

The Alleghany Times

Alleghany County's Only Newspaper

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United Free-booters Winning

The action of Germany last week, in dismembering the remnants of Czechoslovakia, illustrates the situation in Europe, where German might stands ready, at the nod of the dictator, to step across national boundaries and make a shambles of independence.

Peace in Europe, under such circumstances, depends upon the whim of Hitler or Mussolini. Their acts are not reflected in the attitude of their peoples because the policies that they advance are not necessarily dependent upon approval of their peoples.

The necessity for strong armaments on the part of Great Britain and France is apparent. No wonder the British people, in the face of such a threat, cheerfully assume staggering burdens in order to be able to fight, if they must, to maintain their freedom.

Even as this is written no one knows where the next crisis may occur and what it may develop into. Germany, Italy and Japan are on the march and the only limit to their greed is imposed by the strength that may oppose it. The three nations work together and by coordination put pressure upon other nations that can be offset only by joint action.

So long as the democratic nations of the world permit this alliance of free-booters to work their will upon separated nations they will continue to take what they need. In self-defense, if for no other reason, freedom-loving peoples will have to join in meeting the common enemy of their ancient heritage.

Balancing The Budget

The annual income of the Federal Government has been increased steadily for the past six years. It is now close to six and a quarter billion dollars a year. It is derived from taxes of every kind, including the Social Security payroll taxes, which are just so much more income in Government bookkeeping.

The annual expenditure of the Federal Government has also been increasing steadily for the past six years. It is now close to or above nine and one-half billion dollars.

The difference between what the government spends and what it collects from its citizens is borrowed money. In the past six years the Federal Government has borrowed and spent about twenty-five billion dollars more than it has taken in. Close to a billion dollars a year of government expenditures are for interest on the national debt, which now amounts to about 41 billion dollars.

The largest item of government expenditures is relief, which includes WPA. Next largest is public works, which covers new postoffices, highway construction, river and harbor improvements and the like. Next is national defense. The interest charge comes next in size.

Unless spending is checked, the United States will go deeper and deeper "in the red." When you read or hear talk about "balancing the budget" it simply means trying to keep the outgo within the income. It is a very difficult idea to put across with politicians in office. They love to spend other people's money.

That spending can be reduced and ought to be is the conclusion reached by the National Economy League of New York, from whose booklet "How to Balance the Federal Budget" the figures here are taken. We think it would be worth every thoughtful citizen's while to study the League's analysis of the Federal finances.

A Great Opportunity

It seems probable that forty or fifty million Americans will visit the two World's Fairs being held at opposite sides of America this year. Already the attendance at the San Francisco World's Fair on Treasure Island, which opened in February, has exceeded expectations, while the advance sale of season tickets for the New York World's Fair is greater than had been anticipated.

Nobody who visits either of these

expositions will ever regret it. The railroads and bus lines are making it easy for people who want to see both of them, by special rates covering coast-to-coast trips. If only because the trip will enable millions to see more of their own country than they have ever seen before, it is worth anybody's time to take in both of them.

Each of these two World's Fairs is something more than a mere show. Of course, showmanship is used to attract and interest visitors, and there are many amusement features scheduled at both of them. Those are on a grand scale; and entertainment on a grand scale is something to remember forever.

But both on the Atlantic Coast and the Pacific, the theme is the progress of the world and the direction in which it is tending is emphasized by exhibits of the newest and most fascinating developments in art, science and industry.

It would be hard to imagine a broader and sounder foundation for a liberal education for any intelligent child, from seven to seventeen, than to give him or her the chance to roam at will through the exposition buildings and see what the ingenuity and intelligence of the world's most active minds have produced as sign-posts pointing toward the future of the world.

The young people are the ones who will live in the World of Tomorrow. They are the ones upon whom these glimpses into a possible more wonderful future will make the deepest impression. From the ideas which bright boys and girls will absorb at the World's Fairs may come, and probably will, inventions and discoveries that can change the world.

What Other Editors Say

Popular And Unpopular

From The Coalfield Progress, Norton And now Hitler throws the full weight of his position on the temperance side, against the use of whiskey and tobaccos. To which attitude one could normally take little objection.

But his record doesn't quite stand up to give confidence to this newest moral attitude. Me-thinks it smacks more of money than morals, he doubtless realizing that money spent for liquor and tobacco, reduces by the same amount the money he might use for warships and armored planes.

News continues to leak out that Hitler is losing in popularity, and therefore in power. One writer has said that he is fast growing more and more unpopular "because he almost got us into war last summer," contrasting him with England's Chamberlain, tremendously popular in his native land, "because he kept us out of war."

