

Next War May Last For Only Two Hours

Possibilities Of Next War Between First-Class Powers Horrible To Contemplate.

By Stuart Chase in New Republic, condensed by Readers Digest.

On August 13, 1928, the "North-South Power" opened its attack in London. Seventy-five airplanes, each carrying 500 pounds of "bombs," swooped down upon the city from the northeast. They were met by an equal number of defense planes, by batteries of anti-aircraft guns, by an extensive balloon system—by every known defense against an air attack. But within less than 30 minutes after crossing centered directly over London, "bombs" had been dropped on predetermined targets, and the attacking force was wheeling back into the north without a casualty.

Every specified objective was bombed. Fifty thousand pounds of theoretical explosives were dropped through 16,000 feet, with the accuracy of gun fire. Had these 22 tons of bombs been filled with diphenyl chloroarsine, half of the population of London, men, women and children, would have been wiped out.

Mimic Warfare.

This whole drama, to be sure, was mimic warfare, but it was carried out with great care, and the results I have cited were the sober conclusions of army judges. All known methods of defense were helpless before 75 pilots. Not a single attacking plane was downed. Imagine what might be done with 500 planes—a force that every one of the leading nations can readily mobilize. France, for instance, is now in a position to bring 4,000 planes into action at the call of the radio.

Poison Gas.

There are at least two varieties of poison gas against which no mask any protection. Cacodyl isocyanide is in the possession of all the great nations, a gas so frightful that military men admit to reporters that they do not see how they could bring themselves to use it. Government purchasing agents can also take their choice of bombs filled with deadly plague or bacilli, or with anthrax for the extermination of milk cows and horses. Meanwhile the "radium atomite," just discovered, is a more powerful explosive than T. N. T.; and with a newly invented metal compound—a 400-horse-power airplane motor can be built so light that a man can easily pick it up.

Possibilities.

Say that war is declared. In Bremen or Calais a thousand men climb into the cockpits of their aircraft. A starting signal, an hour or two of flight, a little veering, dropping and dodging, as the defense planes rise, a casualty or two as the radium atomite of the anti-aircraft guns tries vainly to fill a space 100 miles square and four miles deep, one muffled roar after another as the bombs are dropped per schedule, and so, to all intents and purposes, the civilization founded by William the Conqueror, which gave Bacon, Newton and Watt to the world, comes in something like half an hour to a close. Finished and done, London, Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol—each now vanishes from the list of habitable places on the planet, or even a rat, not even an ant, not even a roach, can survive; every living thing has ceased to breathe by virtue of diphenyl chloroarsine.

The Airplane's Part.

The airplane, in effect, has reduced all other war weapons—battleships, fortresses, tanks—to so much scrap iron. The only thing it cannot be sure of harming is submarine with a hundred feet of ocean over it. Yet a good submarine costs about \$5,000,000; it requires a crew of 30 men; its speed does not exceed 20 miles an hour submerged, and it is not a very straight shooter at best. A good airplane may be had for \$5,000, its crew is one, it can travel at 200 miles an hour, and it can drop a bomb with remarkable accuracy.

In short, it hardly pays to discuss any mechanism of warfare except the airplane. It is more deadly than any other weapon, all factors considered, and it is cheap. It can be built in a few days, and its cost, relatively speaking, is a trifle. Its primary comes, as I see it, from the fact that it can operate in three dimensions, where all other weapons are limited to one or two. A submarine can operate in three dimensions, but only by slow and cumbersome wallows, nor can it find much of a belligerent nature to operate upon, except sharks.

Airplanes For Defense

For a three-dimensional offense there is only the sorriest kind of defense, as the attack on London showed. Some genius has suggested that piano wire be suspended from balloon to trap an air offense. He should receive a prize from a comic weekly. And these bristling pictures of anti-aircraft guns in the Sunday supplements, together with accounts of their range and accuracy, are an insult to the intelligence. The only way to keep airplanes out of a metropolitan area is to have enough anti-aircraft guns to fill

\$35,000,000 at Stake



Hints of huge sums of money being squandered to a personal staff of psycho-analysts are contained in Mrs. Katherine Dexter McCormick's, above, suit, instituted in Los Angeles courts to regain custody of the millions and affections of her husband, Stanley McCormick of Chicago. She claims his affections are being alienated from herself by his physicians' treatments.

