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WEATHER

	Yest.	4 Yrs. Ago
Maximum temp., p.m.	72	78
Minimum temp., p.m.	44	50
Humidity, 8 a.m., pct.	44	50
Humidity, 5 p.m., pct.	18	20

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SIX MONTHS OF BATTLE BRINGS LITTLE RESULT

Dark Portents Are Seen For March in New Fight Plans

WAR AIMS MYSTERY

Economic Factors Take Important Place in Limited Conflict

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON
Associated Press Staff Writer

Europe's dreaded new war has rounded out half a year and still no major battle has been fought by land, sea or air to indicate the outcome of the struggle or even hint at its probable duration.

At that mid-year point, the contest between Germany and the Allies still is a war of nerves and economic stresses rather than bombs and bayonets.

The Ides of March, steeped in legendary dark portents, are just ahead. Beyond are the spring and summer—open seasons of warfare. But noise can yet forestall what may develop in the Franco-German frontier, in the neutral low countries, on the Baltic and the Balkan flanks of the battle lines, or in the Near-Eastern theatre.

Localized Conflict

After six months of tremendous preparatory effort by both sides to mass every national resource for the struggle, however, it is still a localized three-power conflict, not a new World war. Neither Germany nor the Allies has yet by word or deed indicated any definite desire to draw the rest of Europe or the world into the war orbit.

Both sides also are withholding ruthless attack by air on great cities that lived in hourly terror during the first two weeks of the conflict. Set and still untested fortified lines still face each other along the Franco-German border.

For six months a war of economic attrition has been waged on ever increasing scale by the Allies. There is no more assurance today that it can break German morale quickly, if at all, than there is that the Nazi counter blockade of Britain can starve the western democracies out and force a stalemate peace.

War Aim Mystery

Now have six months served to bring the real and specific war aims on either side, British and French propaganda rumbles with "Allied 'smash Hitlerism'" slogan. Yet the British leaders talk of a postwar appeasement program to readjust economic tensions of Europe once the Allies have won.

From German rivals comes a similar, double-edged reply. Britain's sea power and capacity for economic strangulation of her foes must be destroyed, Nazi spokesmen thunder. Yet they hail every anti-British address with fresh fires for France in the form of assurances that Nazi Germany has no real quarrel with her western neighbor.

A Soviet spokesman for France are notably silent as to what new guarantees of French security may be included in the French war objectives. There are hints, however, of a difference in view between Paris and London over specific military and economic cooperation of the Allies.

Rhine Goal Seen

A French demand for a new Maginot defense line along the Rhine is believed that French retiring. That possibility further beyonds the peace outlook as the first six months of the war ends with few of the predicted horrors actually realized, except in the Russo-Polish conflict with which it started and in the Russian-Finnish war it has fostered.

Lacking any major battle between Germany and her foes by which to measure the significance of the first six months of the war in a military sense, it is to Poland and Finland that military students must turn.

Germany's quick victory in Poland dazed the world but under six months ago, it appeared possibilities of swift and conclusive developments in her war with France and England. Yet the prime factor in Poland were surprise attack and a vast German air superiority.

Factors Missing

They do not exist for Germany in the west. The Nazi chance for smashing victory there has definitely passed now that six months of feverish Franco-British mobilization have been completed.

In Finland, despite the Red army's progress against the Mannerheim line, an object lesson concerning the cost of frontal attack has been written in Russian blood upon the trampled snow. Against the strong Maginot and Siegfried defenses, the casualties would be much more stunning.

All in all, six months of war seems only a curtain-raiser for the real struggle. The grim test of economic endurance and national will be to carry on at any cost has no more than started.

EVERETT WADE

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Everett Wade, 34, well known mining engineer and operator in Nevada and Arizona, died here today after a long illness.

Drastic Wartime Law Rations French Foods

Gold Revalued and Increased Production Is Asked To Prevent Slipping of Economic Strength Of Nation During Conflict

PARIS, Feb. 29.—(AP)—The French government today adopted a drastic series of wartime economic and financial measures, including gold revaluation and steps toward food rationing, designed in general to decrease consumption and spending and to increase sharply the nation's production.

The broad program, regimenting Frenchmen in the fighting against Germany as announced in a nation-wide radio address by Finance Minister Paul Reynaud included:

1. A general census "in a few days" preparatory to distribution of food ration cards.

2. Revaluation of France's gold on the current basis of foreign exchange.

Shops Closed

3. The closing of cake and pastry shops three days each week, the coarsening of ordinary bread with bean meal, restrictions on the consumption of alcohol and further limits on gasoline allowances.

