

DUCE REPORTED PREPARING FOR WAR BEFORE '39

Editorial Attacks Support
Rumors Peace Hope
Is Abandoned.

By United Press
ROME, July 5.—Bitter editorial attacks on Great Britain and France gave point today to reports that Premier Mussolini has abandoned hope of an understanding with England and is making thorough preparations based on the possibilities of a war in the Mediterranean within a year.

Diplomatic circles in London doubted the reports on the ground Britain's resources gave her too great an advantage over Italy although it was conceded that Fascist extremists are exerting pressure to "pick a quarrel now."

From sources close to Duce came information that the dictator of forty-one million Italians is now convinced Great Britain will take measures to "humiliate" him when its present high-pressure three-year disarmament program is completed.

Mussolini, has not indicated he has been influenced by this advice and his friends insist that he does not want war, but modifications of Italy's military set-up are under way. A supreme naval command has been created in Libya, the islands of Pantelleria and Leros have been fortified; new submarines are being built and a great land, sea and air demonstration is scheduled for Sicily in August.

Spain Projects United Attack

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HENDAYE, Franco-Spanish Frontier, July 5.—Reports reached here today that the Loyalist high command in Spain has ordered immediate offensives on all fronts because it believes the imminent collapse of the nonintervention plan will result in heavily increased aid to Rebels from Italy and Germany.

Gen. Jose Davila, driving on Santander after the conquest of Bilbao, today claimed the capture of 40,000.

The Republican government has been advised that the Loyalist general staff has transferred its headquarters to Santona, called "The Gibraltar of the North."

CONGRESS LEADERS SEEK TO AVOID JAM

House Chiefs Speed Work On Administration Bills.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, July 5.—Congressional leaders today sought to accelerate committee action on Administration measures in order to avoid a legislative log-jam and a stampede for adjournment when—if the judiciary reorganization issue is disposed of.

House chieftains worked to get the wage and hour bill, low cost housing measure and the proposal for eight "little TVAs" through committee so they may be acted upon before the court bill reaches the lower chamber.

In addition the Congressional Tax and Inquiry Committee arranged to start work this way on legislation to plug loopholes in the revenue structure. Some form of Government reorganization bill will be in shape for House consideration by July 15, it was reported.

The power program, involving the spreading of the Tennessee Valley Authority set-up throughout the nation, is before the House Rivers and Harbors Committee.

First phase of the President's reorganization program will come before the House next week in the form of a measure providing the President with six new secretaries, their salary limited to \$10,000 each.

The Tax Inquiry Committee will meet tomorrow to decide on future plans. Chairman Doughton predicted that the group would start executive conferences at once with tax experts looking toward early drafting of a loophole closing bill.

CEMENT ANTITRUST COMPLAINT IS FILED

By United Press
WASHINGTON, July 5.—The Federal Trade Commission charged today that 75 leading cement manufacturers banded together to eliminate price competition and raise the cost of cement to the consumer.

The Commission issued a complaint alleging violation of the Federal Trade Commission Act and the Clayton anti-Trust Act against the Cement Institute, an unincorporated association whose membership produces 95 per cent or more of all cement made in the United States.

PURDUE U. APPOINTS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Times Special
LAFAYETTE, July 5.—Dr. Frederick B. Knight, University of Iowa education and applied psychology professor, has been named to direct the newly formed education and applied psychology division at Purdue University. President E. C. Elliott announced today. He is to assume his duties Sept. 1.

5 BITTEN BY DOGS
Two persons today were to face charges in Municipal Court of harboring vicious dogs. Five persons were bitten by dogs during the week-end. Two were treated at City Hospital.

Those arrested were Mrs. Frank Kirkhoff, 1024 Nelson St., and Mrs. Addie Weatherford, 1731 Martindale Ave.

60th Birthday of Courthouse Here Brings Memories to W. W. Spencer, Who Began Law Practice Same Year

Prosecutor's Father Says
He Gave Life to
Politics.

