recurrence of vast unemployment. Certain taxes bear heavily on people or corporations with plethoric purses. So the same element that has held every national emergency as a precursor of doom is out again in full cry."

"The republic," he said, "is in no danger. It never has been in danger since the present administration checked the downward spiral of the big depression and started us again on the upward path."

Too Late for Wheat Quotas

SECRETARY WALLACE said that under the new crop control law it is too late to invoke marketing quotas on this year's indicated bumper wheat crop. He explained that the law authorized quotas this year only in the event congress appropriated funds by May 15 for "parity payments" provided in the new legislation.

Asks 23 Millions for Navy

CONGRESS received from the President a request that it appropriate \$23,875,000 immediately to begin strengthening the nation's sea and air defenses in accordance with the billion dollar naval expansion act.

The President outlined the intended uses of the fund as follows in a letter to Speaker Bankhead:

For three new warships, ten auxiliaries and a fleet of small vessels of great speed and maneuverability, \$16,500,000.

For nine patrol planes of the latest type, \$3,375,000.

For a dirigible—the first since the Macon and Akron crashed several years ago—\$500,000.

For improvements at navy yards, \$3,500,000.

Predestination Is Out

GENERAL assembly of the Presbyterian church in the United States, in session at Meriden, Miss., voted 151 to 130 to omit from the confession of faith these two important sections:

"By the decree of God, for the manifestation of his glory, some men and angels are predestined unto everlasting life and others foreordained to everlasting death."

"And their number is so certain and definite that it cannot be either increased or diminished."

Crop Loan Losses

LOSSES incurred by the federal government in crop loan operations by the Commodity Crop Corporation since its creation in 1933 have totaled \$83,987,495.

This was made known in a communication President Roosevelt sent to the capitol, asking that \$94,285,404 be appropriated to restore the \$100,000,000 capital of the corporation.

A budget bureau statement accompanying the President's communication showed that the bulk of the losses grew out of the shrinkage in the market value of cotton, corn, tobacco, turpentine and other commodities put up as collateral for price bolstering loans.

Phil La Follette Snubbed

THE Wisconsin Farmer-Labor Progressive federation snubbed Gov. Philip La Follette, president of the new National Progressive party, and unanimously endorsed Daniel W. Hoan, Milwaukee's Socialist mayor, as progressive candidate for United States senator.

The convention applauded when the secretary ruled out Governor La Follette's name as the indorsee for re-election.

Earle Beats C.I.O. Man

THE desperate primary battle among the Pennsylvania Democrats resulted in complete victory for Gov. George H. Earle and his state machine and equally complete defeat for the Duffey-Lewis-C. I. O. faction, whose candidates all the way down from senator and governor to minor county offices, were routed. Earle won the senatorship nomination over Mayor Wilson of Philadelphia.

Charles Alvin Jones, Pittsburgh lawyer, captured the gubernatorial nomination, beating Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, who was on the Duffey-Lewis ticket.

Jim Farley, national committee chairman, had projected himself into the hot fight by advising the compromise choice of Earle and Kennedy, but the governor indignantly told him it was none of his business, and the voters gave him a swat on the head by rejecting his advice.

Republicans were elated because the returns showed a ground swell back toward G. O. P. conservatism. The Republican total vote exceeded the Democratic vote, and this fact, together with the graft and bribery charges that enlivened the campaign of the Democrats, led the Republican leaders to hope the Keystone state would return to the Republican fold in November.

Judge Arthur James won a smashing victory over Gifford Pinchot, twice governor, for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, and this was another swat at John L. Lewis, for he was reported ready to back Pinchot if Kennedy lost. Sen. James J. Davis was renominated by a heavy majority.

Both Senator Guffey and Lewis appear to have lost their claims to political leadership. Lewis had boasted that he controlled 800,000 C. I. O. votes in Pennsylvania, but the best he could do was 520,000. Earle, though he came out on top, was considered to have lost prestige greatly by the accusations of mis-rule made against his administration. His presidential aspirations were believed wrecked.

MESSIAH from WISCONSIN?

House of La Follette Again Sponsors a Third Party

By JOSEPH W. LaBINE

Since 1930 American politics has seen Messiahs by the carload. In Minnesota the Floyd B. Olson attempted to project their Farmer-Labor party into the national picture; in Detroit the Father Coughlins came forward with a platform that was anti-Democratic and anti-Republican; Townsendism had its day, and dynamic Huey P. Long raised his voice from the bayous of Louisiana.