400 cubic miles practically solid with steel splinters and T. N. T. This would involve, first, a fantastic number of guns, and second, grave discomfort for, if not the positive slaughter of, the metropolitan population, who could not move on the streets without umbrellas of heavy steel.

Military strategy, however, has an answer for the three-dimensional attack. The best defense is an attack. And so, the instant the thousand planes leave Hamburg for the cities of England, 1,500 planes leave London for the cities of Germany. Their ways may cross, but owing to the slipperiness of space and the haste of each squadron to be on its way, the casualties will be few, and the end of two civilizations, instead of one, not long delayed. As such things go, another ten minutes at the outside.

Next War Will Be Short.

There is at least one good thing to be said about the next war; it will not keep us long on edge. We shall not have to worry about finding the money for Liberty Bonds, or wonder whether George is going to get his commission. The whole business will be over in a couple of hours. With lungs full of diphenyl chloroarsine, we shall not need to worry about anything ever again. Personally, though it may be contrary to the code of the sportsman, I know when I am beaten. And against a three-dimensional war-machine, I have no confidence of anything except that the unique association of electrons which comprises myself is about to form new and interesting chemical combinations.

The persons capable of imagining a general holocaust in advance are so few, and of such slight influence, that the world will not realize what it now faces until it has faced it, in a fait accompli. Then, and not until then, realization will come—possibly, as the extras bring one incredible horror after another, it will come very fast. In a few days, perhaps after the two belligerents have been laid to rest, the neutral world will be in a sufficient state of shock to see that this sort of thing must stop forever.

The surviving West, together with the East, will then banish the machine from war—which means, of course, the banishment of war. Or so the conclusion hangs, neatly balanced between the hope and the belief, within the mind.

SPANISH LANDMARKS IN CUBA ARE DOOMED

Havana.—Old Spanish landmarks were lost to Havana when property owners were ordered by the city building inspector to remove all railings, walls and other obstructions along sidewalks. These are survivors of colonial days when Spanish homes, fronting directly on the street, were divided by railings and walls, allowing the pedestrian but a small two-foot margin of the sidewalk.

Pleading guilty of polygamy in court at Salem, Mass., Charles W. Chick, a sailor possessing seven wives was sentenced to serve one year in the house of correction.

MEDICAL LICENSE MILL UNCOVERED

Chicago.—Seven persons, five already under arrest, have been indicted by the Cook county grand jury as members of a nation-wide ring of counterfeiters supplying fake medical and dental licenses to those having \$3,000 to pay for them.

Pat Roche, chief investigator for the state's attorney, said he expected further inquiry might show officials of the Illinois state department of registration were implicated. He based the belief partly on the fact that several of the licenses issued by the ring prepared genuine.

Headquarters of the ring were maintained in Springfield, the state capital, with agents in Chicago, St. Louis, New York and elsewhere. The Springfield headquarters and the evident genuineness of some of the licenses and reciprocity letters led officials to believe that officials in the state department of registration and education might be involved.

Those in custody are Harry Goldstein, alias "Senator" Browsky, Springfield representative; Albert Karl Barron, believed to be the agent conducting negotiations and false license purchasers and Goldstein; Dr. Marcus Kalmus, Marey Hotel, New York, alleged Eastern representative, under arrest in Pittsburgh; Dr. Robert Lentine, alleged Western representative, arrested in St. Louis, and L. Mitchell Blaine, Chicago, Peter Marica and Henry Granger, both of Chicago, named as agents of the ring, are sought.

Goldstein was arrested in Springfield when he was issuing a license to Barron, Roche said. Following a telephone conversation with Goldstein, heard by investigators, Barron went to Springfield in custody of a detective and paid \$1,000 to Goldstein for the license, authorities declared.

When arrested, according to Roche Goldstein said: "Well, you got me. But remember I didn't get all of the \$1,000 that came to Springfield." officials.

Paul's Unpublished Letter Found Lately

N. C. Christian Advocate. The Pentecost Herald has credit for this discovery. Here is the letter:

"Dear Sir and Brother: Doubtless you will recall the invitation you extended to me to come over into Macedonia and help the people of that section. You will pardon me for saying that I am somewhat surprised that you should expect a man of my standing in the church seriously to consider a call on such meager information.

"There are a number of things I should like to learn before giving my decision and I would appreciate your dropping me a line, address me at Troas.

