

I Cover the World

by
WM. PHILIP SIMMS

WASHINGTON, April 13.—What will in effect be a "second Versailles" to make or break the peace of Europe, first forecast in this newspaper two weeks ago is now virtually a certainty. Participating would be Nazi Germany as well as Britain, France, Italy, Soviet Russia, Poland and the Little Entente.

The outcome of this exchange of ideas, wherein the Reich would take part as an equal, not as an "outlaw" haled before a judge for trial and punishment, would then determine the immediate destiny of Europe.

From it Germany would return to the League of Nations and the table of the arms limitation conference at Geneva. Else eastern and western Europe and the Danubian states would conclude the system of encirclement which now constitutes the Allies' second line of defense.

Such were the indications received here today. This would mean:

First, that so intense is the desire of the Allies to keep out of war, that Chancellor Hitler is on the point of getting away with the rearmament of Germany in defiance of the Treaty of Versailles.

Second, that Germany will not be "tried" at Geneva Monday by the council of the League. Instead, her treaty violations will be cited and a general course of League action indicated in case there are further infractions. Care will be taken to do nothing to prevent her return to the fold.

On the other hand it distinctly does not mean that the European crisis is over. Far from it. Chancellor Hitler has still to accept the hand which Washington bears, the Allies plan to extend more than half way. If there is conflict, the latter are determined to make it unmistakable who the aggressor is.

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Should compromise with Germany prove impossible, the British are understood to have assured the French and Italians that Britain will not only give her blessing to pending mutual security pacts, but supplement existing treaties safeguarding the status quo of Western Europe by adding an aerial Locarno.

This would pledge Britain, France, Belgium and Italy—Germany was originally invited in—to use their air forces to assist any of their number if attacked from the air.

This, military experts declare, is more important than might appear at first glance.

Momentous Showdown Impending

BRITAIN may refuse to extend her continental security commitments, other than this, but as no future major conflict is possible without planes, her participation in any new trouble would become well nigh inevitable.

The moment a hostile plane crossed the French, Belgian or Italian border, British planes would be obliged to lend a hand. Once at war, it would be imperative for her to end the struggle as soon as possible. Hence Britain would throw into it her entire weight, on land and sea as well as in the air.

A momentous showdown, therefore, is impending. If Britain, France and Italy are in accord at Stresa, as reported, Herr Hitler today becomes the most powerful human enemy Europe has seen in 100 years.

The question posed here and in other capitals is this: Will this nobody of yesterday, but today the all highest of Germany, into whose ears are beating the tempestuous "hochs" of a frenzied people, remain sufficiently sane to grasp the outstretched hand?

The answer to this riddle means world peace or rivers of blood.

Today's Science

BY DAVID DIETZ

AN explanation for the simultaneous flashing of a large swarm of fireflies, a rare but well-attested phenomenon, is advanced by Dr. John Bonner Buck of the Zoological Laboratory of John Hopkins University. Dr. Buck finds that old demon sex, at the bottom of so many things that happen in this world, to be the cause of the phenomenon.

Reports of large swarms of fireflies all flashing their lights on and off in unison have come from such widely scattered parts of the world as Siam and the Philippine Islands as well as from various parts of the United States. A great variety of explanations have been offered for this synchronous flashing.

Dr. Buck finds that the explanation of the phenomenon lies in the mating habits of the fireflies.

He says that the male firefly flies about emitting a single short flash about every 5.7 seconds. The female remains in the grass and responds to the male by flashing forward after each of his flashes. He finds that the female invariably flashes 2.1 seconds after the flash of the male.

Dr. Buck tells that he has verified this phenomenon experimentally by rigging up an electric flashlight and flashing it exactly 2.1 seconds after the flash of the male. Pretty soon, he says, the light is surrounded by five or 10 males all flashing in unison.

His explanation of how an entire swarm gets to flashing in unison is as follows: When one female is surrounded with such a group of five or 10, the intensity of their combined flash is sufficient to attract the attention of a female at a considerable distance. She then begins to flash and soon is surrounded by a group of five or 10 males. The same thing happens again and again until the whole swarm is synchronized.

SEVERAL reports indicate that the synchronous flashing only occurs under special conditions, he says. These include calm air, unusual humidity and darkness, and a large open space crowded with insects.

He says that a breeze interferes with the flashing of the insects and so would tend to destroy the unison of the swarm.

In support of his theory, Dr. Buck calls attention to the fact that the stronger the flashlight used in experiments, the more males are attracted to it. He has succeeded thus in attracting as many as 20 at one time.