4. Cash grants to farmers for increased production, cultivation of farm lands within army zones, abolition of customs duties on farm machinery, government distribution of fertilizer and easing of taxes for landlords deprived of rents because of the war.

5. Placing of women in munitions plants to release men for vital farm work.

Economy "Slipping"

In explaining the decrees, adopted by the cabinet, Reynaud said that although France was holding her own financially she was "slipping" in other phases of her economy.

The reason, he said, was because France was producing less and consuming as much as before the war" and even more of some products.

Reynaud explained that the Bank of France's gold stocks would be revalued probably on the current basis of foreign exchange, since the revaluation of November, 1938, had been "inferior to the real value" of the gold.

"Profits" To Be Used

He said the franc would have the same value tomorrow as yesterday, adding that advances from the Bank of France to the treasury would remain the same. This was taken to indicate that profits from the revaluation would be used to reduce present advances.

France already has three meatless days a week and on the four other days restaurants are forbidden to serve more than one meat dish per person. Accompanying the individual ration cards to be issued will be additional restrictions against consumption of rich foods.

The War At A Glance

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

HELSINKI — Finn lose more ground on Karelian isthmus; Russian air raiders kill nine civilians, fire numerous towns.

PARIS—France adopts drastic economic financial measures, including gold revaluation and steps toward rationing.

BERLIN—Hitler to stress German security and domination of area she regards as living space in conference with Welles.

ROME—Italy reported seeking 3,000,000 tons of bituminous coal in U. S. as result of British blockade threat against German shipments.

LONDON—Italian-British trade negotiations suspended; navy ordered start seizing German coal shipments; Kermit Roosevelt resigns British commission to int international brigade to Finland.

ANKARA—Premier Saydam says Turkish-Russian relations "normal and good" disavows agressive against Soviet.

HOOVER ASKING AID FOR POLES

Government Assistance Needed to Feed Many, He Tells Board

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Former President Herbert Hoover told Congress today that it could appropriate up to $20,000,000 immediately to help avert an "acute" food shortage facing about 7,000,000 residents of dismembered Poland.

A short time after he made that recommendation to the house foreign affairs committee, the senate completed congressional action on a bill to give the export-import bank a $100,000,000 increase in its lending capital, from which it could make a $20,000,000 loan to belea-gured Finland for non-military purchases.

Neutrality Discussed

In his first appearance at the capitol since he witnessed the inauguration of President Roosevelt in 1933, Hoover asserted that there was "not the remotest" danger that assistance to starving Poles would be a violation of American neutrality or involve this country in war.

"As far as I'm concerned," he added, "I'm willing to feed women and children—I don't care what nationality or race they are."

Although he said Poland was the only place where such conditions existed today, the former President solemnly testified that the "whole of Europe" would be a "starvation spot" when the war was over.

Estimate Made

He declared that a "rough estimate" placed the cost of providing just enough food to keep the Poles alive at between $40,000,000 and $50,000,000, but asserted that from $30,000,000 to $20,000,000 would be a "fair contribution" from the United States.

"One bushel of wheat and three pounds of fats will keep this human animal alive, at a wholesale cost of about $1.50 a month," he said.

Because of overcrowding in central Poland—a buffer state set up between the regions occupied respectively by Germany and Russia—Hoover said he expected an "acute" food shortage to develop there about May 1 and last until the harvest. Normally, he said, the central region would have enough food for about 8,000,000 persons but "whole state transfers of Poles and Jews" from the section taken over by German and "some migration" from Russian-occupied Poland had brought the population total to about 15,000,000.

MONUMENT PLAN

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., Feb. 29.—(AP)—Proposed sites for monuments at Old Mesilla, N. M., and Nacimiento, in connection with the 400th anniversary of the Coronado explorations, are to be studied next week.

AMERICAN AIDS FINNISH ARMIES

Kermit Roosevelt Gets New Buttons to Go Into Battle

LONDON, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Kermit Roosevelt, son of a crusading father, today threw in his lot with Finland's weary armies as a commander of an international brigade. Only the king's signature on an order releasing him from his major's commission in Britain's Middlesex regiment remains before he formally accepts his new command.

Gets New Buttons

Looking like anything but a soldier of fortune, the passerby, heavy jowled second son of former President Roosevelt marched solemnly from the swank Ritz hotel to the war office to resign his commission. Although failure of the king to sign the release shut his mouth today, Roosevelt did not mind when reporters and photographers saw him sign for new buttons for the British army uniform which he will wear in Finland.

