



RED ARMY IS IN KHARKOV OUTSKIRTS

70 Nazi Tanks Smashed: 'Land-Battleships' Crash Through

NEW type land-battleship tanks are leading the Red Army advance into the outskirts of Kharkov in one of the greatest battles of the war.

Marshal Timoshenko's offensive, Moscow said last night, has now developed into a pitched battle, and latest dispatches describe the roads east from Kharkov to the front as 'a sea of burning tanks and lorries.'

The midnight communique said that during the day "our troops on the Kerch Peninsula waged intense battles in the region of the city of Kerch."

"On the Kharkov sector of the Front our troops fought offensive battles and continued to advance successfully, capturing booty and prisoners. The enemy left some 70 tanks destroyed on the battlefield."

"Fifty-six German planes were shot down on Friday. Our losses were 13. Our aircraft destroyed or damaged some 60 tanks, four railway and three material dumps."

"Russian ships and planes in the Barents Sea sank an enemy transport of 8,000 tons and a minesweeper and severely damaged another minesweeper, which was probably sunk."

Earlier, Moscow Radio had made a triumphant pronouncement.

Max Werner on KERCH & KHARKOV

'Nazis are in blind alley'

NEW YORK, Saturday.

GERMAN offensives are always powerful at the beginning, designed for a quick final decision. This was so at Sedan in the West and in the great battle of the frontiers in June, 1941.

But the Kerch attacks are merely a local operation and a very small one at that. Here there is action on the extreme flank—a peripheral blow totally isolated from the main front.

It would make sense only as the prelude to a great offensive in south-east Russia and the Caucasus; but the German front on the Sea of Azov and in the Don basin is not moving eastwards, and without a co-ordinated offensive from this direction the Kerch offensive seems like a blind alley.

If the Germans are seeking economic conquest in the south-east while avoiding a military decision on the decisive central front, they are engaging in hopelessly risky strategy.

The Southern Caucasus is impregnable.

HOWEVER, the Kerch offensive could be a diversion designed to conceal plans for an offensive in another direction—perhaps on the central front; the picture will clarify within a fortnight.

Nevertheless, in one sense the Kerch offensive has failed, since it provided the spark that set the Red Army in motion along the whole front, and no more surprises are possible.

The Red Army has launched in the Kharkov sector a far more important offensive, compared with which the Kerch affair is only a local skirmish.

KHARKOV sees the Russians attacking at one of the most vital points of the entire front, providing a great test of the efficacy of the Red Army's military weapons and its capacity for offensive manoeuvre.

The battle for Kharkov can determine the situation on the entire Southern Front from Kursk to the Crimea and also influence the situation on the Central Front.

At the end of the first week's operations the initiative on the main front is still in Russian hands; and that was certainly not the German intention.

