

# THE PILOT

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## STRESA AND GENEVA

BY WALTER LIPPMANN

The public announcements from Stresa reflect faithfully the present situation in Europe. They were non-committal, because no great power in Europe today has a government which knows how far it can commit its people. They were subject to several interpretations, because within each nation concerned and among the nations at the conference there are wide divergences of opinion and of interest. These things are true not only of Britain, France and Italy, who were represented at Stresa, but of Germany, Russia, Poland and the Little Entente, who were absent.

It is by this very uncertainty that for the time being the peace of Europe is being preserved. The peace does not rest upon a feeling of security derived from contentment and good will. It does not rest upon the settlement or a prospect of the settlement of the vital issues that divide the vanquished from the victors. It does not rest upon respect for law and order or upon a collective system capable of enforcing law and order. It does not rest upon a balance of power or upon overwhelmingly superior power prepared to hold the peace. It rests upon the fact that nobody is ready to challenge any one else because no one feels sure that his armaments are ready, that his people are prepared to march, or that his alliances are in order.

It is true that all the governments, including the German, profess to be working for peace. And in one sense, a very Pickwickian, that is true. All of them would rather gain their purposes without war than by war. But the Germans will not renounce their purpose to dominate Central Europe and the lands to the east of them, and the former allies will not surrender to Germany an imperial domain. What is more, the Germans know this and the Allies know it. Therefore, the German peace program is to become so strong that no one will dare resist Germany. The Allied peace program is to become so strong that the Germans will not dare to move.

The German contribution to peace will, therefore, consist in the development of the greatest army in Europe, in subversive propaganda and intrigue in Austria and elsewhere along the line of her intended conquests, and of diplomatic maneuvers designed to prevent the former Allies from reconstructing their alliance. The French, Italian and Russian contributions to peace will consist in developing their military forces, in fitting them together for some sort of unified action, in countering the German penetration of Central Europe, and in persuading and maneuvering to bring Great Britain into the coalition. The British contribution will consist in strengthening her forces, and, by refraining from making full commitments to any one, in preserving precariously a balance of power.

All but Britain and to some extent Poland, which is in an uncomfortable squeeze, are working for peace on their own terms. Their method is to prepare for war.

The course of events is likely to be determined by the relative rate of rearmament, by the rate at which alliances are made or fail to be made, by accidents like assassinations or palace revolutions, and by political changes in the various countries dictated by economic and social pressure.

Can Schacht find the materials not only for the whole German rearmament, but to sustain a war in which Germany would almost surely be blockaded? Can Hitler hold the Nazis and himself in check until Schacht and the army chieftains say they are ready?

Can France make an alliance with

Communist Russia as she made one with Czarist Russia? Can Flandia and Laval survive politically the impending breakdown of the gold bloc and the intensified deflation in France? Will the French people go to war if the attack is on Austria or Lithuania?

Is the Russian army dependable as a military force outside of Russia? Is the Russian planned economy well enough planned to supply an army? Is Russia free to fight in Europe without being attacked in Asia?

Who is going to be in power in Great Britain a year hence? Will the isolationists control British policy? Or will they merely influence it enough to repeat 1914, and put Britain in a position where she cannot use her power to prevent war though she is inextricably entangled if war comes?

These are the few of the many deep uncertainties in Europe today, and they help to explain the hesitations and the ambiguities of the public announcements and of public policy.

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## THE FORTHCOMING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Although a good warm municipal election makes for excitement, it is a healthy sign when the electorate appears satisfied with its administrative regime and fails to produce the essentials for a contest, rival candidates. In at least two of the Sandhills villages there appears to be a unanimity of opinion for the continuance in office of their present chief officers. Aberdeen has renominated its mayor, Henry McCoy Blue, and to date The Pilot has heard of no opposition in Southern Pines to Mayor Dorsey G. Stutz.

A situation such as this reflects great credit upon the incumbent officials. Taxpayers are a hard lot to satisfy. It is obvious that in these two instances, if they have undue tax burdens, they do not attribute them to their municipal governments. It is true that we hear little complaint of the management of municipal affairs in Southern Pines and Aberdeen. It is commendable that the electorate recognizes jobs well done, and rewards the doers.

