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Briton Asserts Economic Grip Strangling Germany

Economic Chief Says Reich Now in State of Want That She Faced in 1916.

London, Jan. 17.—Britain's government informed the nation today that its warime stranglehold on Germany's food and commerce already had reduced the Reich to the gnawing want of 1916.

Sharp-faced Ronald H. Cross, 43-year-old Minister of Economic Warfare, before the House of Commons, drew a grim picture of German privation as a result of four-and-a-half months of British economic blitzkrieg. Then, in a matter-of-fact tone, he said:

"We look forward to the day when we shall so strangle Germany's economic life that she can no longer sustain her war effort."

Simultaneously, the spiritual head of the Church of England, Dr. Cosmo Gordon Lang, Archbishop of Canterbury, rejected a high churchman's plea that "if thine enemy hunger, feed him."

The Bishop of Birmingham, Dr. Ernest Williams Barnes, had presented a motion in the House of Bishops of the church, urging that free importation of foodstuffs into Germany be permitted by the British blockade.

The Archbishop replied sternly that members of the government had informed him there was no way to distinguish what raw foodstuffs would be used exclusively for feeding of the hungry and what might go, at least indirectly, into the production of munitions. He said he shared Dr. Barnes' horror of war, but: "I cannot feel that it is a greater evil than would have come upon the world if we had allowed the present rulers of Germany to have their way."

Dr. Barnes withdrew the motion, remarking that the House of Bishops was divided by practical considerations rather than by moral fundamentals.

Cross, in Commons, asserted that Britain's sharp economic attack, starting with the beginning of this war rather than later, as it did in the World War, had reduced the German "Lebensraum" (living space) to the area ringed by the bayonets of her own troops. Thus, in four and a half months, he said, it had placed Hitler Germany in the position occupied by the Kaiser's empire after two years of World War.

"Contraband control was easy," he asserted, reviewing Britain's efforts to build a financial wall between Germany's 80 millions and the world's food supplies and sinews of war.

It has been Cross' job to marshal the empire's resources in a "new technique" of fighting on all fronts. Today he described "preemption," or the purchase of goods to prevent German purchase, as a heartening phase of the economic war.

"Conditions of life in Germany are strained," he said.

"Rationing is already in existence for clothing and soap.

"The inhabitants of Berlin are shivering for lack of coal.

"Requirements of export trade are given priority over the home market because, without export trade, Germany would blockade herself.

"The Germans are fertile in evasion, but our net is drawn very tightly."

AAA Offers Payment For a Home Garden

Farmers of North Carolina are offered the opportunity to earn a conservation payment in 1940 by planting a home garden, announces E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of \$1.50, is offered for the planting of State College. One unit of credit, or a garden consisting of not less than one-tenth of an acre per person. In families containing more than ten persons, a one acre garden will suffice to qualify for the payment.

Floyd said that the requirements are that the garden be adequately protected from poultry and livestock, that good cultural methods be followed, and that proper steps be taken to control insect pests. Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, corn and field peas may be planted elsewhere on the farm.

The AAA recommends that three or more different vegetables be growing in the garden each month for at least eight months of the year. Not more than one-fourth of the garden area should be planted to any one vegetable at any one time.

The AAA offers suggested plans for the garden. The original plan, which was approved by the State College, calls for a variety of crops for the livestock.

IMMINENT?

Brussels, Jan. 17.—New rumors of "imminent developments" in Belgium's relations with her belligerent neighbors spread tonight, including assertions by usually-reliable, but unofficial quarters that a German attack had been scheduled for today or tomorrow.

These quarters said the emergency military measures taken by Belgium and Holland last week-end were based upon diplomatic and military information of a probable Nazi blow.

All of these rumors, and reports met with the calm silence of official quarters and there was no indication what the "imminent" developments might be, should they occur.

However, Belgium continued to take military precautions along the frontier with Germany.

Amsterdam, Thursday, Jan. 17.—The state of emergency proclaimed in parts of The Netherlands recently was extended last night by special royal decree to sections of the Dutch coast in the provinces of southern Holland and Zeeland.

Farmville To Have President's Birthday Ball, Monday, Jan. 29

Preliminary plans to raise funds for the victims of infantile paralysis, will include a President's Birthday ball in the new steam heated High School gymnasium in Farmville Monday night, January 19.

An Eastern Carolina orchestra will be secured for the occasion and dancing will be from ten 'till two. Spectator tickets will also be sold for the occasion.

Although definite arrangements have not been completed, and a price admission will not exceed \$1.25 per fixed for dancers, it is assured the couple. Spectator tickets will probably range from 25c to 50c per person.

