

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

Vol. LXVII

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1941

No. 24

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

By Edward C. Wayne

British-Russian Forces Invade Iran In Drive to Foil Alleged Nazi Coup; Navy Takes Over Shipbuilding Plant; Fierce Battle Marks Russo-Nazi War

EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)



COLOGNE, GERMANY.—This picture gives a dramatic view of a recent sensational daylight air raid by the British Royal Air force on a huge power station in the vicinity of Cologne. The bombers flew at a height of less than 100 feet at times. Much of the smoke was caused by air raid missiles and many direct hits were scored. The planes then swept lower still to get photographs like this.

PRODUCE: Or Else

While President Roosevelt struck out at critics who said that production was lagging, quoting chapter and verse, also war department figures to show Senator Byrd of Virginia that he had been misinformed, he also put the Kearny, N. J., shipyard back into production by ordering the navy to take over the plant.

Secretary Knox sent one of his admirals to take charge, and history, made when the army took over the North American Aviation plant, was repeated.

Yet there was said to be a difference in this latest plant seizure, in that the navy would not plan to relinquish it to the private owners after putting it in operation, but continue to operate it as a navy yard.

Thus the eventuality oddly enough sought by men and employer as well in this instance, was brought into being, an eventuality which the state authorities of New Jersey sought vainly and bitterly to prevent.

Sixteen thousand workers were affected, and the work on two cruisers, one almost ready for launching, six destroyers, three tankers and two freighters was halted, contracts adding up to \$493,000,000, and awarded by the navy and the maritime commission.

The union was the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of the C.I.O.

IRAN: And Britain

The British demand on Iran that she expel all Nazi agents from her borders, and the Iranian refusal to obey, turned eyes again to the Middle East and Near East, and showed that Britain, conquerors of Syria with the aid of the Free French, realized the need of strengthening the position of her forces in that part of the world.

Few doubted the ability of the British, with the possible aid of the Russians, to take over little Persia, and present to the Nazis coming down from the Ukraine, or wishing to, a firmer front. It also would extend the common frontier with Turkey, and allow Ankara to have an excuse for maintaining a stronger pro-British neutrality.

Iran's fears were realized when British troops under the command of Gen. Archibald Wavell crossed into southern Iran and at the same time Soviet Russian forces moved into northern Iran from the Caucasus. There was resistance encountered, according to the early reports from the fighting fronts. London sources indicated that the movement into Iran came to foil a Nazi coup. The move was seen as a direct action to the refusal of the Iran to give a satisfactory reply to the British and Russian request that Germans be expelled from the country.

Iran was powerless militarily, though with an army technically measured at 120,000, to halt a British invasion in similar force to that which moved in on well-defended Syria, but she was in an important position geographically for Britain's Middle Eastern defense, believed one of the next tactical moves of the war, as the weather in northern Russia was about to tighten into winter temperatures and snows.

Country Invaded



This is Shah Mirza Riza Pahlavi, 63-year-old ruler of Iran, whose country has been invaded by British and Russian troops. These countries moved in, they say, to prevent Germany from taking over the country. Also, Iran has rich oil fields that would prove of immense benefit to the Nazi war machine.

UNREST: Growing in Europe

The picture of the growing unrest in Nazi-conquered Europe continued to be sketched in, with the reports ranging from the outbreaks in Vichy and Paris to the article written for the American Mercury by Otto Strasser, the "Black Front" leader, who declared there was more than a possibility of revolution within Germany during the coming winter.

Dramatic was the broadcast picked up from England in French to the people of France in which the British urged the saboteurs and revolters to hold back their chief revolt until a signal from Britain, and then to come out in force against the Nazis.

Their cue at present, the broadcast stated, was to continue to harass the war machine in small, secret ways, not in open, widespread revolt.

Yet the report was that the revolts were continuing, that Pétain had set up courts-martial for saboteurs, and that opposition elements were being arrested by the thousands by Nazi soldiers and a corps of 16,000 French police.

Lieut. Gen. Von Schamburg, Paris commander, having taken thousands of civilians into custody as hostages, ordered that the prisoners be shot in numbers to correspond with the gravity of any offenses against the Nazi invaders.

Pétain's courts-martial were invested with the right to give the death penalty, and the order was that such sentences be carried out immediately and without appeal rights for the prisoner involved.

Observers held that the severity of these measures was the true mark of the seriousness of the revolt. The Vichy courts were continuing to convict and sentence to death DeGaulle, although they were still at liberty, and fighting on one front or another.

GASOLINE: Stations

Most stations in the East were beginning to ration their gasoline customers in odd sorts of ways, so that the driver who wanted gasoline badly enough could get it, if only at the rate of five gallons here and five more there.