"First of all, I should like to know if Macedonia is a circuit or a station. This is important, as I have been told that once a man begins on a circuit it is well nigh impossible to secure employment in station work. If Macedonia embraces more than one preaching place, I may as well tell you frankly that I cannot think of accepting the call.

"There is another item that was overlooked in your brief and somewhat sudden invitation. No mention was made of the salary I was to receive. While it is true that I am not preaching money, there are certain things that need to be taken into account. I have been thru a long and expensive course of training; in fact, I may state with reasonable pride, that I am a Sanhedrin man—the only one in the ministry today.

"The day is past when you may a field without some idea of the support he is to receive. I have worked myself up to a good position in the Asiatic field and to take a drop and lose my grade would be serious. Nor could I afford to swap dollar for dollar" as the saying is among us apostles.

"Kindly get the good Macedonian brethren together and see what you can do in the way of support. You have told me nothing about Macedonia beyond the implication that the place needs help. What are social advantages? Is the church well organized?

"I recently had a fine offer to return to Damascus at an increase of salary, and am told that I made a very favorable impression on the church at Jerusalem. If it will help me with the board at Macedonia, you might mention these facts, and also some of the brethren in Judea have been heard to say that if I kept on in a few years I might have anything in the gift of the church. For recommendations write to the Rev. Simon Peter, D. D., at Jerusalem. I will say that I am a first class mixer and especially strong on argumentative preaching! If I accept the call, I must stipulate for two months' vacation and the privilege of taking an occasional lecture tour.

"My lecture on 'Over the Wall in a Basket' is worth two drachmas of any man's money.

Premier to Visit President Hoover



Prime Minister Ramsey MacDonald, right, Britain's Labor Premier, lacks only a cordial invitation from President Herbert Hoover, below, to bring him sailing over the sea to exchange ideas on reduction of naval armaments, according to a London daily. MacDonald would like to have Mackenzie King, left, Premier of Canada, with him at the meeting.

North Carolinians Buy More Cars; Cash Payments Better

Sales For First Half Of Year Third More Than Same Period Of 1928.

Raleigh.—Approximately one-third more automobiles have been sold in North Carolina so far this year than were sold for the same period last year, while 42 per cent of those sold this year were paid for in cash at time of purchase, while only 28 per cent of those sold last year were paid for when purchased, according to the report of Sprague Silver, director of the motor vehicle bureau.

Moreover, Mr. Silver reports that



Hollywood.—In a small studio on Sunset Blvd. a lad named Jimmy Cruze is getting set for big doings.

Jimmy has his own flick outfit and it looks the T. N. T. Next week sees him begin grinding "The Great Garbo," with Erich Von Stroheim the big shot. Von is pepped over the part. When it was read to him he commented, simply: "That's Von Stroheim."

So he returns to the grease paint. It wouldn't be surprising if he returned to direction under the Cruze banner, or in collaboration with another megaphone. That may listen absurd, particularly in view of "Queen Kelly," his current \$750,000 effort being on the Pathe shelf. But it isn't.

"I'll offer two to one odds as high as a five dollar bet that Charlie Chaplin becomes affiliated with the independent Cruze group. Charlie was enthusiastic over the role Von Stroheim is going to play in "The Great Garbo." And not only because he was offered a million dollars to portray it. He turned it down for two reasons. His own offering, "City Lights," will be all silent. It will not be released before Cruze's cinema. It will approximate an expenditure of five hundred thousand dollars. If he had made a talky it might have jeopardized his comedy, and its financial investment. Furthermore, by the time he paid his income tax on a million dollar salary he'd have enough left—with a bit of luck—to purchase an ice cream soda at bargain rates.

Chaplin has been heard to say he is disinterested in the prospective merging of United Artists with Warner Bros. That when this transpires he will consider himself a free agent. What more logical man to "independence" with Jimmy Cruze?

Cruze, in his way, is a lone wolf. He works best when he isn't interfered with. Months ago he headed his own outfit. It failed because of an involved mechanism known as organization. Cruze benefited by what he learned. His present outfit is a throwback to the early spirit of motion pictures: Enthusiasm and team work.

"He has selected a happy time to

Gallows "Ghost" Helps Killers On Trial In Kentucky

Jury Duty Is Sidestepped By Flocks Of "Haunted" County—Innocent Man Hanged.

Harrison county citizens again have sidestepped serving on a jury which might have brought in a death sentence in a murder case, relates a Cynthiana, Ky. dispatch to the New York World. That spirit of unwillingness for such duty was instilled in these citizens forefathers more than seventy years ago when an innocent man was hanged and his ghost walked hereabouts for years afterward, according to the story.