The local committee in charge of the "March of Dimes" invites the public generally to join in this great cause to aid suffering humanity.

Sponsored by Junior Woman's Club and interest friends.

STOPS

The U. S. Agriculture Department has stopped paying subsidies on most wheat exports in view of prospects for a short crop this year and relatively favorable domestic prices.

Roosevelt expects \$3,000,000,000 deficit in Federal budget.

Sagging Prices Seen For 1940 Tobacco Crop

The infant tobacco crop, now beginning its first growth in plant beds, is expected to find a rough reception when it finally reaches warehouse floors next fall, believes J. B. Hutson, assistant administrator of the Triple-A.

Its preceding brother, the 1939 crop, turned out to be the largest on record, totaling 1,100,000,000 pounds of flue-cured leaf. It was larger than 1937's record crop by one-fourth and is 25,000,000 pounds more than will be used during the current year.

This means, Hutson explained, that world stocks will be 325,000,000 greater at the beginning of the next marketing season than at the beginning of the past season.

On top of that, present indications are that exports will be approximately 150,000,000 pounds less than usual. In effect, this situation sets the stage so that stocks in the United States next July 1 will be about 475,000,000 pounds larger than at the beginning of the 1939 marketing season.

"Actually," Hutson said, "we need less than half a crop of flue-cured tobacco this year. According to our average allotments, growers should produce between 600,000,000 and 675,000,000 pounds of leaf in 1940.

"But," he continued, "present indications are that it will be extremely difficult to market at reasonable prices this much tobacco next fall."

To meet this situation, the AAA executive urged that North Carolina growers, the largest producers of flue-cured leaf in the country, participate and qualify for maximum payments under the Agricultural Conservation Program, now well advanced in this State.

Economy Forces Win First Round In House Battle

Vote Down Effort to Add 22 Millions To Fund for New Postoffice Buildings.

Washington, Jan. 17.—The economy drive in Congress survived its first major test today when the House noisily shouted down a Democratic attempt to write a \$22,000,000 "pork" item into the \$1,100,000,000 independent offices appropriation bill.

Virtually all Republicans and most Democrats voted against the proposal sponsored by Representative James O'Connor (D-Mont.), which would have increased the appropriation for Federal buildings and postoffices from \$15,000,000 to \$37,000,000. There was no record vote.

Even O'Connor's argument—a potent one in an election year—that constituents would regard Congressmen as derelict in their duty if they did not vote funds for postoffice construction, did not dent the economy front. Chairman Clifton A. Woodrum (D-Va.) of the appropriations committee, in charge of the measure, contended that "this is not the time for such a program and, anyway, we haven't got the money."

He was so encouraged by the obvious strength displayed by economy forces that he predicted the entire \$94,492,166 slashed from budget estimates for independent offices during the fiscal year beginning July 1 would bring to nearly \$102,000,000 economies made by the House so far this session.

The most serious threat to the independent offices bill lies in a fight led by Chairman Schuyler Otis Bland (D-Va.) of the merchant marine and fisheries committee, to restore \$75,000,000 cut from the Maritime Commission in budget. He told the House today that the entire \$200,000,000 recommended in the budget was needed for national defense and promotion of foreign commerce.

Merchant Marine
"This is not a question that interests only the East, it is one the South and Midwest should be concerned with," he said. "When the war is over, unless we have an adequate merchant marine, we will again be under the domination of foreign powers as far as rates are concerned."

Support for the proposed reduction is coming chiefly from Midwestern Congressmen and others who question the need of expanding merchant marine construction at a time when many commercial ships have been beached to avoid incidents which might involve the United States in the European war.

Meanwhile, the economy shoe pinched Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt. He discussed with President Roosevelt the \$56,000,000 budget cut in the appropriation for the Civilian Conservation Corps which would eliminate 273 camps. McNutt is getting protests from localities which fear their camps will be abolished.

The House consideration of the independent offices bill had a political tinge which no one sought to disguise. Republicans, led by Representative John Taber of New York, ranking minority member of the appropriations committee, bitterly denounced two federal agencies under the President which were denied appropriations as "destructive outfits."

They are the Natural Resources Board and the Office of Government Reports which formerly was the National Emergency Council. Both were created by executive order and had appropriations of \$2,115,000 earmarked for them by the Budget Bureau. These grants were denied by the appropriations committee on the legally established.

WHO KNOWS?

