

The Porcupine Advance

TIMMINS, ONTARIO

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THE WAR SITUATION

How is the war situation to-day? That question has apparently re-placed the old standbys of enquiries as to your health or your opinion of the weather. The man who asks "How are you to-day?" seldom pauses for your reply. The fellow who solicits your opinion on the weather, usually doesn't seem to care what you think. Often as not after questioning you as to your health, your friend hurries on to tell you about his own and his latest operation. The man who questions you about your ideas on the weather, forestalls any comments from you by his own prompt condemnation of the rotten climate and the state of the roads. Questions about the war situation to-day are inclined to take on similar attributes to those about the weather and your health. Many a man says: "What do you think about the war situation?" and then hurries on to give you his views. Sometimes, these views are valuable, and sometimes they are of no more interest than comments on the weather or the other fellow's health.

These thoughts were stirred by a local man who stopped a friend on street on Tuesday and said, almost in a breath:—"How are you? Isn't it awful weather? What do you think of the war situation? How would you like a drink?" The last question seemed to be the only one he expected to be answered, and when it was answered in the affirmative, it may be taken for granted that the other questions would be more or less fully discussed.

There seems to be a striking similarity between the weather and the war situation. Both of them leave much to be desired. Both of them are things that little can be done to settle or to remedy. Both of them have to be endured with as good grace as possible.

After all this, if there is anyone who will persist in asking about the war situation—and pause for a reply—here is the answer. The war situation is reminiscent of the case of a more or less amusing character named Charlie Fyles. He had created considerable disturbance by drunken abuse in a town near St. Catharines. Eventually, after all sorts of drunken defiance, he was ignominiously chased down a lane leading to his home. He made good speed down the lane, but once inside his own property, he dared the other man to even touch the gate. The enraged citizen grabbed the gate, and Charlie rushed down his lot. Seeing the citizen pause at the gate, Charlie stopped and roared:—"If you dare to set foot on my property—" The citizen made a rush for Charlie and Charlie fled again. When the citizen would stop as he thought of his undignified trespass, Charlie would stop, too, and dare the intruder to pass this mark or that, or come any nearer. Eventually, the enraged citizen chased Charlie right into his own house, with the door hurriedly shut behind him. Then the citizen naturally stopped and slowly turned to wend his own way home. Charlie softly opened the door a crack to yell out:—"If you dare to try to get into my house I'll have the law on you!" As the citizen moved disgustedly away, Charlie grew bolder. "I dare you to come into my house," he called. "I won't do that," said the abused neighbour, "for if I did, I know you'd be asking me then to go to bed with you." The war situation to-day may be summed up in the fear of the ordinary man that the drunken dictators will soon be asking the civilized nations to share their bed.

POLAND MAY "STOP HITLER"

Once Poland was called the "Shield of Europe," and more than once the Polish people held back hordes of barbarians from over-running Europe. Once it was shown that one man of Poland was worth twenty Turks when it came to fighting. Those who know Europe well to-day admit that in case of attack it will be found the Polish soldier is worth several soldiers from any dictator country. The bravery of the people of Poland is beyond question. It is written in the pages of history. In addition to courage, the Polish soldier has discipline, together with more than usual intelligence and initiative. He has a cheerfulness, a resourcefulness, an enthusiasm that makes him a dangerous enemy in the field. Perhaps, as much could be said for some of the other countries that have fallen prey to the dictators. But in addition to high personal qualities, the Polish soldier is well trained and equipped with modern appliances of war. Poland was a progressive nation when some of the other European nations were as little civilized as they are to-day. In the last twenty years since Poland again achieved independence as a nation, the Polish people have taken thoughtful and effective means to protect themselves from invasion or the loss of their independence. To-day they have an army estimated at 450,000 or 500,000 strong. This army in

equipment, in personnel and in training is ranked by experts as among the finest in Europe. The Polish army specially features two branches—the infantry and the cavalry. This is not to say that tanks and anti-tank devices and the other modern touches are lacking. Instead these form an auxiliary force as it were to the forces in the field. In fact some military students have suggested that Poland has a force so blended of infantry, cavalry and the modern mechanical devices as to be one of the most formidable of fighting outfits.