"It is indeed an impressive sight," he writes in Science, "to see such a group converging through the air toward one point, each member pausing, flashing and surging forward in short advances, all in the most perfect synchronism."

Questions and Answers

Q—How much gold reserve is there in the world and in the United States?

A—The reserves of the central banks and governments of the principal countries of the world were estimated at \$21,745,000,000 on Dec. 31, 1934, and the United States held \$8,390,000,000 on Jan. 31, 1935.

Q—Give the names of countries ruled by dictators and the names of the dictators.

A—Germany, Adolf Hitler; Russia, Josef Stalin; Italy, Benito Mussolini; Poland, Gen. Plisudski; Hungary, Admiral von Horthy; Portugal, Gen. Carmona; Turkey, Mustapha Kemal Ataturk; Albania, King Zog; Persia, Riza Khan Pahlevi.

Q—In what sequence should one write on the pages of folded note paper

A—in the following order: First, second, third and fourth pages; or first and fourth, then turn, and write sideways across the second and third.

THE 'MIRACLE' IN ENGINEERING

Dismantling and Salvage Work Alone Will Cost Millions

With Boulder Dam near completion, the mammoth task facing builders in dismantling the vast amount of equipment at the site is told in this story, last of the series of six on this engineering marvel.

BY OREN ARNOLD
NEA Service Special Correspondent

BOULDER CITY, Nev., April 13.—One of the thrills of a circus is to stand around after the performance and watch 'em dismantle the structures and tents. It's going to be highly interesting to watch them "dismantle" things at Boulder Dam.

The finale of removing scaffolding, steel foundries, concrete plants, railroads, cables, bridges, supports, dormitories, mess halls and the thousand and one other temporary items, is going to be a Grade A engineering job itself.

Man-hours, and salvaging, are bound to run into millions of dollars, although "million dollars" is not an impressive figure at Boulder Dam.

Much of this work will be under way by summer; in fact, it has already begun. All the old planks and forms can be knocked off the dam proper, off the huge intake towers and powerhouses, to make them "clean" for tourists to see.

IN this deep canyon, many miles from a lumber tree, you can soon get enough used lumber to build a whole town of homes, with an auditorium thrown in.

And there is, for instance, one gate made of 3,000,000 pounds of steel, which you can have free if you will cart it off.

On top of the canyon, and over eight miles, workmen also will soon begin dismantling a part of Boulder City. But only that part built by the dam construction company will be removed. They are temporary frame houses, mostly, where the workmen live.

The lovely brick and plaster residences built by Uncle Sam, some of which are palatial, will remain here, to be homes of the permanent force which will maintain and operate Boulder Dam and its power plant.

Of the 5000 people now in Boulder City perhaps 3500 will remain. Some of the discharged workmen will be absorbed in building the great aqueduct from the Colorado River to Los Angeles, on the new canal projects in Imperial Valley, and subsequent jobs incident to the reclamation program there.

They will not, if at all avoidable, be turned back into the ranks of unemployed.

THE new project, to be launched soon, is that of making Boulder Lake a great recreation center. In perhaps the most scenic spot in America, it will be developed as a fishing, boating, bathing and hunting region, a paradise for the outdoor



The greatest man-made lake in the world stretches back from Boulder Dam, as the Colorado River, extending out over the lowlands for 23 miles upstream, fills the huge reservoir, shown in this air view from a Richfield Oil Company plane. The lake level now is far above the old river channel.

vacationist, all supervised by Uncle Sam.

The world's biggest man-made lake should be full in four or five years. Its water would then cover all New York state to a depth of one foot.

It will be 1200 feet above sea level, with mountains around it, and have 550 miles of shore line.

Below the reservoir are about 2,600,000 acres of irrigable land, of which 660,000 already are irrigated, mostly in California.

New irrigation, however, is not

the main consideration in building Boulder Dam. Flood control, silt control, domestic water sup-

ply for Pacific coast cities, and electric power are the four big reasons.

THE power sale will pay for the dam under contracts for it already signed. The Boulder power plants have a capacity of 1,835,000-horse power. (Niagara has only 452,500; Muscle Shoals 250,000, with a potential of 60,000; Dniepropetrov in Russia, 750,000.)

The city of Los Angeles and the California Edison Co. will operate and maintain the power plant. The greatest power lines ever con-

ceived already are strung across the state to Los Angeles, nearly 200 miles away.

Beginning in September, Boulder Dam ultimately will create three times the electricity any project ever offered and three dozen or more other good dam sites on the Colorado, if need arises. Electricity may help wipe out human drudgery, with a good start toward it right here.