1. Is the sun closer to the earth in the summer?
 2. When Washington became the first President were all of the thirteen colonies in the Union?
 3. What is national defense costing the nation every year?
 4. Has the U. S. the legal right as the U. S. the legal right to fortify Guam?
 5. Has the war increased our farm exports?
 6. When was the Smoot-Hawley tariff act passed?
 7. Where did our calendar originate?
 8. How many members has the Dies committee?
 9. Will the Republican leader in the House of Representatives?
 10. Do the Russians have a character equivalent to our Santa Claus?
- (See "The Answers" on Page 3)



By HUGO S. SIMS
(Washington Correspondent)

CONGRESS FACES 1940 WAR AFFECTS AFFAIRS DOMESTIC ISSUE QUIET BUDGET IS NO SURPRISE GUAM RAISES A QUESTION FARM AID WILL STAND ANTI-LYNCHING BILL FDR FILLS THE COURT

The third session of the Seventy-Sixth Congress is slowly proceeding, with most members acutely conscious that 1940 is an election year. While serious domestic issues require attention, the impact of foreign complications is being felt in Washington where national defense becomes a paramount issue, with excellent prospects of exceeding the vast outlay suggested by the President.

The foreign affairs of the United States, will be in the limelight and public attention will be focused upon two outstanding areas of the world where American rights are affected. No serious complication is expected in Europe unless developments indicate that Germany is about to win the war. The possibility of a German victory is the specter behind the feverish preparation of this country for its defense.

If Great Britain and France are defeated, no one knows just where this country will stand nor what Germany, Italy, Russia and Japan might attempt. Having adopted an isolationist policy in regard to world affairs, the United States must be prepared to stand alone in whatever kind of world there may be when the European War ends.

Domestic issues are, for the present, relegated to the background. The reciprocal trade treaty program, sponsored by Secretary Hull and warmly defended by the President, will occasion a bitter fight. While this is a domestic policy in a way, it is nonetheless intertwined with our foreign policy. Those who favor the Hull program, including the President, hail it as pointing the way to the world toward peaceful commerce, while those who oppose it in this country denounce it as injurious to the business interests of the people of the United States.

The budget message of the President contained nothing surprising, even in regards to the estimated deficit of more than two billion dollars for the fiscal year which will end June 30, 1941. While the President recommended that Congress raise nearly a half billion dollars in new taxes, there is considerable doubt whether this will be attempted. The general opinion is that congressmen will avoid new taxes on the eve of the election and that the Government will be permitted to go along without any change in the statutory debt limit. If necessary, it is argued, the newly-elected Congress can face the issue next January.

The much-discussed fortification of the Island of Guam is certain to arouse debate. Naval experts, interested in future war-time strategy, do not hesitate to urge that the island be made impregnable. Opposition to the proposal at the last session was centered around the theme that fortification of the island would offend Japan. Whether there will be a general change of sentiment after the commercial treaty with Japan is abrogated is doubtful. Many members of Congress will see the fortification of Guam as an aggressive preparation, regardless of the fact that the United States surrendered the right to fortify the island in a treaty which Japan subsequently abrogated. In return for its promise, the United States got an agreement from Japan to limit her navy. Since Japan is no longer bound by the naval ratios and the United States finds itself forced to enlarge its fleet, the argument is that this country should not hesitate to fortify any island which will increase the efficiency of its warships.

The President's recommendation that agricultural appropriations, including the crop control and farm subsidy program, be cut by Congress means little or nothing. In fact, so far as we are able to judge, there is no chance for the proposed decrease from the farm areas are already on guard the farm organizations will vigorously fight any effort to reduce appropriations for the farm. The President's recommendation that the U. S. should not be a party to the League of Nations is also being fought by the farm organizations. The U. S. Senate has already rejected the League of Nations Treaty.

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Continued on Page 3

Sanders Demands Direct Swedish Help for Finns

Former Foreign Minister of Sweden Creates Uproar in Parliament With Call for Dispatch of Troops to Aland Islands.

Stockholm, Jan. 17.—A demand by former Foreign Minister Richard J. Sandler that Sweden send troops to Finland's Aland Islands and give "real help" to the Finns in resisting the Russian invasion today created a furor in the Swedish Riksdag.

Sandler resigned as foreign minister last March when the government refused to adopt "certain immediate measures" which he proposed for protection of the Aland Archipelago lying at the entrance to the Gulf of Bothnia between Sweden and Finland. The strategic islands are Finnish, by League of Nations grant, but are populated largely by Swedes.

Sandler assailed Swedes entire neutrality policy, said that "Swedish national feelings have suffered one of the worst degradations and that the government refused to protect its interests against the spread of Bolshevism."