Poland has specialized in cavalry. There are said to be forty regiments of cavalry, these including the famous Polish Uhlans—light cavalrymen armed with gun, bayonet, sabre and lance. The reason that Poland has given so much attention to cavalry is said to be the fact that all Polish military power is designed exclusively for defence. In Poland there are so many forests, swamps, rivers, without adequate roads and bridges, that the condition of the country would prove most unsuitable for mechanized warfare. The enemy that entered Poland with a modern army would be liable to be faced with similar difficulties to those handicapping Mussolini's forces in Ethiopia. The difference, however, would be that the enemy, instead of tribesmen to carry on guerilla warfare around them, would be harassed by a mobile force of the finest soldiers to be found anywhere. Polish cavalry can go anywhere in remarkably short time. It is interesting to note that Poland is credited with possessing thirteen divisions of horse artillery, special motorized regiments with anti-aircraft guns, armoured battalions and independent units of other auxiliary forces.

The Polish infantry forces are given as 100 regiments, fully equipped with the most modern arms. This is admitted to be only an estimate and it is agreed that the actual number is much more.

Those who will be inclined to say that even for defence, the finest infantry and cavalry and other land forces will prove utterly inadequate for modern methods of warfare, should remember that Poland has not neglected its air force. The greatest secrecy has been preserved as to the strength of Poland's air force, but it is believed to be one of the most effective in Europe. Some time ago a German authority reported that Poland had 1,550 airplanes and 100 bombers. It is believed that the latter estimate is much below the actual number. Further, it is admitted by all that the Polish air force has achieved an efficiency exceeded by none and equalled perhaps only by the British, so far as individual talent and daring are concerned. Poland is credited with having over 25,000 trained pilots, every man of them skilled as well as daring. A correspondent of the Manchester Guardian recently suggested that Poland at present has 500 bombing planes, with a total of over 2,000 war planes, and that in addition to this, the Polish fliers seem to have a special aptitude for the work that makes the machines more threatening to any enemy than a larger number would be in less skilled hands.

It is interesting and pleasing to learn that all Poland's armaments and war supplies are now manufactured in Poland. Indeed, Poland recently has had a surplus of production along this line and has been selling to other European nations. Anti-tank guns made in Poland are in special demand as they are admitted to be superior to any others. There are four large airplane factories in Poland and these are working day and night, turning out hundreds of airplanes a month. It is understood that the whole production of airplanes in Poland is being held in the country and this will make Poland a decided factor in any war of defence that may need to be fought.

In estimating the defence forces of Poland, the general opinion will be that the strength of the country rests very largely in its air force. Experts seem to think that the air force is ample for the defence of Poland and for any needed reprisals necessary to show an enemy that bombing undefended cities need not be confined to one side. Poland, however, apparently expects to find use for its well-trained army if war should come. In this connection it is not well to confine ideas of the strength of the army to the mere 450,000 or 500,000 men in the regular army. To this must be added the reserves and the other material from which men may be recruited for defence. Poland has compulsory military service, and every man of 21 years of age has to serve eighteen months in the forces. Accordingly, Poland has a reserve force of some 4,500,000 men. Considering all the factors in the case, it is held by the military experts that under stress of war Poland could mobilize a force of over six million men—a larger force than any enemy country could hope to send against Poland.

Weighing all the factors in the matter—and especially the fact that Poland can fight, will fight, and is equipped to fight—it would seem as if the dictator who would attack Poland is as mad as democratic nations believe all dictators to be.

WEeping OVER WASTED WHISKEY

There is a proverb about the folly of crying over spilled milk, but The Toronto Telegram apparently has never heard of that proverb, or, at least that it is just as applicable to wasted whiskey as to the upset product of the bull's better half. The Telegram has tears to shed because at Grimsby the Mounted Police are going to dump a quantity of malt and spirits into the town sew-



"Mother Was Irritable"

"She couldn't seem to interest herself in anything. Her eyes wouldn't let her read for long and her head ached when she did much knitting or fancy work. Her puttering around the house nearly drove us mad. Proper glasses prescribed by Mr. Curtis restored our happy home. Mother is perfectly content now. The cost was very little and we paid it in four or five instalments so that it seemed like nothing at all."