These are the malcontents, "radicals" if you please, many of whom argue that it's safer to build a new balloon than patch the old. In an era featured by change, they want more change. Individually they are powerless, but if a new Leader should emerge—

In Wisconsin a few weeks ago that potential Leader did emerge, but he was not an unknown Messiah. His father was the fire-eating Progressive who kept the United States senate worried until his death in 1925. His brother is today a member of that same senate and very much respected. He himself is governor of Wisconsin.

The name is Phil La Follette. If America's anti-Republicans and anti-Democrats had searched a generation they might not have found an abler Leader than the man who popped up in the quiet college town of Madison. Like his brother, Senator Bob, Phil La Follette has been doggedly fighting for the ideals of Progressivism more than a decade. He's never shouted; only the false Messiahs shout. But he has applied his ideals to state government and has made them work.

A Brotherly Combine. Together the brothers La Follette form a unique combination to win support from labor, the farmer and the small business men.

They are not socialists but the La Follettes want to "harness the profit motive for social ends." They are not capitalistic but they think organized labor is foolish to bargain for fixed wages instead of an annual income based on a share of the company's profits. Nor are these farm state boys opposed to agriculture but they do censure the farmer for haggling with purchasers of their crops for a set price level. Instead, say the La Follettes, farmers should bargain collectively for a share of the ultimate price.

These proposals come under the heading of making new balloons instead of patching old ones. Phil La Follette built a new balloon in his state unemployment insurance law, a piece of legislation that reflects the La Follette fetish for justice. Un-



Governor Phil La Follette of Wisconsin, charming and unassuming, will be the "public appeal" factor in the National Progressive party's campaign. He's presidential timber.

der this act a separate set of books is kept for each business organization in the state. The corporation with the smallest labor turnover pays the least.

What Phil La Follette doesn't say, Senator Bob supplies. In Washington he rants about the "hodge-podge" of taxation that has grown up these past hundred years.

Brother Bob's Opinions. Senator Bob has also voiced a family opinion concerning the New Deal and its efforts to cure depressions, recessions and crises within crises. But the New Deal is only an immediate victim of his denunciation. He says this business of waiting for "economic cycles" is foolishness.

Throughout the past decade's topsy-turvy experimentation in social and economic reform, the La Follettes have remained pretty much in the background. In Wisconsin, Governor Phil has done his own experimenting and in Washington Senator Bob has listened carefully to each successive crop of reform proposals.

In 1938, at a strategic moment when the New Deal shows signs of bogging down, when the Republican party still lacks leadership and the country cries with discontent, Phil La Follette has launched the National Progressive party with an eye to pushing himself to the White House by 1948. Perhaps it will be sooner. On the surface Bob La Follette,

well versed with official Washington, is the logical National Progressive candidate. But the brothers recognize that Bob is the politician and legislator while Phil is an executive.

This is a queer trick of fate because old Bob La Follette intended that his namesake should carry on the family tradition. Young Bob went to Washington immediately after he finished college and became his father's secretary. In 1924 he managed the La Follette presidential campaign and found himself in the heat of politics while brother Phil was twiddling his thumbs.

Phil once thought of entering the ministry. His wise old father discouraged him from politics but his heart was in it. In 1924, at the ripe age of twenty-seven, he ran for district attorney of Dane county, delivering not a single speech for himself because the elder La Follette needed his help in the presidential campaign. But Phil won.

Wisconsin's Wonder Boy. The next year his father died and Phil's ambitions were nipped in the bud when young Bob ascended to the senate. It looked like a political fade-out but Phil won the Republican nomination for governor in 1930 and has been at Madison for three terms since.

Governor Phil is by no means an idol with his constituents. The past two years have seen many scraps from which he has emerged victorious but badly scratched. In most of these he has shown a judgment for diplomacy that would credit any President.

The governor's private life and hobbies account for much of his popular appeal. He is a devotee of Americana of the Sam Houston period and is also a student of Napoleon.

His quick-on-the-trigger aptitude in speech-making wins him many converts. Never caught short, he faced a momentary crisis when addressing a crowd of Farmer-Laborites in Iowa a few weeks ago. A bench collapsed noisily, spilling its occupants to the ground.