A Pantry Full Of Pie

From The Christian Science Monitor Rhubarb is rubbing stalks with other succulent vegetables in the markets of American cities these days. In the North it is, as yet, a visitor from the South, not a native. Between blonde carrots, pale parsnips, unblushing turnips, it flashes red as a poinsettia. But its taste is even more appetizing to lazy palates than its color is a delight to the eye.

The rhubarb of our country boyhood didn't come from a market at so much a stalk. It grew in the garden, in a sheltered spot near the farmhouse. It was years before we heard it called rhubarb—"pie plant" was its real name. Apple pie and mince pie were all right in their way, but pie plant was the only plant that was named for pie itself. It was one of the green things we saw after an up-State New York winter. We haled it with double enthusiasm, for when it pushed its way up through the loam to the sun, winter was past and pie plant pie was just around the corner. That was almost as much of an event as spring itself.

Of course, a boy had to cut one of the first spindling stalks with his jackknife and taste it. In its raw state it was one of the sourest members of the vegetable family, and somewhat puckerly besides. But when cut into small pieces and boiled in a pot bubbling with several cups of maple sugar, it became a pie-filling in which sweet and sour were miraculously blended. And when the big bulging pies came out of the oven, they oozed juice as generously as any huckleberry pie would a few months later. The number of pieces a boy could eat was limited only by mother's supervising caution. To this culinary courier of spring, sing a song of pie plant baked in a pie.

The Low Down From Hickory Grove

Sure looks odd to see how some countries can stay out of wars, and other countries, they squeeze into every one when they can get their foot in the door.

You take Sweden, and Denmark and Norway, they were next door to the World War—and kept their nose out of it—and they were smart.

And you take it right now, they are snapping and frothing around again in Europe, 3 or 4 thousand miles from our U. S. A., but we are trying to show off—and balance a chip on our shoulder, or something.

In the Encyclopedia you will read where Bismarck went out of his way and finally stirred up a war with France, 70 years ago. The German people, they were not itching to fight. But Mr. Bismarck, he craved to be a great person. He craved a uniform with gold braid, and he craved to ride the lead horse.

But Mr. Bismarck, he did not carry a musket—when war came.

In the U. S. if we get foolish and listen to all the honkers flying around overhead—and act like a flock of geese—we will be goose-stepping next.

Yours with the low down, JO SERRA

Home Sweet Home



HE SAYS HE'S TOO TIRED!

YOU KIDS GIVE ME A PAIN IN THE NECK! YOU CAN ROMP LIKE WILD INDIANS THROUGH A HECTIC EVENING OF BASKET BALL— YOU CAN RUN YOUR LEGS OFF FOR HOURS PRACTICING FOR A TRACK MEET— YOU CAN SHAG ALL NIGHT WITH YOUR GANG OF CRAZY JITTERBUGS— BUT NOW— YOU CAN'T DO A FIVE MINUTE WALK TO TH' GROCERY UNLESS WE LET YOU USE TH' CAR !! SHAK THOSE JELLY ANKLES, YOUR MORMER NEEDS THAT BUTTER FOR SUPPER !!!!!

Weekly Washington Merry-Go-Round

(Trade Mark Registered)

by Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen

Hitler Won't Go Beyond Slovakia; African Colonies His Real 1939 Aim; Warlike Maneuvers Leading To Second Munich Unless France Is Aroused; Hoover His Own No. 1 Presidential Choice With Dewey (Not Taft) Next; Racket-buster And Ohio Senator In National Tug-Of-War For Delegates.

Washington—Don't be deceived by the Nazi drive to dominate Slovakia. Hitler wants that country as a part of his pathway to the lush Russian Ukraine, but he is not likely to go farther east now. The last thing he wants now is war with the Soviet.

Such a war is sure to be long drawn out. Russia has the biggest army in the world, and even though the Nazis claim it lacks officer strength, the Red Army could keep Germany embroiled in war for a long time.

What Hitler wants is exactly the reverse—a short, quick war, or better yet, accomplishment of what he wants with no war at all. He can get this with Czechoslovakia. He cannot get it with Russia.

That's why the scene soon will shift to include the Mediterranean and African colonies. Colonies are Hitler's real goal at present—also Mussolini's. Slovakia is just by-play. The Mediterranean drive was scheduled to start earlier, but has been delayed by failure of Franco to capture all of Spain.