CURTIS
OPTICAL COMPANY
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Should Not Supply Goods to Aggressors

Practical Boycott Urged on Dictator Nations.

Schumacher, April 10, 1939
To The Editor, Porcupine Advance:
Dear Sir:—Today on the international horizon aggressions are being perpetrated by nations which jeopardize the security of the entire world. At present the three nations which are undoubtedly bent on mischief are Italy, Germany and Japan.

Japan is presently engaged with the subjugation of China—and though she is guilty of the most flagrant breach of international ethics, she does not at present loom as great a menace to us as Germany and Italy.

Hitler in a very short space of time has added Austria, and Czechoslovakia to the Reich. Mussolini conquered Ethiopia, helped Franco win the Spanish civil war, and just recently annexed Albania.

Anyone even remotely cognizant with the psychology of these Megalomanias is deluding himself if he imagines that it will ever be possible to satisfy these modern Napoleons.

Every successful conquest acts as an intoxicant—and they see visions of world conquest.

Nothing short of armed opposition will have a deterrent on these modern war mongers.

A showdown will be imperative in the very near future or these megalomaniacs will consolidate their gains and then have the effrontery to dictate to Britain and France.

As President Roosevelt recently remarked, there are methods short of war wherewith to command a decent respect for the opinions of mankind.

The law-abiding nations must for their own protection have absolutely no intercourse with the war mongers—make no foreign loans—and terminate the practice of shipping indispensable metals in the manufacture of armaments.

If the nations opposed to international brigandage declared an embargo upon the public enemies, they could be brought to their knees.

Admittedly it would be necessary to make some sacrifice—as such a policy would have a derogatory effect on the world as a whole.

It seems that a distillery at Grimsby has been unable to meet payments on a mortgage held by the town, and that to add to its troubles, the distillery license has expired, and the Mounted Police in the course of their duties had to seize the malt and spirits. The law requires that all liquor seized by the Mounties should be destroyed, and The Telegram seems to be appalled that red tape should permit so grievous a waste as the destruction of good liquor. A lot of people in this country will agree with The Telegram. They will argue that good spirits are particularly needed these times. Why should the Mounties kill all that good liquor? Why not turn it over to the town's people and let them punish it, and let it go. The Telegram would turn the seized intoxicants over to the hospitals and for honest mercantile uses. It is to be hoped that a certain or uncertain Toronto newspaper does not take up the question. The certain or uncertain newspaper would use the case as proving how the capitalistic system has failed grievously, when good liquor is poured down the sewers by the officious police. Its last words would be:—"That's the sort of thing that makes Communists!"

GRAVEL AND SAND—AND PLACER

A Timmins gentleman says:—"Well, they no sooner 'stopped Hitler' than Mussolini got going!"
That unsafe section of the Canadian National Railways line between Nakina and Hearst should

Doom of Dictators Foretold by History

Dictators Travel Inevitably to Their Own Doom.

Timmins, April 10, 1939
To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins.

Dear Sir: Years ago Roman dictators used to glory in a Roman holiday. They let slaves fight wild animals and each other and they also crucified Christians. Where are the Roman legions today?

Years ago the Southern States were prosperous because they used slaves. Where are the prosperous plantation owners today?

Years ago the French aristocrat treating the working class like dogs. Where is the aristocrat today?

Years ago the English working man was tied to the feudal lord. Where is the feudal lord today?
Mussolini has had three wars; each with a nation so poorly equipped that to conquer them was like smacking a baby. Each time he has marched at the head of the parade as a conqueror. Mussolini's days are numbered. He is through. All bully bargainers have their day. He has had his, and his downfall will be like John L. Sullivan's maxim:

"The bigger they are the harder they fall."

I remain,
Yours most sincerely,
A. J. Dolling.

Comparatively Small Number Croations Here

Timmins, April 12, 1939
To the Editor of The Advance, Timmins.

Dear Sir: Is it true that out of the five million Croations living at present, around one million, or twenty per cent, are resident in Canada? In what parts of Canada are these Croations living? Are there recent reliable official figures available in the matter?

