

## Greeks Hail Coaster For Legless Soldiers

Young U. S. Diplomat Invents Wheel Chair, Too, for Use by Injured Warriors.

By GEORGE W. WELLER

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ATHENS, March 22.—Legless Greek soldiers, brought back from the Albanian front to enter convalescence, are finding new hope through two unique hospital devices designed by George Lewis Jones, a young American diplomat, who is a member of the legation staff.

Mr. Jones, who holds the rank of commercial attaché, after six years' service in Greece, has invented a wheel chair for invalids and a self-propelled floor coaster for legless men that created a wave of enthusiasm among veterans when introduced experimentally in an Athenian hospital.

Among hospital executives and Red Cross officials, the two devices have likewise been received with delight because economy is the keynote of their design. Mr. Jones has perfected both original models in his own workshop at his home in Psychico, a suburb of Athens.

The wheel chair is a solid pine affair resembling a steamer chair with the leg-rest eliminated. The seat itself is a curve of canvas. The front legs rest on the ground, the rear are two solid wooden wheels mounted on an axle. The unique vehicle is an adaptation of the cantilever principle, which gives the chair extremely steady balance. A 7-year-old child can wheel an invalid from the heavy chair to the hospital room.

Mr. Jones began designing the chair after the Greek invasion when he found that the Greeks were short of wheel chairs and the cheapest obtainable cost 2500 drachmas, or about \$16.50. The third of his successively improved models is now being made by craftsmen in the employ of the near east foundation for approximately \$4.60. Although heavier than a tube wheeled steel chair, it can be folded, for shipment, to the size of a large suitcase.

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## Nazi Ships Roam Atlantic

(Continued from Page One)

was believed to be the first British ship to enter a U. S. yard for repair under the terms of the Lease-Lend Bill.

The United States and Great Britain were reported to be making a joint 11th-hour effort to prevent Yugoslavia from signing up with the Axis. A Yugoslav cabinet crisis resulting from Serb opposition to such a treaty was apparently delaying the expected Nazi attack on Greece.

Russia and Turkey entered the picture with reports that the Soviet Union had given Turkey reassurances which will enable the Turks to take a more active part in the Balkans, possibly encouraging Yugoslavia to resist extreme demands if matters have not already gone too far.

There were persistent reports in both Istanbul and Moscow that some sort of a treaty between Turkey and Russia would be signed shortly.

In Ethiopia where Italian women and children were reported fleeing Addis Ababa by the country's one narrow-gauge, single-track railroad, the British announced that the railroad had been bombed and three trains machine-gunned in the Dire Dawa sector just north of the fighting front.

Jugoslav Crisis Grows

(Continued from Page One)

Germany but had to call off the trip when three cabinet ministers resigned.

Though it was denied Germany had demanded yesterday that the agreement be signed within 24 hours, it was known that Hitler had expressed a "wish" that the crisis be settled quickly.

In London it was disclosed that Sir Ronald Campbell, the British minister to Belgrade, had been "in touch" with Chief Regent Prince Paul and had impressed him with the consequences which might follow Jugoslav adherence to the Axis. An Istanbul dispatch indicated that such a pact would cause Turkey to "reconsider its present defensive policy." Comments on the Moscow radio were apparently intended to increase Jugoslav resistance.

Popular feeling against the proposed agreement was on the increase in Belgrade and reports to be hurrying home.

## African Shrine Falls

By ROBERT J. CASEY

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WITH THE MIDDLE EAST COMMAND, March 22.—Well, Jerebub (also Giarabub or Jarabub) has fallen and with it the last solace of Italian radio commentators, and Il Duce's last chance to pin medals on his African heroes.

For a couple of months, Roman capital they could out of the defense of the two-by-four oasis south of Solum, which was undisturbed as Mussolini's army rolled backwards from Benghazi. It was reported that Lt. Col. Alberto Castagna, the commander of the garrison, in this scene from "Beau Geste" was a candidate for several military honors if, and when, anybody could get to him. Throughout Italy, he was the symbol of that Roman tradition that Il Duce used to think the rest of the army was a symbol of.

British tanks and Australian artillery, out in front of Jerebub, listened interestedly to these reports, bided their time and swatted flies.

Jerebub is the leading shrine of

The new anti-German trend in Russia's international relations first became evident when Moscow publicly rebuked Bulgaria for allowing the entry of German troops. For several days in succession the Moscow radio broadcast the protest.

The next Russian step in trying to counter German activity appears to have occurred during the negotiations between Jugoslavia and Germany. There seems to be little doubt that Russian secret support is behind the Serb political leaders in Jugoslavia who are antagonistic to any agreement with the Nazis.

The evidence to this effect appears sustained by reports that Milan Gavrilovich, Jugoslav Minister to Russia, has left Moscow for Belgrade to use his influence, as political chief of the Agrarian Party, against any close alliance with Germany.

## Plane Builder



His name is much in the news, but Prof. Willy Messerschmitt, builder of the famed German fighting plane, is rarely photographed. Here he is honored by Hermann Goering, visiting the Messerschmitt plant in Germany.

## 10,700 PLANES DUE FOR BRITISH

### Senate Committee Gives Its Unanimous O.K. to 7 Billion Aid Bill.

(Continued from Page One)

will be flown to President Roosevelt in mid-January for his signature at sea aboard the yacht Potomac.

The bill provides: \$2,054,000,000 for aircraft and aeronautical material; \$1,350,000,000 for agricultural, industrial and other commodities; \$1,343,000,000 for ordnance and ordnance stores; \$752,000,000 for facilities and equipment for manufacturing defense articles; \$362,000,000 for tanks and other motorized equipment; \$260,000,000 for miscellaneous military equipment; \$200,000,000 for testing, inspecting, repairing and outfitting defense articles for foreign governments and \$50,000,000 for administrative expenses.

### Knudsen Heard

The disclosure that the aircraft fund would provide 10,700 planes was said to have been made by Defense Production Director William S. Knudsen and other defense chiefs to secret sessions before the Senate Appropriations subcommittee, which conducted work on the \$700,000,000 bill yesterday.

The planes would be ordered in addition to the 1,100 Britain has ordered in this country. Of these, 3400 have been delivered. Some committee members were reported to have questioned the ability of the industry to meet Britain's needs but Mr. Knudsen and other witnesses were said to have expressed confidence that it could by expanding production facilities.

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