Strange as it may seem, France and Britain rushed in to recognize Franco, blind to the fact that the quicker the Republican army is subdued, the quicker Mussolini and Hitler can start their colonial squeeze. Obviously, if they start too soon, an army of half a million men still in central Spain could do a lot of damage, if given last-minute arms by the French.

Another Munich

Meanwhile exactly the same preparations are going on in the Mediterranean as before Munich and before the Ethiopian war. Detachments of Italian troops are sailing regularly for Africa, and concentrated within striking distance of French Tunis.

German submarines have turned up at Italian ports. More German troops are in the Tyrol ready to reinforce the Italian border against France. German technicians even have turned up in Libya.

This same quiet closing in on the intended victim preceded the surrender of Czechoslovakia at Munich. The present strategy is intended to have exactly the same effect on France and Britain.

Whether it will, remains to be seen. British sentiment still carries a tang of Chamberlain appeasement, but French sentiment is just the opposite. The French believe that the inevitable cannot be postponed, that if they must fight, they had best get it over with.

Presidential Liabilities

When Roosevelt disclosed that the Cruiser Houston was "sunk" with him aboard during the Caribbean naval games, he kept one thing back. This was the fact that the sinking was his fault. He ordered the ship to the

Charlotte Amalie harbor in the Virgin Islands to pick up mail that had been flown there for him from Washington. The harbor was in "enemy" territory, and as the Houston entered the anchorage, she was "torpedoed" by a lurking submarine.

The incident was nothing new to the Navy. Presidents participating in war games are always liabilities. When Hoover was President he also caused the "sinking" of a ship.

He was aboard the battleship Arizona when it engaged in an imaginary night battle with the destroyer DuPont. The decks of the Arizona were cleared for action; every hatch was battened down; every sailor and marine at his station. In the glare of searchlights, the duel was on. But Hoover, who had gone below and been locked in, wanted to see the encounter. So a gun crew was ordered to open a hatch. As they were doing so the DuPont came astern of the Arizona at this unguarded point and scored a "direct hit."

Hitler's Balance Sheet

A German paper, the Voelkischer Beobachter, lists the following "official balance sheet of Hitler's activities for 1938":

Purchased 4 new military caps, 2 pairs of top boots; added 2 false teeth; made 96 speeches; added 10,737,000 new Germans; spent 1,737 marks as pocket money; traveled 20,200 kilometers (12,500 miles); had 1,333 new streets named for him; and added 1.6 kilograms (3½ pounds) in weight.

Hoover's Choice

Republican leaders in the know say that Herbert Hoover's first choice for the 1940 nomination is himself and his second preference, at present, young Tom Dewey.

Insiders credit Hoover with a pronounced antipathy toward Senator Robert Taft. They also say he looks disapprovingly upon Senator Arthur Vandenberg, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Governor Bricker of Ohio and Governor James of Pennsylvania.

The precise reason for Hoover's dislike of Taft is a mystery. Superficially the two men have much in common, since Taft's economic views are much nearer Hoover's than those apparently held by Dewey. Some attribute Hoover's disapproval to Taft's flirtation with Townsendism, which Hoover considers as much of a menace as the New Deal.

Dewey also made goo-goo eyes at the Townsendites—in a very covert manner—when he ran for Governor of New York. But apparently Tom explained this satisfactorily to Hoover in their recent secret talks.

Candidate Hoover

The inside word that Hoover is determined to make a vigor-

ous effort to win the nomination for himself at the moment is overshadowing all other GOP developments.

Most party leaders don't think he can make the grade. At the same time they are not taking him lightly. He has had experience in delegate-wrangling—particularly among Southern Republicans, where money is a not unimportant factor. And Hoover has plenty of money. In fact, word has already reached Washington of undercover activity for delegates in the South.

On the other hand, powerful factors within the party are against Hoover. Practically all the leaders dislike him personally. Also they feel strongly that his nomination would materially weaken the chances of victory.

Former Governor Landon is dead set against Hoover. Even in his own state of California, Hoover faces a knock-down-and-drag-out fight. Liberal Republicans have served notice that if he enters a ticket in the California primary next year they will run an anti-Hoover slate that will have the backing of Senator Hiram Johnson.

Although Johnson now sees eye-to-eye with Hoover in his intense hatred of the New Deal, he dislikes Hoover just as much as he did when he fought his nomination in 1920 and wrested the California delegation from him.

While Hoover's chances of getting the nomination are not very good, one thing is certain: He is going to have a lot to say about who is selected. He will have the votes and money to command consideration.