Yours sincerely,
Enquirer.
In reply to the above—and taking the last question first—the latest available official figures are those of the last census. Perhaps, later figures could be secured by writing to the Dominion Statistician, Ottawa, Ont. It is doubtful, however, if the latest figures will show a tenth of a million Croations as residing in Canada. There are few over a million of all other than British nationalities in Canada. In the volume of the last census to hand, Croations are not listed separately, but are included with the Jugo-Slavs. The total number of Jugo-Slavs in Canada is given as 17,110. Of this number, Ontario has the largest quota, 8,100. British Columbia is next with 2,911. Saskatchewan had 1,686. There were 1,562 in Quebec. Alberta number was 1,335, and Manitoba had 291, and Nova Scotia, 253. There were only 20 in the Yukon, 11 in New Brunswick, 5 in the Northwest Territories, and none in Prince Edward Island.

Acton Free Press—Indications all point to a Federal election this year. The only thing indefinite is the date.
Guelph Mercury—The hero of this generation will not be Hitler or Chamberlain, but the fellow who figures out some way to dance check to check with a college gal in a hoop skirt.
Huntingdon Gleaner—Lying on a hospital bed in Waikato, New Zealand, Harold Ryder found time heavy on his hands. He wanted something to keep his mind occupied. Finally he got an idea. He asked for a hen's egg and kept it somewhere under his body for 25 days. Sure enough it pipped and hatched out a healthy White Leghorn chick.

Nevertheless if the democrats persist in munificently supplying the Jeopardizers of world peace with all they desire for a price—then history will brand them as accessories of their own destruction.
Yours truly,
Marvin Sayers.

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Yours truly,
Marvin Sayers.

Reply by Drummer of Gold Belt Band

A. Vercival Says He Has Never Been Asked to Contribute Fee, So Never Refused.

Timmins, Ont., April 11, 1939
The Editor, Porcupine Advance.

Dear Sir: In the issue of Monday, April 10th last, there was a letter signed by one who had not the courage to use his own name but hid behind the anonymous pen name of "Anti-Communist." In this letter he states, quote: "Is it not true that the drummer does not pay a fee like the others to belong to the band because having no Communist leanings he wouldn't contribute but was accepted nevertheless when no other drummer could be found to play for such an organization?"

As the drummer mentioned in this anonymous letter I wish to state that at no time have I ever been asked to contribute to the expenses of said band and therefore it is impossible for me to have refused such contribution. I pay no fee to any band to which I belong and at the present time I am playing in three different organizations.

I believe that it is my right and privilege to play where and when I please without consulting anyone.
Trusting you will see fit to give this the same publicity that the former letter received, I am,
Yours truly,
A. Vercival.

Toronto Telegram—A pioneer is the one who can remember when the politicians didn't have to promise to save the farmers but once every twenty years.

ANNOUNCEMENT
CHARLES H. KERR
BARRISTER SOLICITOR
NOTARY
for the past four and a half years associated with the law firm of
Kester and Kerr
wishes to announce that he has opened offices to carry on the general practice of law at
17 Pine Street North, Timmins
ABOVE REMUS STORE

Perils of Sulfanilamide if Doses are Over-Large
Sulfanilamide, medicine's newest giant-killer that like young David "slays" its tens of thousands' among man's microbial enemies, can do harm to the body tissues also if given in injudicious doses. Effects of the drug in overdoses were reported before a meeting of the American Association of Anatomists, by Drs. George M. Higgins and Thos. E. Machella, of the Mayo Foundation, Science Service reports.
The two researchers administered large quantities of sulfanilamide to rats—far larger in proportion to weight than any human being would be likely to receive by any kind of accident. The rats developed anemia, thirst, loss of appetite, loss of weight, distended stomachs, and convulsions. Rats, that had received the heaviest overdoses lost nearly half of their red blood cells.
Cure of tuberculosis, leprosy and influenza by chemical derivatives of sulfanilamide, medicine's new weapon against a wide variety of streptococcal infections, is a new hope offered by intensive chemical research now under way. At a meeting of the American Chemical Society, Dr. M. L. Crossley, research director, and E. H. Nerthey and Martin E. Hultquist of the Calco Chemical Company described their new discoveries, emphasizing that it was only preliminary work which offered no cures at the present time.
Toronto Star—Man in Kentucky struck a pot and was fined \$200.00. Poets, it seems, are a verse to being struck without rhyme or reason.

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