

# THE PILOT

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## THE EUROPEAN CRISIS

By **WALTER LIPPMANN**

The events leading up to the new crisis in Europe have been enacted on a stage which extends east and west from London to Tokio, north and south from Berlin to Rome. They involve all the governments which were engaged in the World War up to April, 1917. The central theme of the drama is the revival of Germany as a great military power inspired by the conviction that the peace settlement must be revised because it does not conform to her needs, her aspirations and her pride.

Opinions differ as to whether Germany plans to make war to upset the settlement: it is generally agreed that once Germany has realized her full potential military power she will dominate the European continent and achieve her ends either by war or by diplomacy backed by the threat of war.

With the advent of Hitler Germany began to rearm. This set in motion several currents in the rest of Europe. The revival of German armaments provoked the revival of the anti-German combination which had been disintegrating in the pre-Hitler period. It provoked new armaments in the countries belonging to that combination. And it stimulated a feverish search for some sort of truce between Germany and her neighbors. It was the formula for such a truce that Sir John Simon was to take to Berlin next week. This is the appellation that Hitler has just upset.

The revival of German armaments is a fact, though it is not known, except perhaps in the inner rooms of European diplomacy, precisely how heavily Germany is now armed. That she is well on the way to being fully armed is, however, generally believed.

The revival of the anti-German combination has also proceeded rapidly although there have been setbacks. The first and the most important of the set-backs was the withdrawal of Poland and her turn towards Germany. But except for this, the past year has seen the rise of a coalition of powers which, because they do not wish the settlement to be revised, have a common interest in opposing Nazi Germany.

This coalition has been formed step by step. The French consolidated their alliances with the Little Entente, with Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia, and Rumania. A Balkan agreement was arrived at embracing both Bulgaria and Turkey. France and Italy decided to settle their principal differences. Russia entered the League and decided to support the existing frontiers of Europe. Russia untied her hands in the Far East by coming to an agreement with Japan. Negotiations are on foot to settle the differences between Italy and Jugoslavia. Finally, Great Britain, alarmed by the German rearmament and particularly by the German air force, re-entered European politics actively and renewed her entente with France. In all the countries of this combination there is a rapid development of armaments.

To the Germans this armed combination appears as an iron ring which holds them in its grip and might crush them. To the people of the other countries the combination is looked upon as the necessary defense against an armed and aggressive Nazi Germany. This tragic predicament has incalculable dangers for all the nations of Europe.

The effort to resolve it was based upon a formula devised by the British, the French, and the Italians. In substance it was this: The former Allies were prepared to legalize the German rearmament if Germany would renounce aggression and underwrite her renunciation by legalizing the diplomatic combination to resist aggression. Sir John Simon was going to Berlin to say to Hitler: "We are

prepared to recognize your armaments if you will not only take a pledge not to use them for aggression but will recognize the right of the rest of Europe to resist if you commit aggression. You say you wish equality in arms but that you are devoted to peace. We offer you legal equality if you will legalize the existing peace."

That this formula created a very difficult dilemma for Hitler was plain. He could end the military servitudes of the Versailles treaty by accepting the territorial terms of that treaty. If he accepted the proposal that Sir John made to him, he would in effect put his own signature to the Versailles treaty minus the sections devoted to military affairs and to reparations. The Allies were offering him a hard bargain: to obtain legal sanctions for the armaments he was creating illegally, Hitler had to give legal sanction to a territorial settlement which makes impossible the fulfillment of his highest ambitions.

Only the optimists ever believe he would accept it. So little confidence did the British, French, and Italians have in his acceptance that without waiting for the negotiations they went ahead with their own rearmament. Hitler, finding himself on the defensive, has now turned and has taken the offensive. He has so far as Germany is concerned, legalized his own armaments without agreeing to anything that Sir John Simon was going to include in his requests.

This very bold stroke has undoubtedly put the Allies in a position as uncomfortable as that which Hitler was in when confronted with the proposed truce. They have been defied. Hitler has taken the very thing they were trying to sell him at a high price. He has what he wanted and he has given up nothing in return. And they have now to decide what they will do about it.

It would be foolish to attempt to guess the outcome. One can be certain only that the tension in Europe will be greatly increased and that the race of armaments will be intensified. What will come of this no man can say. If the Allies write notes and do nothing further, they will appear impotent and they will have to face the danger that as Germany grows stronger in arms and in prestige, their own combination will grow weaker. If they meet Hitler's challenge by occupying the Rhineland, they take incalculable risks. If they meet the challenge by strengthening their armaments and their alliances, the chances of a great European war are enormously increased. If they accept the accomplished fact and go on to negotiate with Hitler for some kind of truce, they will feel that they have postponed the crisis without softening it.

However it is regarded, the decision which the European nations have to take now is weighted with responsibilities that are awful to contemplate.

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## DOGWOOD TIME APPROACHES

The flowering dogwood flourishing from Maine to Florida and from Ontario to Texas is found in profusion throughout North Carolina, and many of our early settlers set out closely ranked thickets as boundaries between plantation lines, the remains of one such division between the lands of the Blues, Rays and Shaws still existing on the line of Weymouth, formerly Dogwood road.

