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## 30 MILLIONS UNDER ARMS PERIL PEACE

Huge Forces Are Held in Readiness by Europe If Strife Comes.

### LEAGUE FACES GRIEF

Crisis Impends as World Leaders Prepare to Meet in Geneva.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS

Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—With 30,000,000 men already under arms and more being trained every day, and in the face of a world which again is talking of another war virtually as an assured thing, representatives of the United States and League of Nations will meet next week at Geneva, to see what, if anything, can be done to head off the danger.

The league assembly last month considered the situation too strained to risk setting a specific date for an arms conference. It did instruct its preparatory commission, charged with arranging for such conference, however, to meet on Nov. 6 and make a survey.

But today such is the mood in which Europe and the rest of the globe finds itself, that fear is expressed openly that little, if any practical good can come of the meeting.

#### Armies Are Huge

The main difficulty is not with the fleets, but with the armies and the air forces.

Total naval personnel of all the five principal sea powers number less than 360,000 men, whereas the standing arms of these same countries add up to about 1,700,000 men, not counting trained reserves.

According to the records, France heads the list with a standing army totaling 607,000 soldiers. Russia is second, with 565,000; Italy third, with 360,000, and Britain a close fourth, with 345,000.

Poland comes fifth, with 255,000, and Japan sixth, with 200,000. Rumania and Switzerland are, respectively, seventh and eighth, with the United States and Czechoslovakia practically tying for ninth place, with about 130,000 men.

#### Millions Are Trained

These figures, however, give little idea of the real story. With the exception of America, Britain and Germany, all the principal powers have colossal numbers of conscripts, trained reserves, so many that, as indicated above, all the nations combined could throw upward of 30,000,000 drilled soldiers into the field very soon after mobilization.

It is this titanic problem that the American and other delegations will tackle next week at Geneva. They are going to try to report to the league, and to America, how it may be solved.

And though it is not believed that the technical side of it offers any insurmountable obstacle, it is feared that, given the present hectic state of the world, the leading powers will not want to disarm. Fearing war, most of them will prefer to wait and see.

#### Mussolini Waves Sword

As if the outlook were not black enough already, Dictator Mussolini has chosen this week to explode with another fighting speech predicting war.

German Fascists continue to threaten the treaty of Versailles, to threaten Germany's pre-war frontiers. France is building the greatest chain of military defenses along her eastern borders the world over has seen, and Russia again is fulminating against the capitalist powers.

Poland, Austria, Yugoslavia, Hungary and the rest are involved in the general unrest, and Britain is afraid for India, Egypt and her far-flung interests.

The United States, it seems, will be the only great, comparatively uninvolved power represented at Geneva.

#### CONSTITUTION VOTING CHANGE IS PROTESTED

Board Overrides Group's Objections to Use of Machines.

Futile protest against using voting machines to register constitutional convention votes at next week's election was filed with Marion county election commissioners Wednesday by a group of persons opposed to calling the convention.

The group was headed by the Rev. George B. Smith, 231 Ashland avenue, who declared election laws specifically require use of separate paper ballots.

W. W. Spencer and Fred C. Gause, members of the state board of election commissioners, said today counties having voting machines have the right to use them for registering the convention vote instead of paper ballots.

#### SPEEDING OF TRACK WORK TO BE ASKED

Enterprise Civic League to Seek Action on Elevation.

Hastening of the track elevation program in vicinity of Morris and Harding streets and Oliver and Kentucky avenues will be sought of city officials by members of the Enterprise Civic League of West Indianapolis.

Speakers at the association meeting Wednesday night at the Rhodius park community house urged members to seek immediate action. Two hundred and fifty persons attended the meeting.

**\$40,000 for Aiding Poor**  
KOKOMO, Ind., Oct. 30.—The Howard county council in special session voted \$40,000 as additional funds for poor relief. Nearly \$70,000 has already been spent this year.

Boys to Show Corn

By United Press

CHICAGO, Oct. 30.—Jimmy was just 7 years old.

"And what, Jimmy, do you want for your birthday?" asked his wealthy father, who shall remain anonymous here, for the sake of all concerned.

"I want a grandpa," replied Jimmy, sadly.

"A w-what?"

"A grandpa, a grandpa that's old and has got

white hair and tell stories about wars and fighting bears and every other kid in the neighborhood has got a grandpa, daddy, why can't I have one too?"

It was a big order, but Jimmy's daddy had to do something about it, because, well, he was that kind of a dad. After tucking Jimmy in bed, he and Jimmy's mother went to the abandoned jail where many of Chicago's destitute sleep.

There they picked a kindly looking old man, with whiskers to suit and bright blue eyes. They explained the proposition. He gladly accepted. So Jimmy's daddy took the old man to a barber shop to get his beard trimmed, then to a clothier for an outfit suitable for a retired and dignified gentleman who likes to tell stories about war and bears and things.