These included a whopping, shiny "I N"—standing for international brigade—which he will pin on his tunic collar. Volunteer aides filed that the buttons upside down stood for "non intervention."

London Jubilant

London newspapers, decidedly joyful at the spectacle of an American commanding an expedition dear to British hearts, published front pages with his picture.

At the United States embassy it was said that Roosevelt still has an American passport and American citizenship and that he was admitted to the British army without swearing allegiance to King George, which would have cost him both.

Solons Told Women Choose Jail Rather Than to Reveal Secrets

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—(AP)—A warning that a million women American women will choose jail rather than answer intimate questions in the forthcoming census was given to a senate sub-committee today by Isabelle Carl Curtis of New York, national director of women investors in America, Inc.

"I recommend that Congress postpone further appropriations for national defense and put through an emergency measure to enlarge jail accommodations to house the millions who will go there rather than disclose their wages or income, matrimonial adventures, or whether they use their bathroom alone or share it with someone else," she said.

Her warning was reinforced by Mrs. Norman Nock, of Washington, a representative of the national organization of war mothers. Asserting that most war mothers are too busy to be "busybodies," she said they would be "frightened" by such personal questions.

She herself, she added, was "alarmed over the increasing curiosity of governments in people's private affairs."

Dr. Willard L. Thorp, economic adviser to Secretary of Commerce Hopkins, defended the questions on business, saying the information on unemployment problems was needed to cope with unemployment, as well as to determine the purchasing power of the nation and its distribution.

"Any statistics on unemployment which are to be of real use under present conditions must go much further than giving simply the number of those who have no jobs and are seeking work," he said.

The witnesses were testifying on a resolution by Senator Tobey (R-NH) calling for the elimination of two questions from the census. These sections of the census blank ask for the total earnings (under $5,000) from wages, salaries and commissions, and inquire whether a person earned more than $50 during the year from other sources.

REDS HAMMER FINNS BACK IN ISTHMUS DRIVE

Defenders Hold Firm in Other Areas But Are Losing Viipuri

ARCTIC FIGHT HEAVY

Time Schedules Declared Crucial Factor in Soviet Advance

By WADE WERNER

HELSINKI, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Forced back once more on the western edge of the Karelian Isthmus, Finnish forces today braced themselves in what they said were stronger positions, massed artillery and mined the ice of Viipuri bay in a determined effort to prevent encirclement of Viipuri, objective of the Russian invaders.

The Finnish high command reported that the Red army, entering the fourth month of its ponderous offensive, was forced to pay dearly for every inch of ground gained in this area, while continued assaults on the eastern side of the Isthmus were said to have been repulsed with heavy losses.

Attacks Stopped

Elsewhere, the Finns said Russian attacks were thrown back northeast of Lake Ladoga, in the vicinity of Pitkaranta, and that more enemy strong points were captured at Kuhmo, in central Finland where some Russians are encircled.

Heavy fighting raged unabated above the Arctic Circle in the Petsamo region but the results was not disclosed here.

The defenders, who have been withdrawing gradually to their more formidable positions between the Bay of Viipuri and the Vuoksi river, in the western part of the Karelian Isthmus, yesterday withstood assaults by wave upon wave of Red troops. In addition to inflicting tremendous losses on these forces, the Finns said they smashed 14 Soviet tanks.

Mass Attacks

At the eastern end of the Mannerheim Line, at the Taipale area, the Russians ventured three mass attacks which ended in complete failure, the Finns said.

The Finns said the line now runs roughly from Viipuri, bay straight eastward to the Vuoksi river, which splits the heart of the Isthmus. From there to Taipale the line follows the Russian first line of the Mannerheim defenses.

Thus the Russians in three months of fighting have penetrated a distance ranging from about 38 miles on the western part of the isthmus to about 12 miles on the east, with most of their gains resulting from their furious and sustained February drive.

Time Schedules

To judge the actual extent of the Russian progress, however, one should know Field Marshal Baron Carl Gustav Mannerheim's time schedule calculating where they should be at the beginning of the fourth month of fighting.

It is no secret that Finnish strategy calls for delaying, punishing, wearing down action of a small army against a vastly larger enemy force.

The Finnish high command is not likely to disclose its own time schedule, but the Russians are badly behind theirs is indicated by the significant extent of the territory which the Communist-sponsored Terijoki "Finnish people's government," organized in the early days of the war, can call its own today.