But New York surveyors of the field reported that even the 7 p. m. to 7 a. m. curfew was working pretty well, with 109 key stations reporting a 19.4 per cent reduction in sales.

The second method was also cutting sales, though how much remained a mystery. It was believed probable that the better method would be to enlist the co-operation of the bigger users of gasoline, such as the delivery truckers, bus operators, etc., and also to force some political jobholders to stop using their state and city-owned cars for pleasure driving.

KENT: A Junket

The duke of Kent, the king of England's younger brother, having flown the Atlantic, having flown from coast to coast over Canada, inspecting war work and training in the dominion, dropped in on President Roosevelt at Hyde Park, and then made a rapid trip over American defense centers.

His schedule brought him to New York, Hyde Park, Norfolk, Va., Washington, D. C., and Baltimore, Md., within a few days, and he reported himself vastly impressed with what he saw.

Washington Digest

Post-War Food Problem Needs Intelligent Study

Method of Handling and Sharing Surpluses Could Have an Important Effect on World's Economic Future.

By BAUKHAGE

National Farm and Home Hour Commentator.

WNU Service, 1343 H St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

"The most surprising thing, of course, is a real egg for breakfast."

The speaker was an Englishman who had just arrived from London and had flown from Nova Scotia to Ottawa, Canada. We were sitting in the Rideau club in Ottawa, the third war-capital which I have visited since 1939.

As I watched my English acquaintance enjoying his Canadian salmon and deep dish pie, I realized how bad the food situation in England must be. In this column I have been writing about the millions of eggs which have been shipped across the Atlantic under the Lend-Lease law and the millions of dollars worth of cheese and bacon and fruits which have been purchased for the purpose of supplying the British Isles with American farm products.

"The people in England are worse off now, as far as food goes, than at any time during the World War," said the Englishman, "and I'm not too young to remember how bad that was."

It must have seemed strange to him to be sitting there in the capital of a nation at war and enjoying everything a generous table can offer. There is, of course, no lack of food for Britain. There is only lack of ships.

I myself found it difficult to get the war feel in Canada's capital. There are plenty of uniforms. This city of Ottawa, like Washington, has greatly increased in population; new temporary buildings have sprung up and others are in the process of construction. Even the beautiful new Supreme Court building is housing offices of the director of information and other war-torn bureaus; painted signs are pasted on the marble walls and messenger boys and stenographers hurry along the corridors where the stately justices are wont to tread. In Washington we haven't quite come to that yet.

Same Ghosts Present

And in these crowded government buildings the same ghosts walk which haunt our own capital. Like the United States, Canada is thinking about starvation in the midst of plenty. And she is thinking about it not only in terms of feeding her mother country, but of the terrible problem she must face with her farm surpluses after the war.

"We shall be eating less American potatoes next spring," said a Canadian official to me. "We shall go without green peas at Christmas-time, but it won't be because we can't get them. It will be because we save our American dollars to pay for war supplies from the United States."

Canada is building new granaries to store the wheat with which the barns are bursting. Wheat is stored in church cellars and in every available corner. This growing surplus is a greater threat to the balanced economy of the nation than the displacement of social and industrial life caused by the war.

But what is to happen with that grain and the other raw materials when the war is over and starving Europe has no money to pay for them? It is exactly the same question our own farmers face.

Well, here is the answer which is being given serious consideration by Canadian economists and its inspiration comes neither from the theories of conservative capitalists nor from those who like to toy with the teachings of Karl Marx. It comes from the twelfth chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans. This is the passage:

"Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink; for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head."

This is the text of a plain talk by Gilbert Jackson, which has caused considerable comment by officials and others who are able to look ahead at the problems of peace to come. Mr. Jackson has a very practical reason for making this admonition of St. Paul the basis for a policy which he urges be carried out after the war. He proposes a plan to give a very great part of Canada's surplus to the 400 millions in Europe who will be starving, poverty-stricken and probably leaderless when the war is over.

ty-stricken and probably leaderless when the war is over.

Important Effect

"On our immediate treatment of these people when the war ends," says Mr. Jackson, "may depend the future of Europe, in permanence; whether those 400 millions will ever be steady customers of ours again; whether the new countries, including Canada (Mr. Jackson refers elsewhere to the United States as one of the 'new countries') must now try somehow to live, without the world market which was the reason for their existence.

"The problem," he goes on to say, "of course is international. It is not a counsel for Canada, but for Britain and ourselves, for our sister dominions in the war, and for that most resolute and helpful of non-belligerents, the United States."