So when Jimmy came down to breakfast the next morning, there was the grandest grandpa he could want. The old man has a good home for the winter, perhaps for life, and Jimmy—he's the happiest child in Chicago. The reason? Let Jimmy tell it:

"My grandpa, he's w-wonderful. He almost got killed by an Indian with a tomahawk! Gosh!"

## RITA'S NOT A VAMP Screen Siren Really Isn't Siren



Rita La Roy

BY DAN THOMAS  
NEA Service Writer

## LAND NOT HIS, BUILDER FINDS Apartments Erected on Site Fraudulently Sold.

CHICAGO, Oct. 30.—B. M. Berman faced today the problem of finding a way to keep a \$125,000 apartment building which he had, through no error of his own, erected on another man's property.

Attorneys agreed that the landlord, Ralph W. Sallstrom, who spent two years in California and returned to find the building on the lot he had thought was vacant, could claim the house on a "finder's keepers" principle.

When the Sallstrom family left California in 1928, the estate was put in charge of a real estate company. Fred L. Padden, a clerk in the company, according to the charges, arranged with Attorney Richard Donovan and two other men to "sell" the land, taking advantage of the fact that Padden's employer had not seen Sallstrom.

John P. Moran, said to be a police character, posed as Sallstrom, the attorneys charge, and the land was sold to Berman for \$10,000, the real estate company collecting a \$500 commission in the belief the transaction was legal.

Since the apartment house was erected without the owner knowing about it, Sallstrom's attorneys contend today that it would revert to the estate and that Berman can't even move it without Sallstrom's consent.

**WORLD-FAMOUS TINY PAINTING IS STOLEN**  
Museum Visitor Sought in Loss of \$5,000 Work of Art.

By United Press  
NEW YORK, Oct. 30.—One of the finest small paintings in the world—Honore Daumier's "The Print Collectors"—was the object today of a police search throughout the country.

The painting, valued at \$35,000, was stolen mysteriously by a visitor looking at the exhibition at the museum of modern art. The painting is only eight inches long and six inches wide.

**LICENSE TO WED LED  
YOUTH TO JAIL CELL**  
Judge at Bluffton Recalled Warrant in Chicken Theft Case.

BLUFFTON, Ind., Oct. 30.—Sylvester T. Rutlage, Ft. Wayne youth, picked Wells county—the wrong county—when he sought a license to wed Miss Maude Allen, Ft. Wayne. As the couple were non-residents, the county clerk instructed them to see Circuit Judge A. W. Hamilton for permission to issue a license. They conferred with the judge, obtained the permission and the license was issued.

In the meantime, Judge Hamilton turned over in his mind the name of Rutlage, and suddenly recalled that he had issued a bench warrant for the arrest of the bridegroom on a charge of stealing chickens.

Ft. Wayne authorities were notified and Rutlage was arrested. He is in jail here unable to provide a defense and Rutlage was arrested. C. E. Troger, Lafontaine corn grower, \$2,000 bond pending trial on a larceny charge. Some one told him to plead guilty. He did and thereupon found himself in Joliet penitentiary, serving a sentence of from one to ten years. He stayed there three years before the pardon board got around to considering his case. His release on parole was immediate.

Vargas, prosperous Chicago restaurant owner by his own right, leaves with his bride this week for Maracaibo, Venezuela, to collect the millions he left him by his late father. "But if I go without getting a pardon to claim my fortune," he told the Governor, "once I leave this country I will not be allowed to return to America. I would like to be rich and I would like to stay in America. Your pardon would make both possible. If I must choose, I will do without the parole."

Vargas' story so touched the Governor that the absolute pardon was forthcoming at the state Capitol in Springfield.

"Governor Emmerson is a great man. And America is a great country. When I return I shall be proud to apply for citizenship papers."

## PLEAS HEARD FOR PARDONS AND PAROLES

State Prison Trustees Open  
Quarterly Meeting With  
118 Applications.

By United Press  
MICHIGAN CITY Ind., Oct. 30.—The cry of "hard times" prevailed at the regular quarterly meeting of the state prison pardon and parole board today as hundreds of friends and relatives of inmates pleaded clemency be given prisoners.

Applications for paroles, pardons and commutations of sentences had been filed by 118 prisoners, including thirty-six sentenced for life terms. Tonight the prison trustees will sit as a pardon board and hear the pleas of nearly seventy-five inmates.

In the majority of the cases heard today, freedom was asked for the applicants in order that they might obtain work and care for their families.

Doctor Asks Release

Included in the list of life convicts who had asked for freedom was Dr. Nelson Ross, convicted in Delaware county on a charge of murder. He was found guilty on Oct. 28, 1909, of having shot and killed Dan Linder, an interurban car conductor, because of an argument over a 10-cent fare.