To bolster their efforts, the Russians were reported today to have hurled fresh troops—estimated in some quarters at fully 19 divisions, nearly 300,000 men—into the isthmus fighting.

FRANCE REPORTS ON NEW FIGHTING

PARIS, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Bitter bursts of fighting on the western front were reported today by both the German and the French high commands.

The French said patrols were active on west of the Vosges mountains and that there was firing from casemates on both banks of the Rhine.

Germany's military communique, issued in Berlin, told of "bitter fighting at close quarters" in a small woods north-west of Betting and east of the Saarelle river.

The French said both Allied and German planes scouted back and forth west of Rhine today but no air fights were reported.

EUROPE ENDS SIX MONTHS OF WAR with prospects of increased action on all fronts and of spread of conflict to at least three regions—Scandinavia, Balkans and Near East. Map charts the march of Mars for half a year and points to possible future developments.

This War Will Not Involve U. S., Officials in Washington Believe After Studying 6-Months History

Renewed Confidence Results From Developments Which Fail to Involve Any American Interests in Major Controversy

By ANDRUE BERDING

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Six months of the European war find American officials in the policy more firmly convinced than ever that the United States will be able to stay out of the conflict.

Although some of the difficulties that arose in the first half-year of the World war over violations of American neutrality have again arisen, they have not proved so serious as to endanger relations between this country and any of the belligerents, and quiet conversations are going on for the purpose of eliminating them.

PERSHING SEES GEN. MARSHALL

Chief of Staff Flies to Tucson to Confer With General

General George C. Marshall, chief of staff of the U. S. army, landed last night at 6:45 o'clock at the Tucson airport to keep a dinner appointment with Gen. John J. Pershing, his former commanding officer, prior to continuing his flight to the west coast and thence to Hawaii. General Marshall's last visit here was during Gen. Pershing's illness.

Visits Key Posts

General Marshall, who is the first chief of staff to do any extensive flying, has been making a series of visits by air to key army posts about the United States and is now en route to establish another "first" when he takes off, via China Clipper, for the Hawaiian Islands and an inspection of army facilities there.

The chief of staff was met at the airport last night by Miss May Pershing, sister of the former commander of the A. E. F., and Major Gen. Crawford C. Sharpe, orderly to General Pershing. He left the airport at once for General Pershing's quarters at the Desert Sanatorium, where he was to be the Pershings' guest at dinner and overnight.

Going to Coast

General Marshall will leave early this morning for Hamilton Field and from there he will leave San Francisco on the China Clipper Saturday. He will be traveling on the second ship of the clipper fleet and one which is making its maiden voyage in the trans-Pacific service.

The four-motored bomber which brought General Marshall from Bolling field yesterday in 11 hours and 25 minutes despite a heavy headwind was piloted by Capt. C. H. Caldwell, of the 32nd Bombardment Group at Langley Field. The remainder of the crew of the bomber were Lt. J. E. Carmack, co-pilot; Lt. J. C. Cochrane, radio officer; Tech. Sgt. C. S. Guinn; Radio Sgt. R. B. Dunbar and Radio Operator Pvt. 1st Cl. J. O. Bolick. All are from the 32nd Bombardment Group.

MEXICAN LABOR RAPS CARDENAS

Oil Program Is Drawing Protests Because of Wage Cuts

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Rejecting President Lazaro Cardenas' suggestions for reorganization of the government oil industry, leaders of the militant petroleum workers union today began drafting counter proposals expected to include demands for a greater share of control.

Spokesmen, who said a month probably would be required to prepare the union proposals, declared their intention of organizing a united workers' front and predicted that a "serious situation would develop" if their plan was turned down.

Closed Meeting

The union's decision to reject the president's suggestions, offered at a conference yesterday, came after a closed meeting attended by representatives from all 32 sections of the industry.

Opposition was centered on the chief executive's recommendations for economies, involving abolition of "unnecessary jobs," salary reductions and elimination of rent allowances.

Union leaders said President Cardenas' recommendations would mean dismissal of some 2,500 workers hired since the government expropriated foreign oil properties, March 18, 1938.

Control Asked

The union, which frequently has demanded complete control of the industry, also opposed the president's suggestion that more authority be given the oil administration and demanded decentralization of authority.

In general, the union representatives agreed with Cardenas' recommendations for expansion of the industry, aimed at increasing foreign exports from 60,000 to 200,000 barrels a day.