His statement before Parliament today, taking the deputies by surprise, was cheered loudly, but Premier Per Albin Hansson refused to support the demand.

Armed Help
"The Swedish government should have dispatched armed forces to the Aland Islands in order to better secure their neutrality," Sandler said. "It is not yet too late to do something. The last word has not yet been said."

"If the Red Army in this war should defeat Finland, this would mean the complete Bolshevization of Finland with the consequence that the Finnish race must take refuge in Sweden and Norway."

"Real Swedish help to Finland would be the most effective limitation of the danger that Sweden may be drawn into the great war."

Of the Aland Islands, which in Russian hands would place Soviet bombing planes only a half-hour away from Stockholm, Sandler said that their fate "must be considered to be a symptom of a condition which will bring still further consequences."

"I consider the Alands a reality of such importance that I was unable to hold my post as foreign minister in the face of the opposition of my former colleagues, he said."

Broadly assailing the Swedish government's neutrality policy, Sandler said that "when certain incidents occurred, Sweden was not prepared to risk her stake."

4-H Clubs Set Goal Of 55,000 Members

L. R. Harrell, 4-H Club leader at State College, has announced that an enrollment goal of 55,000 farm boys and girls has been set for 1940.

During the year just closed, slightly more than 49,000 were enrolled in North Carolina clubs. The organization stretched from sea-coast to the mountains, and rural youth received instruction and guidance in 1,829 clubs. This figure included both white and negro members.

In outlining the program for 1940, Harrell and Miss Frances MacGregor, assistant club leader, have urged farm and home agents, the club advisers, to plan the year carefully so that an ever greater interest will be taken in projects and in the club meetings.

Likewise, they have suggested that more local adult leaders be used in furthering the work. The local leader is generally acknowledged as the person on whom depends the success or failure of an individual club.

In some cases, local leaders are brought to the county seat where they undergo a training period to acquaint them more fully with the purposes and aims of 4-H Club work as well as to give them new ideas for conducting club meetings.

It has also been suggested by the State 4-H leaders that agents plan a full year's program in advance. This will enable them to get a broader view of the work, and at the same time the club members will know their monthly assignments well. Likewise, the leaders advised more personal contacts with club boys and girls. This will enable the agents to know more definitely what projects the members are capable of carrying out.

INTEREST

Farmers of Hartsville county continue to maintain lively interest in the breeding and raising of their own farm stock.

Bitter Weather Halts Russia's War Machine In Drive Upon Finland

EUROPEAN SUMMARY

Helsinki.—Death-dealing cold hits Red army invaders, grounds bombers; Finns reported driving toward new victory in Arctic.

Rome.—Fascist party secretary tells Italians they "may face necessity" of fighting at any moment; fails to name possible enemy.

London.—Britain says blockade has reduced Germans to near-starvation of 1916; Allied, neutral shipping losses continue.

Washington.—Garner reported joining opposition to further Finnish loan on grounds of possible conflict with neutrality.

B. & L. Association Showing Progress

The \$1,822,000 in loans made by the building, savings and loan associations of North Carolina during December, exceeded those of November by \$500,000, it was stated today by Wheeler Martin of Williamston, president of the North Carolina Building and Loan League.

He said most of this increase was in the loans for the construction of new homes of which 360 were made, to the amount of \$319,000, representing an increase of 46 per cent over November figures. More people also purchased homes through these home financing institutions during December when 217 of this type of loan were made aggregating \$324,000. In addition, 128 loans were refinanced, amounting to \$296,000, on the monthly amortization plan of the building, savings and loan associations, and the balance of \$25, to the amount of \$383,000 were for repairs, reconditioning, and other miscellaneous purposes, according to Martin.

According to a news report from Chapel Hill, Jule Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Smith, of this city, is making good in the sports world at Carolina.

FARMVILLE BOY MAKING GOOD AT CAROLINA

In a game Wednesday night between Carolina and Guilford, Carolina used all three of its teams, and young Smith, a sophomore, scored 12 points, the highest of any player in the game.

Two Livestock Events, Seed Show Scheduled

Much interest is being shown in two livestock shows and sales, and in the annual meeting and seed exposition of the North Carolina Crop Improvement Association, three events which are scheduled in the next two months. The first of these will be the seed exposition at Greenville on February 1 and 2. Then will follow the first consignment sale of purebred swine by the newly organized N. C. Swine Breeders Association at Rocky Mount, February 16 and 17. The annual Eastern Carolina Fat Stock Show, featuring both swine and beef cattle, also will be held at Rocky Mount March 14 and 15.