Britain, it is pointed out, will have no surplus stocks of her own but will probably still have large balances in the Western hemisphere, particularly in South America. She therefore can help bear her share in this enterprise—"the greatest giving in history." Uncle Sam, Mr. Jackson says, is no Fairy Godfather; he can't do it alone. He will help, but Britain must take the leadership. Such a move now might shorten the war, he believes, if actual purchase by the governments of these supplies were immediately announced as a definite policy. It would cost less than six months fighting, he says.

I could get no government official to express open approval of the plan, but I found no one who refused to recognize that some such step may be taken eventually. And that is something from a nation bending its every effort, as Canada is, to perfect its military machine.

An Excellent Book On Defense Achievement

"My desire is," said Job, "that mine adversary had written a book."

My adversary hasn't but my assistant has, or at least she, and some brilliant Washingtonians have collaborated on a tome, with a red, white and blue cover, entitled, "America Prepares for Tomorrow."

Unlike Job, I am unable to make use of this volume, either to get more work out of my assistant, Pauline Frederick, or my favors from my friend, William Boutwell, who edited and contributed to this very excellent record of American defense achievement. At least, I can't use their creation as Job wished, to condemn them out of their own mouths. There is nothing to condemn. It is a good book if you want to know the latest word as to just what the United States government is doing for defense, how the various departments and agencies—including 20 new ones—are functioning.

According to Mr. Boutwell, when the reader for Harper & Brothers, who published the volume, first read the manuscript, she said:

"If Hitler were to read this he would curl up and die."

War's Effect

On 'Average' Canadian

How is the average Canadian feeling the war today?

Most intimately, of course, when the picture of a young fellow appears in the paper, reported by the war ministry as killed or missing. Canada has more than a thousand such casualties as reported up to July 1. She has raised five divisions for overseas service. A sixth will be raised. Ninety thousand men are now overseas; 300,000 are on active service elsewhere.

Coal, gas, certain food products such as pork and cheese which will be used for export will probably be rationed soon. As early as last fall, aluminum went out of civilian use. There is an 8 per cent sales tax on a large range of manufactured products. It is an invisible wholesale tax and so isn't so noticeable.

Canada feels that the real pinch is in the pocketbook. A married Canadian with no dependents pays \$75 on an income of \$1,500 a year; the \$5,000-a-year man pays \$1,000 income tax. The \$10,000 income pays \$3,000. Higher brackets turn over more than 50 per cent to the government.

Hearing Sense Guides Blind

Unusual Ability to Avoid Obstacles Is Subject of Experimentation.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.—Dr. Karl M. Dallenbach, psychology professor at Cornell university, believes the so-called "sixth sense" that enables the blind to avoid obstacles in their paths is in reality the sense of hearing.

In an interview, aided by Michael Supa, a blind graduate student in psychology who serves as his assistant, Dr. Dallenbach said that in experiments conducted by them at Cornell it was found a blind person becomes aware of an object before he touches it.

"After an investigation involving more than 1,700 experiments," Dallenbach said, "we have come to the conclusion that what has been called the 'sixth sense,' 'telesthesia,' the 'warning sense,' the 'obstacle sense'—to mention but a few of the catch phrases—is in reality the sense of hearing.

Sight vs. Blindness.

On one occasion the Cornell psychologist experimented with four people—two totally blind and two possessing normal vision but serving blindfolded. Previous to the experiment, the blind subjects asserted that they were able to distinguish the presence of obstacles. In fact, both of them maintained they used this ability every day as a matter of necessity. The sighted subjects, on the other hand, doubted at the outset that they would be able to note the presence of obstacles in their paths.

"In that experiment," Supa said, "we had to devise a measurement whereby we could determine the accuracy with which the subject perceived objects and whereby we could compare the performances from trial to trial, and from individual to individual. To establish such a measurement we had the subject walk toward a movable wall, the position of which was varied from trial to trial."

Each subject was instructed to walk toward the wall until he first perceived its presence, the assistant said. The distance between the place where the subject stopped and the wall was noted, and the subject was then told to move forward until he was as close to the wall as possible without coming in contact with it. The first distance divided by the second distance yielded the ratio that was used as a standard of measurement.

Ratio Worked Out.

Such a ratio was a good measurement because at the outset the sighted subjects, fearful lest they run into the wall, would sometimes stop 20 feet from the object and then move up a foot or two. This would give an exceedingly low ratio when compared with the results of those who stopped first nine feet, and then walked up to within three inches of the wall.