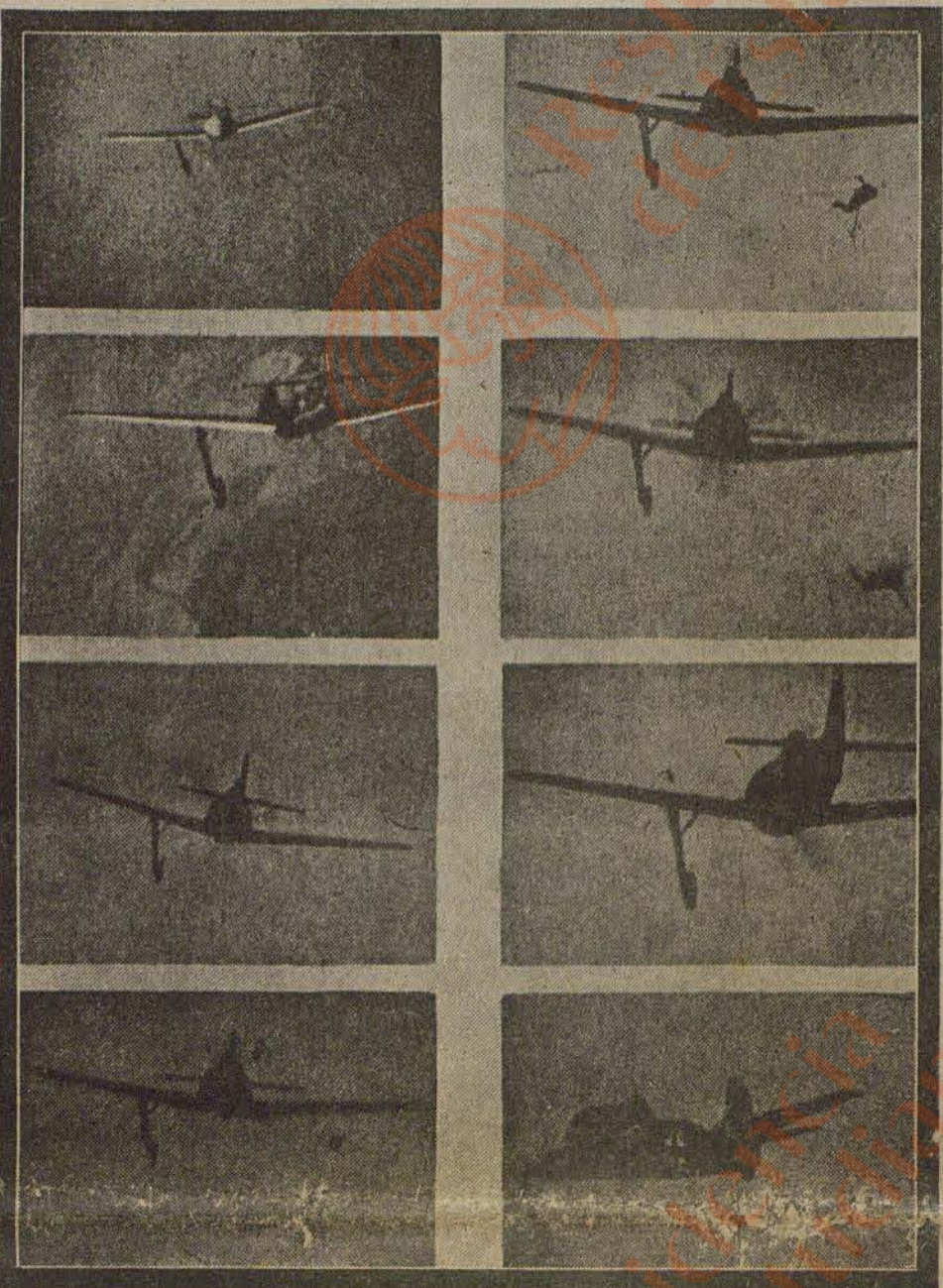
There Stands His Champagne...

SOME weeks ago, in New York, a very sober man, not given to celebration, bought his first bottle of champagne.

He and his friends, he said, would open it the day the Red Army recaptured Kharkov, his native city.

The man was Max Werner, who is recognised now as the world's foremost military commentator.

THIS WAS ONLY A 'PROBABLE'



HOW CAREFUL the R.A.F. are to avoid over-statement in their compilation of losses inflicted upon the enemy is shown by the report made by Flight Sgt. Robson, a New Zealander, whose gun-camera took this series of pictures of his attack upon a FW 190 (Germany's latest and fastest fighter).

"When I last saw the aircraft," he reported, "it was flying at 2,000ft. with one wing down; but, as I then lost sight of it, I only claimed it as 'probably destroyed.' The FW 190 was flying a Spitfire at 17,000ft. in the Cap Gris Nez area when he sighted the FW 190 and dived on it. Pictures show... "I dived on him and gave him two short bursts. Then I followed him down and gave him the rest of my ammunition. I saw one of the wheels come down, the cockpit hood fly off (see it in the picture), and the pilot's helmet come out of the cockpit. When I last saw the aircraft it was flying at 2,000ft. with one wing down."

Line on Hills

Vichy News Agency dropped a significant admission. "The fighting at Kharkov, on which depends the fate of the whole Ukrainian Front, has relegated the Kerch offensive to second place."

"The Kerch battle has only the limited object of consolidating the German hold on the Crimea."

The agency added that Kharkov is not defended by concentric rings, but by a fortified zone of great depth extending some 30 miles around the city.

"The German dispositions are very strong. The first line is based on a chain of hills on the left bank of the Donetz."

"Another line is formed by..."

* BACK PAGE COL. 4

Chinese Surprise Attacks Hit Japs

THE Japanese have suffered considerable losses in the last few days in a series of surprise raids by Chinese troops at Pailochi, north of Yochow (Northern Hunan), on the Yangtze River, according to Chinese field dispatches, quoted by Reuters from Chungking last night.