MORE than 1000 tourists a day are seeing Boulder Dam now, and the number is increasing.

Tremendous in every sense, it is hard to grasp without prolonged study, but soon the nation will be familiar with its physical aspects, at least.

Ultimately, all nations will realize that here is the greatest single man-made wonder in the world, because it is not just a circus or a show place, not just a monument or a statue or a private money-making scheme.

It is a gigantic adventure in human progress and emancipation.

THE END

DAILY WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen

WASHINGTON, April 13.—There is good reason for Big Jim Farley's choice of September as the time to retire. By that time Congress will be adjourned and Jim can salve his pride by saying he retired voluntarily, not because of Huey Long. Fact remains, however, that the mounting tide of congressional and public antipathy to Mr. Farley was one of the chief reasons for his retirement from the office of the official family.

Interior Secretary Harold Ickes will remember the Florida Everglades for a long time. Visiting the Seminoles in their marshy retreat last week, he was obliged to leap from log to log and stomp to stomp to reach their hide-out. The Indians were amazed that a pale-face from Washington should pay them such a compliment. They signed a peace pact, ending a 100-year period of hostility, growing out of alleged deception when their Chief Osceola was captured under a flag of truce.

BURT WHEELER, hard-fisted Senator from Montana, was invited to Pittsburgh to address a convention of 1200 traffic managers and railway executives. The meeting was held in the aristocratic Duquesne Club and the drift of the discussion before Mr. Wheeler spoke was bitterly critical of any government interference with the railroads. But Mr. Wheeler, who is chairman of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, did not bat an eye. He launched a tirade denouncing private railway operation and told the executives why the government was going to take their roads over. The only thing he left out was the date of the trial.

Old-timers declare that never before has the House been flooded with such a parade of youth.

THE Administration's behind-the-scenes effort to win senatorial backing for renewal of the NRA is getting desperate and intense. Some of the inner council master minds contend it is inconceivable the Senate should refuse to extend the life of the Blue Eagle Act, but the congressional floor leaders are not so sure. They are frantically seeking to clear away all obstacles. What is seriously handicapping them is the strong undercurrent of hostility to NRA Chairman Donald Richberg and the fact that the Administration is fighting against time. Unless the law is renewed by June 16, it expires

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J. P. SCOTT NAMED TO COUNTY LIQUOR BOARD

City Man Choice of Mayor Kern for Advisory Commission.

James P. Scott, 4402 Central-av., was appointed by Mayor John W. Kern yesterday as a member of the Marion County Liquor Commission.

Under the terms of the liquor law passed by the last Legislature the commission will investigate all persons wishing to take out beer or liquor permits in the county.

Mr. Scott will serve with Raleigh O. Burk, recently appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, and a third member to be named by the State Excise Department.

MURAT TEMPLE HOLDS INITIATION CEREMONIES

Class of Neophytes Join Lodge in Annual Spring Rite.

A class of neophytes was initiated at the fifty-first spring ceremonial at Murat Temple yesterday.

The class included: Otis Albertson, Ernest Asbell, Seymour; Benjamin N. Bogue, Orval L. Easley, Leo Fenton, Noblesville; Paul Fishback, F. Demial Flesher, Selma; Lyndell D. Foster, Harry F. Hergt, Horace B. Kemper, Kokomo; Willis E. Kuhn, Harman A. Kurtz, Edward B. Louden, Orville A. Miller, George N. Ross, Walter R. Snodgrass, Nashville, and Leonard L. Swartz.

GETS 30-DAY TERM FOR 90-CENT THEFT

Records Show 30 Previous Arrests, 15 Aliases.

George Rogers, 54, yesterday came before Clyde Carter, Municipal Judge pro tem., and was charged with taking 90 cents worth of merchandise from a downtown store.

"Judge," said Mr. Rogers, "I was a victim of circumstances, and I hope you'll be lenient. I am a show man, and sell these novelties at circuses and carnivals and things."

Just then a policeman handed the judge Rogers' record. There were 30 arrests, dating from 1930, and a record of 15 aliases.

"Well, well, well," said the judge. "It's nothing," Rogers said. "Just a few little cases. The whole thing doesn't amount to much."

The policeman said Rogers had told him he had spent more than half his life behind bars.

The judge fined him \$10 and costs in jail, sentencing him to 30 days in jail, remarking that that was his second term. When first elected to Congress he was only 26.

Seventeen other members were born since the turn of the century.

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SIDE GLANCES

By George Clark