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W. W. Spencer, father of the present Marion County Prosecutor, Herbert M. Spencer, today thought back to another Independence Day 60 years ago when the Marion County Courthouse was dedicated. Mr. Spencer, shown here on the Courthouse steps, has practiced law in Indianapolis since 1877.

Times Photo.

**ROOSEVELT INDIRECTLY REPLIES
TO CRITIC OF HIS TAX RETURNS**

(Continued from Page One)

his little automobile in a 10-acre estate of Christmas trees, that his estate was purely forest—not a farm with field crops.

HOPES \$40 AN ACRE
He said he counted on a \$40 an acre return from 80 acres of land planted with spruce and balsam to sell as Christmas trees. He hoped that 10 acres of trees, costing him about \$100 to raise, would bring \$500 into the Roosevelt treasury this December.

The President put another 300 acres in pines, larches, oak, black walnut and tulip poplars. He estimated they should yield \$25 an acre as posts, lumber and cord wood.

The President enjoyed a quiet Independence Day. He attended church and entertained at an informal picnic. Guests included Emil Ludwig, who is writing his biography, and the family of Henry A. Morgenthau Jr.

PROCLAMATION IS ISSUED

Only two pieces of official business drew the President's attention.

He issued a proclamation asking the country to commemorate the period from Sept. 17, 1937, to April 30, 1938.

MEETINGS TODAY

Federation of German Societies, picnic, German park, all day.

12th District American Legion, Fourth of July show, Indiana State Fair Grounds, 2 p.m.

MEETINGS TOMORROW

Rotary Club luncheon, Claypool Hotel, noon.

Alpha Tau Omega, luncheon, Board of Trade, noon.

Gym Club, luncheon, Splinter-Arms Hotel, noon.

Fhi Gamma Delta, dinner, Athenaeum, 6 p.m.

University of Michigan Club, luncheon, Board of Trade, noon.

Retail Shoe Men's Association, luncheon, Hotel Washington, noon.

Mercator Club, luncheon, Columbia Club, noon.

Universal Club, luncheon, Columbia Club, noon.

**10 PER CENT GAIN IN REAL ESTATE
VALUES CITED IN TWO REPORTS**

(Continued from Page One)

showed new home construction has brought definite acceleration in the sale of some sites. Indianapolis reported that rising building material costs in the last 60 days and stores have reported sales here.

Keeping pace with gains in 78 per cent of the other reporting cities, the Indianapolis survey showed an increase of 10 to 15 per cent in rents for business district space. Rents for business rooms in neighborhood communities here remained about the same, while rents for similar properties in other cities were advanced.

OFFICE RENTS ADVANCED

Indianapolis was among 110 cities reporting advances in office space rents. The increase here was estimated at between 5 and 10 per cent.

Indianapolis was among 223 cities in which apartment rents have been increased and among 230 cities in which dwelling rents have been advanced. The increase here was fixed at approximately 10 per cent.

A 6 per cent rate remained the most common rate for first mortgages on homes in Indianapolis and all the other reporting cities.

Urban Wilde, Indianapolis Board secretary, said the survey here for inclusion in the national report was conducted by Howard Fiebler, William Bridges and William Keller. He said they consulted specialists in all real estate fields to collect the most accurate data possible.

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

A 244 per cent increase in Federal Housing applications for the first half of 1937 over the last half of 1935 was reported today by Earl Peters, Indiana FHA director.

Applications for new home construction in the period covered in 1936 totaled \$824,373. For the first six months in 1937 it was \$1,037,060, an increase of \$212,687. The total for the last six months of 1936 was \$2,377,675.

The first half of 1937 reached a new high of \$2,839,981. The increase for the first six months of 1937 over the corresponding period of 1936 was \$1,802,920.

APPLICATIONS TOTAL \$28,000,000

Total applications for insured mortgage loans under the FHA amortized payment plan for both new and existing construction to

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