Large stores of oil and ammunition are said to have been concentrated by the Japanese at Pailochi recently, apparently in preparation for a renewed drive in that area.

R.A.F. Fighters Spare French

Two R.A.F. fighter pilots sweeping over France yesterday opened their attack on a passenger train to the engine, because, as one of them said later, "There may have been French people in the train as well as Germans."

Skimming over the waves and nipping in across the French coast, the Fighter Command resumed their sweeps yesterday to harass the German defences in occupied territory.

Their targets included gas-holders, dock gates and railways, states the Air Ministry News Service.

GASHOLDER FIRED

Two pilots on an earlier operation left a gasholder at Ostend with smoke and flames pouring from it; two others attacked targets at St. Valery-sur-Somme and saw their cannon shells strike home.

Others set a railway shed on fire, blew the roof off a signal-box, and shot the roof off a shed containing a locomotive.

One of a small number of aircraft which came over a place on the south-west coast of England, early yesterday afternoon, was destroyed, said last night's Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security communique.

(Pilot's Death Dive, see page 5.)

Sir Walter Citrine is Better

Sir Walter Citrine, who has been confined to his hotel by illness, is recovering.

He told Reuters' correspondent that he had been compulsorily vaccinated at Lisbon because of the U.S. Government regulations for all those who enter the United States via that route.

R A F BOMBERS BLAST JAP INDIA INVASION AIR BASE

R.A.F. bombers struck yesterday to destroy Jap planes massed at Akyab aerodrome on the Burma coast.

The blow at Jap air power, the spearhead of any invasion of India, was delivered as our armies were falling back slowly to the Burma-India borders.

Messages from New Delhi, quoted by Reuters yesterday, revealed that the British have finally defeated the Japanese attempt to interpose a force between them and the Indian border and have fought their way to a more secure area.

Smashing Chinese counter-attacks, in which the Japs were hurled out of the town of Mongling, Eastern Burma, with heavy casualties and the loss of prisoners, rifles and munitions, were reported in last night's Chungking High Command communique, quoted by the L. P.

ROOSEVELT FREES BROWDER

EARL BROWDER, leader of the American Communist Party, was last night released from Atlanta Penitentiary, where he had served 14 months of a four-year sentence on a charge of holding a false passport.

This was the result of the special commuting of his sentence by President Roosevelt.

"NATIONAL UNITY"

A statement issued from the White House last night, quoted by the A.P., said that commutation of the sentence, coming before Browder was eligible for parole, would have "a tendency to promote national unity and allay any feeling that the unusually long sentence in Browder's case was by way of a penalty imposed upon him because of his political views."

"Now I still be able to take my place in the great war effort," were Browder's first words on his release.

British Fighters Busy in Libya

British fighter activity was on an increased scale in the forward area of Cyrenaica throughout yesterday, according to last night's Middle East communique.

Benghazi, Benina and Martuba were raided by our bomber aircraft during Friday night.

PREMIER CHEERED BY 25,000 Praise for Russians

MR. CHURCHILL yesterday paid tribute to "the noble manhood of Russia, now at full grips with the murderous enemy, striking blow for blow and repaying better ones for blows struck at them."

In a speech to a crowd of 25,000 from the steps of Leeds Town Hall, he praised the workers for their efforts in the common cause of the workers in many lands.

Russia, America, the Empire countries, and "all those in the human race who are not already gripped by tyranny or who had not already been seduced to its insidious vice," he said, were backing this common cause.

"NO FAVOURS"

"Here, in the 33rd month of the war," said Mr. Churchill, "none of us is weary of the struggle. None of us are calling for any favours from the enemy."

"If he plays rough we can play rough, too. Whatever we have got to take we will take; and we will give it back in even greater measure."

After reiterating that we had striven hard for peace, and had even gone into Italy in our desire for peace, the Premier declared:

"It is not now going to be brave men against men armed, who a fight of people not only with the resolve and cause but who also have the weapons."

"It would be premature to say that we had topped the ridge, but we see the ridge ahead now, and our perseverance will see us through these of 'great events'."

Unrest in Italy is also revealed by a report yesterday by an American journalist who is being repatriated to the United States from Italy.