The Muncie doctor has made repeated efforts to obtain freedom. According to the evidence, Dr. Ross, a man of violent temper, boarded a car without having bought a ticket, and objected when Linder attempted to charge him an extra fare of 10 cents. He was temporarily paroled once, but failed to report to the appointed time.

Another "lifer" whose application was before the board, was Ed McCoy, also from Delaware county, who was convicted in 1917 on a charge of murdering Frank Butler, Negro. He escaped jail, but was captured in May, 1919, and sent to prison. Police believed at the time of the shooting that he had mistaken Butler for James Lee, Negro, whom he had threatened.

McCoy's doctor has made repeated efforts to obtain freedom. According to the evidence, Dr. Ross, a man of violent temper, boarded a car without having bought a ticket, and objected when Linder attempted to charge him an extra fare of 10 cents. He was temporarily paroled once, but failed to report to the appointed time.

Two years ago building inspectors declared the structure uninhabitable. Its windows broken, cobwebs in its attics, plaster crumbling, it stood forlorn, with a black tomcat as its only frequenter, while on the north side and over the city, that once was a town, eight and ten-story apartments reared their heads to the skies.

Gangster Seeks Pardon

Johnny O'Reilly, Chicago gangster, also was represented in a plea for a pardon. He was one of the three men tried for the murder of Attorney Thaddeus Gancher of Crown Point in 1924. O'Reilly was a pal of Frankie McElrath and Alexander McCabe, both of Chicago, who also were tried for the slaying. McCabe was acquitted, as was McCabe. After two previous juries had heard the case, one disagreeing and the other returning a verdict of guilty, O'Reilly was given a life sentence.

Edward Kraft, Ft. Wayne sportsman, applied to the board for a parole. He was sent to the board a few months ago after an unsuccessful appeal to the Indiana supreme court and a plea to G. V. Harry G. Leslie for an executive pardon. Kraft was sentenced Dec. 8, 1928, from one to ten years, on a charge of involuntary manslaughter. He was charged with driving his auto into a bicycle rider on a Ft. Wayne street during a fog, causing the rider's death.

**SENTENCE SUSPENDED  
IN CAR CRASH CASE**  
Charles Martz, Arrested in Court-room, Is Shown Leniency.

On his promise to pay a \$250 reward on the auto with which his borrowed machine collided, Charles H. Martz, 21, of 223 North Temple avenue, won leniency in municipal court Wednesday.

"English avenue then was at the edge of town and my grandfather's apartment house became a curiosity that all came to see," Rockwood said.

The structure is being razed by the Capital City Wrecking Company. Dunlop & Hollgate, realtors in charge of the property, say it is owned by Mrs. Parthenia N. Wittfeld of New York City, former secretary-treasurer of the Rockwood Manufacturing Company, and grandson of the builder.

"A brickyard where our company's offices stand now, 1800 English avenue, furnished the brick for this first apartment house. It cost about \$15,000 in those days, but later it couldn't be built for \$40,000 or \$50,000," Rockwood said.

Expensive walnut and poplar form the interiors of the eight apartments of the antiquated structure singing its swan song.

**Apartments in Tier Style**

The apartments are built in tier style, with two rooms to each floor and a center stairway separating the rooms on the three floors.

"English avenue then was at the edge of town and my grandfather's apartment house became a curiosity that all came to see," Rockwood said.

The distance of one-horse shays, milk at 5 cents a quart and the song "In the Good Old Summertime," echoed today to the clang of wreckers' crowbars as the city's first apartment building was razed at 1713-1727 English avenue.

It was erected in 1875 by William O. Rockwood and John Cavin, former mayor of Indianapolis.

Two years ago building inspectors declared the structure uninhabitable. Its windows broken, cobwebs in its attics, plaster crumbling, it stood forlorn, with a black tomcat as its only frequenter, while on the north side and over the city, that once was a town, eight and ten-story apartments reared their heads to the skies.

**Structure Was Magnet for Throng After Erection  
in 1875.**

The days of one-horse shays, milk at 5 cents a quart and the song "In the Good Old Summertime," echoed today to the clang of wreckers' crowbars as the city's first apartment house which is being razed today.

Top—The city's first apartment house which is being razed today. Top Right Oval—The date-stone with its inscription "Cavin and Rockwood, 1875." Inset—Raymond Young, manager of the wrecking company, razing the structure to the tune of the meows of the aged apartment's sole survivor, a black tomcat.

Lower Right—The Admiral, 3025 North Meridian street, one of the city's modern apartments, where rents range eight and ten times those of the city's pride of 1875.

## First Apartment Building in City Is in Wreckers' Hands

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Lower Right—The Admiral, 3025 North Meridian street, one of the city's modern apartments, where rents range eight and ten times those of the city's pride of 1875.

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