The trial of Homer Reeves has just ended after every man in Harrison county whose name was in the jury box had either disqualified himself for trial service or had been turned down by counsel for defense or prosecution. Nichols county was called on for a jury which promptly found Reeves guilty of manslaughter, instead of murder of which he was accused, and gave him seventeen years in prison. So pleased was Reeves's defense that his chief attorney today said it was not likely that a rehearing would be asked.

Reeves killed Ford Lyons in a fight last election day, religious differences playing a part, although the difficulty had nothing to do with the Smith and Hoover campaign. Reeves was placed under bond, but two weeks ago today left a suicide note in Cincinnati and his bondsman, being skeptical, offered \$1,000 reward for him dead or alive. Reeves was captured in Platt City, Mo., and denied knowledge of the suicide note. His defense claimed hereditary insanity, but this did not avail him with Nichols county jury.

Only one death sentence has been given in Harrison county since 1847, that being two years ago when Clarence McQueen, a negro who killed another negro, was electrocuted. He had expected acquittal or at most a prison sentence, knowing the tradition that a Harrison county jury would not return a death verdict.

It was in 1847 that Harrison countyans made their "big mistake." David Sheely lived with his youthful wife near a fine fishing stream. Sheely neglected his work to fish, and Mrs. Sheely objected, but they were never known to have a serious quarrel. One night, Sheely had a convivial party of guests and led them all to his home, awakened Mrs. Sheely and requested her to prepare breakfast. This she re-

Expect Arrest Soon



Investigation into the mysterious killing of Walter Huntington, young Harvard junior, who was found slain near his home at Windsor, Conn., is bringing to light a series of parties which are claimed to involve the flapper wife of a wealthy man known to the authorities whose name has not been revealed. Two possible motives are advanced, one of blackmailing and the other of a "thrill" slayer. Clarke Huntington, brother of the slain student, is shown above.

fused to do and the members of the party lay on the ground about the house to sleep.

Sheely went into the bedroom and awoke. Mrs. Sheely had been murdered. Her husband was dazed but said he had not killed her. However, he was convicted and hanged. His ghost soon began to haunt the country-side, according to stories of oldtimers.

In the early eighties a man was taken ill in a remote county of Kentucky. He called aid and confessed that he had killed Mrs. Sheely. He said he had been angered by the woman's refusal to cook for the fishing party of which he was a member.

Doctors in governmental service have again against germs that collect on paper money. That ought to be some consolation to the fellow who is broke.

Novel Way To Murder.

Baltimore Sun. News concerning the arrest of Fred Erwin Beal, organizer for the International Textile Workers' Union, in connection with the shootings at Gastonia is fragmentary. All of the evidence against Beal may not have been reported. The exact circumstances and nature of his allegedly incendiary speech may remain undisclosed. However, two things are stated plainly.

One is: "Beal, the police say, made a speech urging the textile strikers 'to do something if they expected to win' and this, it is held, started the trouble that led to the shooting."

The other is: That Beal has been arrested "and accused of the death of O. J. Aderholt, chief of police of Gastonia."

Going on these facts alone the charge against Beal is manifestly absurd. The quotation we gave from the news story indicates "the police say" that the strongest phrase the police themselves could find in his harangue, the only one which they themselves can select to construe as an incitement to "direct action," is: "Do something if you expect to win this strike." It is hard to find in that any command to commit violence, any argument for shooting and exhortation to murder. We cannot even imagine that in any context, provided that text be no stronger, it could be a subtle and persuasive appeal to an audience to kill policemen. "Do something" is one of the most common and vaguest phrases in the language. It falls from millions of tongues commenting on millions of matters daily. And how it can be twisted into the basis for a murder charge is a question which would, we believe, baffle the finest hairsplitter in law or logic.

It is not reasonable to suppose that any labor leader would think a strike can be won by shooting at a few policemen. To suppose it was that Beal had in mind is to suppose that he is a mad man. On the other hand, to accuse him because some one may possibly have brooded over the phrase and concluded that shooting was necessary is like arresting a man who says, "I hear the hot spell will continue" because the man to whom it was said took it to heart and shot the meteorologist. There may be more against Beal than appears. But if there is not, the action of the police must be viewed as the nonsensical result of hysteria if not as a deliberate injustice.

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