Bachelorhood Is Made Crime as Women Rule

AURORA, Ill. Feb. 29.—(AP)—Hundreds of melancholy men—charged with the heinous crime of bachelorhood — jammed the jail house today.

They were cast there by girls who took complete charge of this city of 50,000 in a coup de clarion. In keeping with a traditional leap year day custom, the young women assumed control of the city hall, police and fire departments, business houses and the bastile—and all was merry confusion for 12 hours.

Mayor Audrey Keel, brunette dancing teacher, decreed:

"Get those bachelors."

Copperettes collared hapless males on street, in stores and factories. The prisoners were whisked off in paddy wagons, cooled in jail for several hours and hailed before Mayor Keel, pretty police magistrate. Fines were assessed promptly—stockings, candy, flowers, lingerie.

The eligible Dr. Joseph Dadkins was punished two drams of perfume for celibacy with malice aforethought. Suddenly he leaped to the bench, uttered a proposal and shouted: "I really mean it."

The flustered judge sent him back to the dungeon.

Within the next two hours, 167 defendants popped the question. To one and all she addressed a cry: "See you later."

GERMAN HOPES ARE PRESENTED FOR AMERICAN

Editorial Hints Hitler's Theme in Talks With Sumner Welles

LIVING SPACE ASKED

England's Ability to Cut Nazi Trade Lines Is Cited by Paper

BERLIN, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Security and domination within the region Germany regards as her living space appeared tonight to be the thesis Adolf Hitler will stress when talking with United States Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles, due in Berlin tomorrow morning from Rome and Zurich on his fact-finding European tour.

The German foreign office as a curtain-raiser to Welles' arrival around 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, let its semi-official spokesman, Karl Megerle, restate Germany's war aim as that of rendering secure Germany's "lebensraum" (living space). Megerle's restatement came in an editorial in his Berliner Boerzenzeitung.

Program Is Second

Beyond that there was nothing concerning Germany's information for President Roosevelt's investigator nor concerning Hitler's program which most likely will bring him in conference on his very first day here with Foreign Minister Joachim Von Ribbentrop and then Goering on a visit to Field Marshal Hermann Wilhelm Goering later.

Welles' visit will be handled outside protocol — normal diplomatic procedure—authorized sources said, because it is not a state visit, but a trip for a series of talks with men whom the American desires to see.

Megerle's article, a front page editorial entitled "Lebensraume" (living spaces), was said by authorized sources to be both a preliminary to Welles' visit and a reply to Secretary of State Hull's statement that the end of the war should bring an end to authority, regimentation and totalitarianism.

Trade Demanded

Authorized sources earlier had said that Hull's objections were impossible for Germany as long as Britain was permitted to put her trade.

Megerle used as his text these words from Hitler's Munich address of last Saturday: "What we want is not subjugation of other peoples, but security of German lebensraum and thereby security of the German people themselves."

"As German legenraum," Megerle said, "he designated East and foremost that middle European region in which German people for many centuries conducted constructive economic, cultural, civilizing activity and for which it, as a great power accredited in this region, is there responsible.

Thesis Made

"It is the space within which the German people desires to live and which security and without interference. It is the space within which Germany would never again to be threatened and where it won't ever again permit political combinations and thereby security of the German people themselves."

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The prominence given the editorial and pointed reference to it by foreign office officials appeared to confirm any foreign observer to conclude "that Hitler's central thesis when talking to Welles would be German security and domination within the region she regards as her living space.

Domination Demands

From this it would seem further that any demand for the return of colonies might constitute a bargaining point on which Germany might yield—not in principle but practically — provided she had a high measure of unrestricted domination of central Europe.

Secondly, he said, there will be natural cooperation in one vast contiguous space which in turn may be the starting point for natural establishment of other European regions, each on a large economic area and peacefully dealing with all other areas.

Prize Sought

Large and small states, according to Megerle, "could live together peacefully from the moment that such a living space is free from internal dissensions and crisis brought on from without. The problems of liberty, independence and autonomy of small states are then no longer real problems."

If the big powers could agree on their living spaces, within which each assumed responsibility for law, order and economic development, Megerle said, that would mean for small nations that "they would be freed from all dangers and risks to which they now are exposed through head-on collisions of the big powers."

The commentator concluded by citing the American Good Neighbor war as a classic example of how the colonies by force of arms had to establish their independence which now is one of "solidarity, security and cooperation" of all American states, north and south.

FREDERIC BENSON

LONDON, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Edward Frederic Benson, 72, well known British novelist and playwright, and a son of a former Archbishop of Canterbury, died today.

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