Curbside talk would seem to indicate possible changes in the Board of Commissioners in Southern Pines. One incumbent is reported as retiring from the board. There will be a number of candidates for his place. The board, with the mayor, is the city's governing body. After nominations are closed at the forthcoming caucus, give due consideration to the list. Five commissioners will be elected for two years; let us have the ablest five we can muster into civic service for a big but thankless task.

## CARTHAGE

Mrs. H. F. Seawell, Jr., entertained at her home, "Comfort Corner" on Saturday morning at a bridge breakfast honoring Mrs. Bob Cagle, a recent bride. After a delicious breakfast, contract was played at four tables. Mrs. L. W. Barlow was high scorer and was awarded first prize. To the honoree, Mrs. Cagle the hostess presented a beautiful piece of linen.

Mrs. E. L. Larkin and children of Washington, N. C., are the guests of Mrs. Larkin's sister, Mrs. Charles Cox and Mrs. R. G. Wallace.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Carter, Mrs. N. A. McKeithen and Mrs. S. H. Miller spent Saturday in Lexington with Mrs. J. P. Bingham.

H. F. Seawell, Sr., of Washington, D. C., is spending a few days in Carthage with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brooks of Liberty spent the Easter holidays in Carthage with Mrs. Brooks' parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Leavitt.

Albert Humphrey and Miss Ruby McGoogan of Fayetteville spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Muse. Miss Edith Rucker of Wilmington and Miss Betty Jones of Augusta, former Carthage teachers, visited Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Poole over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ledbetter of Rockingham visited Mrs. Tom Jones Sunday.

Mrs. N. A. McKeithen, Mrs. W. R. Clegg and Mrs. Frances Nicoll attended a lunch at the home of Mrs. T. B. Wilder in Aberdeen on Wednesday, given in honor of Miss Effie Leland, bride-elect.

Miss Bess McLeod is visiting her sister, Miss Kate McLeod in Richmond.

Mrs. Malcolm Withers and children of Abingdon, Va., are visiting Mrs. Withers' mother, Mrs. May Gardner. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wood of Goldsboro spent the Easter holidays

## Civic Loyalty Pays Big Dividends



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## GRAINS OF SAND

The late Frank Page of Aberdeen, father of North Carolina's splendid highway system, was posthumously honored by the General Assembly in session at Raleigh during the past week. Both House and Senate adopted resolutions to erect a suitable tablet to his memory, either in the Capitol or in the new State Highway Building if that building becomes a reality. Frank Page has a lasting monument in the road system of this state, but merits this additional tribute from North Carolina's legislative body.

A California despatch this week would appear to dim the hopes of North Carolina for the acquisition of the motion picture producing industry. The "movies" have been threatening to leave the western seacoast because of proposed taxation measures. Recently representatives of the

producers visited this state and looked over its possibilities. Now comes the report that the proposed measures seeking additional revenue from the industry for California had been dropped.

The Carolina Hotel in Pinehurst had more guests this week than at any time in its history for this time of the year, and there are said to be twice as many people in Pinehurst at present than there were a year ago now. The campaign to extend the season in the Sandhills seems to be bearing fruit.

The Seaboard's newest and largest locomotive, which hauls a fast freight through Southern Pines each morning around 10 o'clock, has been attracting much attention. It is a mammoth machine.

## CEDAR HILL SCHOOL GETS KIWANIS CLUB AWARD

The Kiwanis Club of Aberdeen voted at its meeting Wednesday, held in the Berkshire Hotel, Pinehurst, to give the Cedar Hill School permanent possession of the Kiwanis School Attendance Cup, which has been awarded each year, for one year, to the school in the county having the best attendance record. Cedar Hill has won the trophy three times in succession. It is probable that the club will purchase a new cup that the competition may be continued.

## MANAGES WINNING CREW

"Billy" Mudgett, son of Dr. and Mrs. William C. Mudgett of Southern Pines, is manager of the Choate School crew which defeated a Columbia University freshman crew in the regatta in New York City last Saturday.

with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bronson. Miss Ruth McIver Barrington spent Monday in Charlotte.

Mrs. Bumgardner of Raleigh is visiting her sister, Mrs. R. L. Phillips.