"That," cracked Phil, "must have been the Democratic or Republican platform."

The next few months may see Governor Phil and Senator Bob carrying their National Progressive party to the nation. The two brothers never disagree on major points, so America's farmers, laboring men and small business men are apt to be offered two Messiahs instead of one, each preaching the same political doctrine.

To them may fall the task of cementing our growing crop of malcontents into a unified political group, of soothing Labor's quarrels with the farmer and the corner grocery man. To their flag may rally a strange mixture of men and women, disillusioned followers of defeated third party movements.

But Phil will be the dominant La Follette, a dynamic crusader in whom more than one aging Progressive will see a carbon copy of old Fighting Bob La Follette, the man who wanted his son to be a minister.

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City Orders Arrest of Criminal in 1989

St. Louis.—It will be 51 years before St. Louis can punish Edward McLean Snow, who escaped from the city sanitarium while awaiting trial for three holdups. But he'll be punished.

Snow is in federal prison in Washington, serving the first of four terms for a series of California robberies. The terms add up to 51 years.

Despite the half century of waiting, St. Louis police have placed a detainer against Snow with California and federal police.

Snow is now twenty-nine. By the time St. Louis justice gets around to him, he'll be eighty.

HEADLESS BODY OF GIRL HIDDEN YEARS

Found in House by Workmen, Occupants Unaware.

Des Moines.—Workmen who had just knocked out an old wall blanching when they investigated two musty bundles lying atop an old fruit cellar in a residence on Twenty-eighth street. Those two bundles set the city on its ear, for they contained the headless body of a young girl.

Wrapped in muslin and placed over the fruit cellar, just back of the brick wall, the hideous parcels had been sealed up there, according to Coroner A. E. Shaw, for at least a quarter of a century. Not far away lay a locket, dirty and tarnished. When polished up, the jewelry was distinguishable as a locket of a style popular years ago.

On its front was an engraved design, decked with eight brilliants. There was no picture or other memento in the locket but scratched on the inside of each of its halves were the letters, or numeral, "XIX."

"Removal of the head," observed Dr. Shaw, "was an ideal way to prevent identification. One part of the body which is indestructible, and which furnishes a means of identification, is the teeth."

After four days of diligent inquiry into the murder mystery, the coroner's men and the police got a real break. A physician in St. Louis, Mo., Dr. W. H. Betts, heard of the case, and gave it an entirely different twist.

"The dismembered parts of a body," he said, "were items in a collection which belonged to Dr. G. F. Yates, who occupied the house, and with whom I boarded, while we both were students in the Drake university medical college. That was in 1910. We were graduated in 1914."

Dr. Betts said he was not aware that Dr. Yates had left the body at the residence. "I was under the impression," he related, "that Dr. Yates had returned that part of the body to the college's anatomy department, after removing the head and left side."

"He took the head and the other parts back to his home in Harrisburg, Pa., when he left after graduation."

"The body had been given to Dr. Yates by Professor Hoeve, instructor in anatomy at the medical college, as payment for assistance Dr. Yates had given in the department."

Snake Angling New Sport for Venturesome Texans

Matador, Texas.—Cowboys and town dwellers alike are getting new thrills from a dangerous new sport of the rocky ranch country—snake angling.

The idea circulated northward from the Rio Grande ranchers, past Breckenridge, in central west Texas, where a "snake hunt" is an annual outing for many citizens. The rugged brush country of the "Cap Rock" plateau of the high plains furnishes a sport usually not found in snake hunting.

Rattlesnakes are the prey and the "rods" are four-foot lengths of pipe encircling a stout wire that is fashioned into a loop at the bottom end. The "angler" carries the rod, and when he meets a rattler, the wire loop is slipped over the snake's head. A quick jerk on the other end of the wire, and the rattler is killed—either decapitated or with a broken back.

A catch of 100 is not unusual for a single all-day party.

Kill 15,000 Crows With

One Charge of Dynamite

Burley, Idaho.—It took only one shot to bag approximately 15,000 crows on an island in Snake river. The composite bullet, consisting of 199 sticks of dynamite in tin cans filled with buckshot, was touched off, all at once, by an electric timing device. The island rocked, and the crows dropped in droves. The idea and the "marksmanship" record belong to the state game department.