He states that the war, now that the United States and Japan are in it, is increasingly unpopular to the Italians, who remember that Mussolini used to speak about the "Yellow Peril."

A certain section of the people, says the journalist, are ready to revolt, but they are waiting for one thing—an Anglo-Saxon (which includes American) landing on the Continent. But until this is possible they are remaining quiet.

At the last General Election he had a majority of 14,000 over his Conservative opponent. This will make the fifth pending by-election.

MALTA CENTURY

A British fighter squadron which arrived in Malta a year ago destroyed its 10th enemy plane yesterday, says B.P.P.

Coal Owners Bid for Lease and Lend Pit Deal

By a Staff Reporter

A PLAN to bring the coal industry under a form of control similar to that operating in railway transport is being considered by the Committee of seven Ministers charged with examining proposals to reorganise mining.

Under such a plan the Government would take out a lease on all coal pits for the duration of the war and pay the owners an annual rent equivalent to a guaranteed profit.

Control of the industry would come under a National Coal Board. Whether this would be composed of representatives of owners and men as well as nominees of the Government, or, as in the case of the railways, of nominees of the owners and the Government only, is not clear. Joint pit production committees would remain as now.

'Lesser Evil' for Owners

After the war, the lease would be terminated and the mines handed back to private ownership.

Although many owners are still opposed to any form of national control in the industry, the plan is being backed by coal-owning and Conservative interests.

They regard it as a lesser evil, from their point of view, than direct nationalisation or the imposition of a form of joint owners' and workers' control, which they fear would be difficult to retract after the war.

Miners' leaders, who have put forward their own proposals to the Committee for a Coal Board representative of both sides of the industry with powers to reorganise it, are distrustful of the new proposals.

Fear Effect on Miners

They feel that the Government, in dropping the Beveridge fuel rationing scheme, has shown an undue tenderness towards Conservative interests. If, in addition, it brings out a plan for the industry with guaranteed profits and the safeguarding of private ownership after the war as its leading features, the psychological effect on the miners will be, to put it mildly, detrimental to production.

(Government and Mines: See back page.)

Laval Tells World of U.S. Pressure

NEGOTIATIONS between Vichy and U.S.A. seem near breaking point.

Scared by Washington's prolonged silence after his Note to U.S., sent on Thursday, Laval ran to Paris to consult "his collaborators."

Yesterday he rushed back to Vichy on instructions to release to the Press the text of his American Note.

The fact that he is still waiting for a reply suggests that Vichy's proposals have not pleased the U.S. Government. Washington, says Vichy Radio, has threatened that unless U.S. demands are granted, the U.S. Government will not guarantee the sovereignty of French possessions in America.

WARSHIPS

Laval, says A.P., disclosed that his Government's reply to the U.S. Government described the American conditions as a "grave blow to French sovereignty" over the French Antilles, and added that France would not "relinquish any of her rights over Martinique, no matter what happened."

The French warships at Martinique were, "in point of fact, already immobilised," Laval said, and Vichy had agreed to give Washington a guarantee on this matter so as not to aggravate the strain on Franco-American relations since the change of Government.

"Immobilisation of the ships will not, in any case, permit the sending over of them to any foreign Power, including the United States," he said.

He insisted on U.S. recognition of Admiral Robert as Vichy representative in Martinique.

Vichy reporters, hurriedly assembled to hear Laval's pronouncement, dutifully laughed when the Chief of Government remarked: "My presence in the French Government does not exactly inspire complete confidence on the part of the Washington Government."

AMERICAN NOTE

The American Note, delivered to Admiral Robert on May 9, stated:—

"The present head of the Vichy Government having declared that he would follow a policy of greater collaboration with Germany, it is no longer possible for the American Government to maintain the agreements concluded by Admirals Greenhalgh and Hornet concerning French possessions in the Western Hemisphere, agreements which had hitherto been considered satisfactory."

"Under the provisions of these agreements, the French possessions might become bases for Axis aggression, either by the connivance of the High Commissioner or by the dispatch of a new High Commissioner."

German pressure in this direction must be expected."

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"They have certainly given me a NEW LEASE OF LIFE and everywhere I am taken for ten years younger than my age."

"My wife joins me in saying that 'Phyllosan' tablets are a boon to men and women alike, especially those over forty."

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It helps to keep you fit after forty

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Jam to-morrow: why to-day?