When the subjects were asked how they were able to perceive the wall some said they were able to detect it only when there were sounds of some sort present. Others asserted that they "felt" the wall. It was on the basis of these opposing reports that the subsequent series of experiments were fashioned.

The possibility of pressure sensations reaching the face were eliminated by a veil of heavy felt. The veil was constructed to cover the entire face without coming into contact with it. The subjects as a group, however, were able to detect the wall almost as accurately as before.

Gigantic Hole Will Aid Defense—a Copper Pit

MORENCI, ARIZ.—An open pit copper mine, a great national defense aid and one of the largest privately financed development projects in America's history, will begin full operation soon.

Equipment totaling \$34,000,000 will be provided to move 75,000 tons of material every 24 hours. Of this amount 25,000 tons will be actual copper ore, from which an average of 500,000 pounds of 99.75 per cent pure copper will be extracted.

Construction necessary for the job includes a smokstack 602 feet high, the tallest in the world, a power plant, smelter, mill, electric, carpenter and machine shops, and a warehouse.

In September, 1937, at the site of the present workings, nothing existed but a mountain. By May 1, 1941, 46,000,000 tons of material had been stripped, leaving a pit nearly ready for operation.

The earth is removed by electric shovels handling 4½ cubic yards at a time, and is deposited in 42-ton trucks or in trains to be taken to the mill.

Weave Cable Nets To Protect Ports

Naval Aces Have New Plan For Laying Traps.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Working almost unnoticed, 250 officers and men from the 13th U. S. naval district are solving problems of great importance to national defense.

Working with a crane, a few buildings on a hillside overlooking San Francisco bay, three boats, a field for weaving nets, several thousand anchors, and 100 miles of heavy steel wire, these men are fashioning defenses that ultimately will be used in every major United States harbor as protection against submarine and mosquito-boat attack.

Called the California City Naval Net Depot and Training Station—a school specializing in the science of trapping submarines in steel nets—the situation started from scratch, inasmuch as the science of submarine defense was found to be greatly lacking when a U-boat pierced the "wonderful" Scapa Flow defenses to sink the British battleship Royal Oak.

New type nets are being developed, so are new systems of laying them and keeping them in position.

The nets are woven by cables in sections and are stored. When they are to be put to use, the sections are joined by a large clamp.

A crane lifts them out to the water's edge and anchors are attached to pull them down to the proper depths. Floats hold the nets while they are being towed to their positions and later serve as markers.

The defense against the mosquito fleet—torpedo boats—consists of floating rafts, similar to log booms, a system first used in this country during the American Revolution. It is expected to be sufficient protection.

New Liquid Coal Adds to Ship's Cruising Range

STATE COLLEGE, PA.—A new method of making liquid coal, by which coal is dissolved more completely than ever before, was reported at Pennsylvania State college. The new fluid, when 40 per cent of it is mixed with oil, makes a hotter fire than either coal or oil alone.

The process was discovered by Dr. Walter M. Fuchs, professor of fuel technology. A United States patent has been assigned by him to the Pennsylvania research corporation, an affiliate of the college.

The liquid coal-oil fuel promises to increase the cruising range of ships. Although heat from coal generally is cheaper than from oil, it is possible to carry more of the liquid fuel on shipboard because it permits better use of bunker space. The coal-oil mixture can be stored under a water seal, thus reducing fire risks, and in event of fire, extinguishing by water is possible.

To make the liquid, bituminous coal is treated with acids. These extract what chemists sometimes call the coal substance, which is a complex mixture of hundreds of chemicals. The extraction gets rid of mineral matter and ash. In final form the coal substance is dissolved in furfural, an inexpensive chemical available from agricultural wastes such as oat hulls, corn cobs and bran.

Scott Field Selectee Reports; He's 'Colonel'

BELLEVIEW, ILL.—The receiving officer at Scott Field glanced up at the young man who appeared before him and said crisply:

"Name?"

"I'm Colonel Yates," the man replied.

The officer got to his feet quickly, then said suspiciously:

"Aren't you a little young to be a colonel, sir?"

Yates grinned and handed him an identification form, and answered, "Yes, sir. Colonel is my first name."

The officer looked at the form and read: "Colonel Yates, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Yates, West Salem, Ill. Selectee transferred from Camp Grant."

'Wild-Eyed Beast' Slain; Identified as Muskrat

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.—Patrolman Walter J. Przystek, investigating reports that a "wild-eyed" beast had actually "terrified innocent bystanders," established the night-stick as a hunting piece and ended the career of one muskrat.

Police said the furry migrant apparently came out of a creek that runs under the Schenectady business section.

The patrolman's offer of a prime pelt for anyone who would take it was not accepted.