

# PEACE HINGES ON BIG 'IF' AND EUROPE'S ARMS RACE TURNS INTO FEVERISH SPRINT

Great Britain Once More Plays the Game of France and Plans to Spend Every Possible Cent on National Defense.

**Editor's Note**—This is the last of four dispatches analyzing the war danger and its causes.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS  
Scriptor-Howard Foreign Editor

PARIS, March 10.—Emphasizing Germany's lack of colonies and raw materials, Joseph Goebbels, Nazi minister, declared the Reich would "rely upon guns" instead of upon the League of Nations for relief.

That is Hitler's reply to the British project to reconsider, at Geneva, the "economic suffocation" of which Germany, Italy, Japan, and other "have not" nations so bitterly complain.

Today, therefore, as before 1914, Europe and Asia are relying on armaments to win for them what they want, or to defend what they have. Realists no longer believe the League of Nations can keep the peace of the world, however useful it may be, and is, in other fields.

France has taken up, more feverishly than ever, where the assassinated Foreign Minister Louis Barthou left off in 1934, in her efforts to cross Europe with pacts to keep the peace and pacts of mutual aid in the event of unprovoked aggression.

## Britain Hard at Work

But the most astonishing result of Europe's fear of a new World War is the startling transformation of Great Britain.

Scared as she has been at no time since the Armistice, Britain plans to spend every cent she can raise in the next two or three years on national defense. The total outlay will depend upon how big a sum she can raise for the purse. The figures likely will come to light this month.

For the first time in 15 years she is playing the game with France as France would have her play it. Hitherto she has scoffed at French fears of just such a situation as has arisen now on the continent. Her attitude has been one of "wait and see." If and when danger should arise she would consider the matter on its merits. Meanwhile she paid only casual attention to her army, navy and air force.

## Russia Plays Big Role

Now all is changed. Not only is she anxiously looking to her armaments, but no country in Europe is more active diplomatically. If war breaks out, she wants all the allies she can scrape together. And the time to begin scraping, she obviously believes, is now.

Soviet Russia, bete noire of British Tories for nearly two decades, today plays an important role in Britain's scheme of things. Foreign Commissar Maxim Litvinoff scored a major triumph for his country while in England for King George's funeral.

British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden is said to be pro-Russian, at least comparatively speaking. An important diplomat told me that Capt. Eden has committed Britain to co-operation of a far-reaching order with the Soviet Union. Thoroughly alarmed at last, not only over what may soon happen in Europe, but what is already happening in the Far East, Britain may find Russia a very useful card to play against Japan as well as Germany.

## Graceful "Out" Sought

The bugaboo of a war with Italy is being allowed to wane in Britain. It was always artificial in Britain and it never amounted to much in France. Here no responsible statesman ever took very seriously the idea of an unprovoked Italian challenge of the British lion. What France very much feared, however, was some incident or accident which might start the guns blazing.

What both Paris and London now very much desire is a graceful way out of the Italo-Ethiopian imbroglio. Both wish to concentrate on the vastly bigger danger represented by Reichsfuehrer Hitler and his growing war machine. They accept literally Goebbels's warning that Germany will "rely upon guns" to do her talking from now on.

Can Europe—can the world—head off the only two clearly threatened war? Since my arrival in Europe I have asked many diplomats this question. And all of them hesitate when they answer. Some frankly do not believe it can. Those who at first blush seem to say "yes" invariably add an "if" which really means "no."

## All Add an "If"

Sir Samuel Hoare says yes—"if" the causes of war are removed; that is to say, "if" the disgruntled nations can get what they want without fighting.

British Labor Leader Lansbury says yes—"if" all nations are given free access to raw materials, lands for colonization and unfettered markets.

Ex-Premier Lloyd George, of England, thinks it possible—"if" the question of mandates in other words, colonies or room to expand—are reconsidered for the benefit of Germany, Italy, Japan and the other "have nots."

In effect, their composite answer would be something like this:

"Yes, Europe and the world could head off war 'if' we could bring our selves to pay the price."

## Chance Seen Remote

"We could head off war—"if" the colonial powers could reach a degree of selflessness where they would voluntarily turn over to other peoples such territory as they no longer need or can profitably use."

"We could do it—"if" world frontiers became like the boundary lines between the American states; if immigration were entirely unrestricted; if international trade were unfettered; if religious, racial, social and national prejudices were eradicated, and if human nature were entirely made over. For without all this, civil war would engulf the world notwithstanding."

But not one of the crucial, pivotal "ifs" seems to have the remotest chance of becoming a reality in our time.

THE END.