The usual flowering season runs from April to June, but here in the Sandhills, favored by a mild winter, the buds sometimes open as early as the third week in March, but as it is the earliest of all our blooms it never flowers until all danger from a real frost has passed. At times it does not fully bloom until mid-April. This season the guiding minds of the Spring Blossom Festival have set a date for that annual event that will give visitors a full opportunity to enjoy the crowning glory of our springtime, the dogwoods in full bloom, their ethereal beauty wraithlike amid the emerald green of the pines where their white blossoms loom like fairy castles set in the forests.

Aside from the profuse new plantings bordering many of our main roads and drives several trees within the town limits are notable for their beauty, one in the City Park, another in the old golf fairway of the Boyd estate, best seen from the Connecticut avenue extension, and the famous pink blossom trees planted on May street by the late L. A. Gould.

—C. M.

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## GRAINS OF SAND

Isn't it nice that we never really grow up?

When we're children we like to play with choo-choo trains and rocking horses.

The Sandhills has had two tremendous crowds turn out this winter. Some 8,000 gathered around the new steeplechase course to see the "rocking horses."

Last Sunday thousands gathered along the Seaboard tracks to see a new "Choo-choo train."

We're still children.

At least one person in the huge throng which watched the new Burlington Zephyr pass through the Sandhills last Sunday afternoon was reminded of an earlier day.

Mrs. W. J. Cameron, lifelong resident of the Vass community, harked back to the time when she and her neighbors waited by the newly laid track in what is now the town of Vass to see the first train that ran on this section of the Seaboard road.

While on the subject it might be recounted that in Southern Pines a group of prominent citizens was invited to board the Zephyr here and ride to Hamlet. The story goes that when they stepped off the train there, each began asking the other how he was going to get back. They dug up something like 83 cents in the crowd, were beginning to wonder who they knew in Hamlet that would trust them, when a big limousine drove up and offered them a ride.

We're not mentioning any names.

Time certainly flits. Here we are on the verge of another peach and dewberry season and it seems as if

we'd just gotten through talking about what Hileys and Belles were bringing.

## SHAW UNIVERSITY SINGERS AT MID-PINES ON SUNDAY

The Shaw University Choral Society is giving a concert at the Mid-Pines Club this Sunday evening, March 31st, at 8:30 o'clock, to which residents and guests of the Sandhills are invited. The society will be remembered here for its fine singing on Old Slave Day last spring.

Among recent engagements of the society are broadcasts over the facilities of W. P. T. F. of Raleigh and W. E. A. F. of New York. Concerning this latter broadcast Phillips Carlin of the National Broadcasting Company wrote: "We wish to thank you for the splendid program you put on last Saturday for us. We hope to have the pleasure of having your organization on the air with us again next year."

The society has sung in the north in many of the large churches, among them the Riverside Church, New York City; the Baptist Temple, Brooklyn; the First Baptist Church, Philadelphia. In the south it has given concerts for such organizations as the Thursday Morning Music Club of Winston-Salem and the Inter-Club Council of Shelby; it has also sung in many of the churches among which are the First Baptist Churches of Raleigh, Greensboro, Salisbury, Gastonia, and Statesville.

The society also sang in February with the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Lamar Stringfield.

## Time Short For Filing Tobacco Allotments

Special Base, or One Year Contracts Must Be in County Agent's Hands April 1st

By **E. H. Garrison, Jr.,**  
 County Agent

All allotments for tobacco under the Special Base, or one year contracts, must be in this office before April 1st. This is the time set for getting these in and it is only fair to those who have made application, as they must know whether their papers have passed or not and if so how much acreage and poundage.

Parties who have been growing tobacco since 1929 will be eligible to sign one of these contracts. The exception being cases where parties had tobacco during 1931, 1932, 1933 and failed to sign a regular reduction contract. Parties in this condition will be ruled out so far as allotments are concerned. Parties making application for these allotments, or special base contracts, must also establish the fact that they are on farms on which tobacco has been grown in 1929 or since and said farm must have tobacco barns or something in the way of tobacco equipment on it and is not under regular contract at this time.

The impression seems to have gone out that boys who have become of age and wanted to grow tobacco this

## CALHOUN WINS THREE MEDALS IN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Playing on the Jonesboro All-Star basketball team in the Gold Medal basketball tournament held in Fayetteville, A. M. Calhoun, member of the Vass-Lakeview faculty, was the winner of three medals. He was winner of the medal offered to the player turning in the highest one-game score, winner of the first of three offered to the outstanding players, and winner of a third by virtue of his being chosen as a member of the first all-tournament teams.

The Jonesboro All-Stars received the runner-up award in the tournament and the championship trophy was captured by the Erwin Red Birds.

year would be given an allotment. It is not the intention of the government at this time to bring new land into the production of tobacco and these parties mentioned above would have to secure a place where tobacco had been grown in 1929 or since and on which there are now barns and something in the way of equipment.

If this is not entirely clear to everyone I shall be glad to try to answer any further questions in regard to the matter but would like to impress upon all those interested that these applications must be in this office not later than the first day of April.

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