W. F. Wood has returned to his home in Marion after spending a few days here with his daughter, Mrs. O. B. Welch.

## TO SPEAK AT CAMERON

J. M. Allardyce of San Antonio, Texas will speak on "Stewardship" at the Presbyterian Church in Cameron today, Friday, at 8 p. m. A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to be present.

## MELVINS HAVE DAUGHTER

Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Melvin of Jackson Springs announced the birth of a daughter, Patricia Ann on April 20th.

Pilot Advertising Pays.

## High Prices of Cotton Reacting Against Farmer and Manufacturer

Crisis at Point Where Something Must Break or Be Done, Says Mark Sullivan

BY MARK SULLIVAN

The condition which newspaper dispatches describe, accurately, as "the cotton crisis" is at a point where something must break or be done. Either the Administration must take a step backward from A. A. A., or it must go forward, adding another to the body of binding restrictions which triple A already is.

More than cotton is involved and more than triple A. The whole conception of the New Deal, of "national planning," is involved. Within a short time will be decided whether we shall begin to abandon "national planning" or go farther and farther into it. For understanding of the present situation an extremely brief and necessarily incomplete statement is desirable.

The situation begins with a policy laid down by Mr. Roosevelt in his campaign for the Presidency. On September 14, 1932, at Topeka, Kan., he said: "We must have . . . national planning in agriculture." . . . Then on March 16, 1933, Mr. Roosevelt, at that time less than two weeks in office, sent to Congress the bill for farm relief. In his message accompanying the bill Mr. Roosevelt said to Congress:

"I tell you frankly that it is a new and untried path. . . . If a fair administrative trial of it is made and it does not produce the hoped-for results, I shall be the first to acknowledge it and advise you."

The bill was passed and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration was set up. The first farm commodity dealt with was cotton.

Farmers were paid to plow under one acre out of every four that had been planted. For the next season, farmers were paid to plant less acreage than they had been planting.

## Price Guaranty

Farmers were paid to plow under for cotton. The guaranty takes this form: The government lends 12 cents a pound on cotton, and promises to take the cotton off the farmer's hands if the price is less than 12 cents when the loan comes due.

To procure the money paid to the farmer, the Administration put a "processing tax" of 4.2 cents a pound on cotton, to be paid by all manufacturers of cotton goods.

As respects the farmer, all these steps were voluntary. He could take the money from the Administration and reduce his crop, or he could reject the money and plant as much as he pleased. But all the voluntary steps turned out to be not enough. Not as much reduction was accomplished as the Administration had

## 2,361 Farms

Gain of 299 in Moore County in Five Years, Census Report Shows

The number of farms in Moore county, as shown by a preliminary count of the returns of the Supervisor of the 1935 Census of Agriculture, inventory as of January 1, 1935, is 2,361, as compared with 2,062 on April 1, 1930.

The 1935 figure is preliminary and subject to correction, Daniel J. Carter, Supervisor of Census, announces.

planned. Thereupon the reduction was made compulsory.

As a consequence of these steps, several conditions have arisen. The high price of American cotton, about 12 cents a pound, has caused foreign manufacturers to buy from other countries.

It should be said that Secretary Wallace claims the diminished sale of American cotton abroad is not wholly due to triple A. But it should also be said that disinterested authorities assert strongly and generally that triple A is the cause.

## Unemployment Results

As another consequence, flowing from the artificial high price and the processing tax, the cost of manufactured cotton goods in America, clothing or what not, has increased. Because of the increase in cost, consumers are buying less. Because consumers buy less, mills are closing down partly or wholly, and unemployment results.

As another consequence, farm tenants and share-croppers in the South, not needed when the crop is restricted, are thrown on relief.

As yet another consequence, Japan, able to buy foreign-raised cotton at a lower price than America, is able to undersell American cotton manufacturers in America. This adds another to the causes of unemployment.

The sum of all these conditions compose the cotton crisis. There is outcry from practically every interest affected by cotton. The remedies suggested are too many to enumerate here. Most of the possible remedies fall under one of two heads. The ways out are either retreat from triple A or else greater and greater control of cotton raising, of dealing in cotton and of cotton manufacture.

The evident disposition of the Administration is to go on. There is no sign of Mr. Roosevelt taking advantage of his suggestion of two years ago, that if triple A should not succeed he would acknowledge the failure.

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