## Job Open

If the gentleman who thought up the names for Pullman cars will apply to Val McLeay, secretary-engineer of the City Plan Commission, he might get a job.

Mr. McLeay and the County Commissioners decided recently to do away with all street name duplications in Marion County. They thought this would make life a lot easier for mailmen and delivery boys.

During their survey they found several Orchard-av's and a dozen Main-sts. It was there belief, however, that they would have to change just 150 names.

Today they discovered they have to think up new names for between 400 and 500 streets.

# Van Camp's to Mark Diamond Jubilee Friday; Honor Founder, Who Started in Frame Grocery

By FREDERICK G. MATSON

Van Camp's, Inc., native Indianapolis food-packing company and today the world's largest vegetable canner, will observe its diamond jubilee anniversary next Friday and pay tribute to its founder, Gilbert C. Van Camp.

From obscure beginnings in a frame grocery 75 years ago the Van Camp concern has developed into an organization comprising a total of 21 packing plants in five states. Nine plants in Indiana alone have an annual payroll of approximately a million and a quarter dollars.

It's a long stretch of time and imagination back to 1861, but let's try to picture a typical grocery of that period in a typical Middle Western town.

There Gilbert Van Camp laid the foundations of the canning industry.

It was called the Fruit House Grocery. Inside, bins and barrels were much in evidence. Dried cod, mackerel and cured meats dangled from hooks and wires. Sugar, unground coffee, tea, spices, molasses, pickles—all were sold in bulk. Precious few cans, cartons and bottles were present to thwart adventurous flies.

No Parking Problem

Barter and carry was most often the basis of the transactions, rather than cash and carry. There was as yet no parking problem.

While the customers made their spring purchases in the front of the Fruit House Grocery, the future Van Camp canning business was having its meager beginnings in the rear. For years Gilbert Van Camp had been flirting with the idea of preserving fresh fruits and vegetables in cans during the summer for consumption in winter.

The Fruit House Grocery became the Van Camp Packing Co. The first few years were beset with difficulties. Equipment was crude and cumbersome and the process painfully slow. But it worked and its practicability was demonstrated.

For the next 30 years, progress, while not rapid, was steady. Then, in 1890, the firm introduced a product that was to lift the industry to rapid expansion. More than that, this product was soon to become an American institution.

Canned pork and beans!

First Canned Baked Beans

Boston, so legend has it, was the birthplace of baked beans. But Van Camp's, in Indianapolis, was the originator of the canned product—with pork, and with tomato sauce.

With the marketing of pork and beans, the canning industry broke out of its swaddling clothes. Evidence of this appeared in the periodicals of the day. As the housewife of the nineties glanced through her favorite magazine she saw advertisements for such useful and essential items as bicycle skirts, at 33 up; muslin night gowns at 19 cents, gingham for 5 cents a yard, and hour-glass corsets at only 50 cents.

The obscure beginnings of one of Indianapolis' great industries took place in 1861 in the back rooms of the little frame building pictured above. This was the first Van Camp establishment and was known as the Fruit House Grocery.

pork and beans appeared in the general offices and central kitchens.

It is a modern plant in every sense of the word, and the group of buildings is one of the industrial showplaces of the city. Immaculate, it is operated on the "unit" or "line" system. From the great parboiling ovens that are the first step in the process, to the final ones of canning, labeling and packing, the entire operation is continuous and, using gravitation as an aid in the production, runs from the upper stories of the building to the main floor.

A sample can, of the vintage of 1835, not 1897, was forthcoming sent the Kentuckian gentleman.

Another milestone in Van Camp development was marked in 1894, when the company's greatly increased business necessitated moving into a new and larger factory, where a growing demand for its products could be met by more rapid and modern production facilities.

As Indianapolis developed and thrived, so did Van Camp's, and again, in 1919, the firm was forced to expand. In that year its present \$3,000,000 seven-story factory was completed. Here are housed

the general offices and central kitchens.

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Record production for a single day's operations was recently set with an output of 1,400,000 cans.

The strategic location of the Indianapolis plant from a shipping and producing standpoint is evidenced by the following facts: It is located approximately 50 miles from the nation's center of population. Almost all of the bulk of the raw materials used in the preparation of Van Camp's foods are produced in Indiana or neighboring states.

Lastly, Indiana is the greatest tomato producing state in the

general sense of the word, and the group of buildings is one of the industrial showplaces of the city. Immaculate, it is operated on the "unit" or "line" system. From the great parboiling ovens that are the first step in the process, to the final ones of canning, labeling and packing, the entire operation is continuous and, using gravitation as an aid in the production, runs from the upper stories of the building to the main floor.

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