Dr. Gordon K. Middleton and A. D. Stuart of State College, who are in charge of arrangements for the seed show, report that space has already been reserved for exhibits, and that the number of 4-H Club and vocational agriculture judging teams which will compete in the student contests probably will set a record.

H. W. Taylor, Extension swine specialist, is directing plans for the swine breeders' sale, and is cooperating with L. J. Case, Extension beef cattle specialist, in making arrangements for the fat stock show.

The consignment sale will include both gilts and boars of the following breeds: Duroc, O. L. C., Poland China, Spotted Poland China, Berkshire, and Hampshire. Breeders sending animals to the sale will be C. S. Dunn of Spring Hope, Fred McIntyre of Red Oak, A. E. Smith of Robertsonville, Dr. Paul F. Whitaker of Kingston and Jones County, J. L. Ballance of St. Pauls, D. T. Lambeth of Lumberton, W. L. Stock of Farm of Goldsboro, J. D. Clark, 4-H Club boy of Shelby, and Joe Sanderson, a 4-H Club boy of Wayne County.

Plans for the annual Fat Stock show are still in the making, but Special Agent in Charge J. R. Baker reports that the show will be held at Rocky Mount, North Carolina, on March 14 and 15.

Finnish Statement Claims New Successes Against Red Army On the Frigid Salla Front; Report Says Russians In General Retreat

Helsinki, Jan. 17.—Futileless death-dealing cold laid a glacial hand on Russia's war machine tonight, but the Finns reported that their troops were driving toward a new victory near Salla above the Arctic Circle.

Phenomenal 54-degree below zero temperatures (Fahrenheit) restrained the Russian air force, which has been raining death and destruction on Finnish towns, and apparently immobilized Russian ground forces which have been attacking on the Karelian Isthmus.

Temperatures were so low that touching a piece of metal with a bare hand raised immediate blisters. Movement of tanks and armored cars was hazardous even if no shots were fired.

Front line trips by correspondents were called off by the Finns because of the danger of freezing to death. Clad in their warmest Arctic clothing and calling upon their unusual resistance to low temperatures the Finns were reported driving Soviet troops back in the Sella region.

The army communique said only that "our troops are fighting successfully in the direction of Salla" near the eastern border of Finland, but other Finnish sources said developments in the Salla region raised hopes of further successes.

Cut Supply Lines
Two days ago reports from Salla said the Finns had cut Russian supply lines, leaving the Soviet troops without sufficient food to carry through their winter campaign.

The Red Army was reported to have dug itself in behind heavy fortifications, while bombing planes attempted to drop provisions from the air.

The Finnish communique said the Finns routed an enemy company northeast of Lake Ladoga yesterday killing 70 Russians and capturing two tanks.

Finnish dispatches reported certain foreign governments had asked for price quotations on captured Russian tanks. Foreign general staffs were said to be interested in dissecting the Soviet products to see what new developments they might contain.

Military observers estimated that the Finns have captured or destroyed 500 Russian tanks since the war started.

Finnish airplanes carried out bombing raids on enemy columns and concentration camps yesterday and shot down one Russian plane, the communique reported.

In Helsinki, a Swedish police chief reported maps showing detailed routes from a Russian airfield southwest of Leningrad to points in Sweden and Norway had been found on captured Soviet armor.

Police Chief Ernst Fontell of Goteborg, Sweden, who has been studying Finnish air raid precautions, said the maps had been found on airmen forced down at Turku.

"This looks like evidence they expect to do some bombing in Norway and Sweden," Fontell said.

GENERAL SOVIET RETREAT
NEAR SALLA IS REPORTED
Copenhagen, Jan. 18.—A general Russian retreat from the Salla sector of Finland, involving 40,000 troops, was reported early today in dispatches to the Copenhagen newspaper Berlingske Tidende.

The dispatches, from the newspaper's correspondent on the northern front, said the Russians apparently had given up hopes of holding the frigid Salla front for the winter. Earlier Scandinavian reports said the Red army was planning a major offensive from that sector, which is in the lower Arctic Circle, but last night a dispatch from the Finnish army in Lapland said a small-scale attack by 400 Russian troops had been repulsed.

HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB TO HOLD TOURNAMENT

The Farmville Home Demonstration Club will hold a benefit bridge tournament on Thursday, January 25, at their club house on the Farmville-Fountain Highway, at 10 o'clock in the morning and at 7 in the evening.

Bridge, rummy, solitaire and other games will be played and refreshments may be ordered at 30c per individual plate by calling the Farmville Home Demonstration Club, phone 3121 and 3122.

Farm efficiency up 77 per cent, W. E. reports after winter.