Dewey Vs. Taft

The tug-of-war within the party between Dewey and Taft is rapidly developing on a nationwide scale.

The Ohioan is finding favor among the big contributors and more conservative elements. One of his most enthusiastic boosters is Lewis L. Strauss, war-time secretary to Hoover and partner in Kuhn, Loeb & Co. Strauss raised \$1,000,000 to finance one of Hoover's presidential campaigns and performed yeoman monetary service in electing Taft to the Senate last year.

Dewey, far better known to the public than Taft, is better liked by the congressional leaders and by younger men in the party. Also, he has the better political brains advising him. Few know it, but he is in constant touch with the smartest politicians on Capitol Hill, also with National Chairman John Hamilton.

Behind the scenes, the two candidates are very active. They are concentrating on lining up influential party leaders, preliminary to launching drives in the States for delegates.

Right after the conviction of Tammany boss Jimmy Hines, Dewey strategists made a secret play for Senator Borah. They proposed that Borah issue a statement lauding Dewey. But the cagy Idahoan told the emissary that while he approved of Dewey's racket-busting, he couldn't see

him as a presidential candidate until he knew more about his views on national issues.

Murphy's Motor Megala

A stockholder of General Motors wrote Alfred P. Sloan, chairman of that corporation, congratulating him on a rumor that Sloan had approved the appointment of former Michigan Governor Frank Murphy as Attorney-General. To the stockholder's astonishment, he received this reply from Sloan:

"I do not know how you got the idea that I was in favor of the appointment of Governor Murphy as Attorney General of the United States. The least said about it, from any standpoint, the better. Regarding his no longer governing the State in which some of your money is invested, frankly I think you are lucky that is so—at least, that is my considered opinion."

Merry-Go-Round

Catholic leaders consider Bishop Stephen Donahue, auxiliary bishop to the late Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York, his most likely successor. They discount reports that Archbishops Edward Mooney of Detroit, or Joseph F. Rummel of New Orleans will get the post. No American archbishop ever has been transferred to another archdiocese. . . . Allotted a quota of 30 students for aviation training in the Government's new pilot development program, Alabama State University was deluged with 1200 applications. . . . The Commerce Department has received information from agents abroad that the Nazis are outwitting the boycott against their films by producing them in France and exporting them as French pictures. Several are now being shown in this country. . . . Popular Garrett Whiteside, secretary to Senator Hattie Caraway of Arkansas, is the dean of congressional secretaries, with 32 years of continuous service on Capitol Hill. Whiteside started at 22 as a clerk in the House Committee on Enrolled Bills. . . . Until the Liberty Loans were floated, the Treasury had to go to Congress for special authority every time it sold a bond issue. During the World War, Congress changed the law to permit the Treasury to issue securities up to \$2 billion. The limit is now 45 billion.

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THE DOCTOR Tells the Story by W.E. AUGHINBAUGH M.D.

Statistics

It will no doubt surprise my readers to learn that during the year, one person out of every sixteen spends some portion of his or her time in a hospital. We have in the United States 6,437 hospitals. This of course does not include private hospitals and sanatoriums where only patients who can pay for their attention are taken. In the public hospitals over 7,000,000 patients are treated each year.

The greatest number of cases were brought to these hospitals for surgical treatment, and of these the majority were taken in as the result of accidents, chiefly caused by automobiles. By strict observation of the safety rules and regulations for traffic and by using ordinary common sense in everyday life, surgical cases in the United States, it is conservatively estimated, could easily be reduced 33%.

It is safe to say that fully 20% to 30% of the cases of illness which resulted in sending people to the hospitals could have been prevented by the use of ordinary intelligence.

Take, for example, the problem of the common cold. In an organization employing 3,000 people more than 25% were away from work anywhere from one to fifteen days, due to failure to recognize and properly treat the symptoms, and because they did not call on their doctors earlier. Our annual cold bill is more than \$500,000,000.

The average American family spends each year \$165.00 for motor cars and their upkeep; \$87.00 for tobacco; \$37.00 for candy; \$34.00 for ice cream, soda fountain drinks and chewing gum; \$5.00 for radio repairs, and that same family pays the doctor only \$24.00 a year, and that only when they are sick.

It is estimated that \$50.00 a year spent with your family doctor would keep you well and reduce the sickness in this country almost 50%. The thing for you to do is to consult your doctor when you feel the least indisposed and not to wait until disease has got a strangle hold on you.

Too Bad!

"What do you think of the Museum of Art?" "Oh, the pictures are good enough, but there ain't no good jokes under them."