IN majestic succession Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, Sir Stafford Cripps and Mr. Eden all tell us what a different and what a better society it is to be after the war.

But I cannot help noting two things. First, none of them has any proposals to make for to-day; and, second, when the Prime Minister spoke on Sunday last his buoyant optimism contained no hint of immediate innovation.

My own conviction grows that the old game is being played. The workers will win the war for the old society, and a few minor social reforms will be regarded as adequate payment for one of the noblest efforts in history.

The real temper of the Tory Party comes out in its attitude to fuel rationing. The case for some such scheme as Mr. Dalton proposes has been unanswerably made out. But it will affect the upper classes far more than the poor; so, at once, all the guns of the 1922 Committee are trained on the scheme.

If the Parliamentary Labour Party had half the determination of the 1922 Committee the mines would have been nationalised long ago.

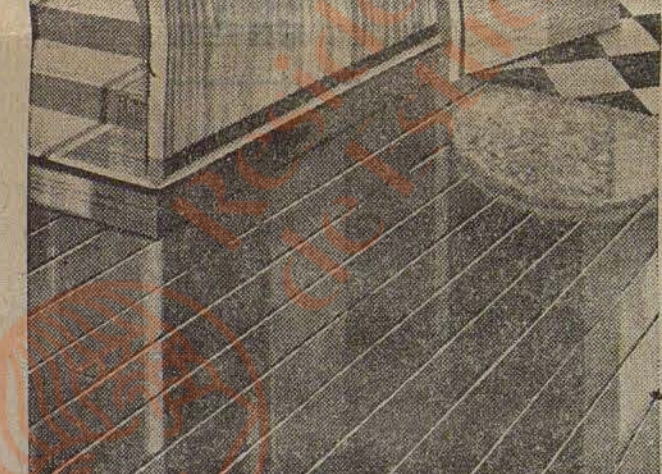
Misleading America

IT is six months since Mr. R. H. Tawney became Labour adviser to the British Embassy at Washington. A distinguished observer who has just returned from the United States, tells me that he has hardly been used at all.

This observer's general opinion, indeed, of our representatives there was that they had little or no contact with the inwardness of America. They know the appropriate officials and the fashionable world of Washington, New York and Chicago. But political America, industrial America, even academic America is very largely a closed book to them.

The picture they paint of Britain has, in his view, little relation to reality. Its main objective is to cover up the growing impatience with traditional Britain, and to give our Americans an assurance that no important changes are likely after the war.

The idea that a New Deal in Britain might be popular with those American masses who have put Mr. Roosevelt three times in the White House is not dawned upon them. Perhaps that is because most of them belong to the type to whom a New Deal in Britain would be almost as bad as a complete Russian victory.



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ALLOTMENTEERS!

We dig for victory—not RHEUMATISM

"THERE'S no doubt about what did the trick. Haven't felt so ex-a-burg since they knew me as 'Sunshine' at the fruit market. Digging for Victory did me a world of good until I overdid it. A month ago I started getting twinges. 'Ulo,' says I, 'the screws! Then the Missus says 'My lad, it's time you took Kruschen!'

"I'd read the adverts, of course. But I'd never felt the need for Kruschen till then. So I started a month's course. A teaspoonful in that jolly old morning cuppa. At first the

rheumatism went on worritin', but I began feeling better in myself. Just as I was beginning to forget to remember the twinges—they'd gone. Just like that!

"Work it out for yourself. Six mineral salts, balanced to a nicety, do the trick. The kidneys are flushed nice and gently, the system is cleansed without purge. That's what's meant by Double Action. See? Take a tip, chums, be sensible now. Cheerio!"

Kruschen costs only 2/- 12 and 7d. (including Tax) from all chemists.

KRUSCHEN—helps the doctor

A Gap to Fill

EVERYONE except Mr. Churchill now seems convinced that the time has come to put some flesh and bones on the bare skeleton of our war aims. The Times hammers away at that idea; and I am told that the Ministry of Information has memorialised the Cabinet in a similar sense.

It is, I think, worth remembering that we are at the phase of the war at which, 25 years ago, President Wilson began that memorable series of speeches which prepared the road for the breakdown in German morale.

I suppose we cannot look to Mr. Churchill for that kind of leadership; a sense of the future is no part of his conception of the war. And, anyway, the institutional pro-

vision he has made for political warfare does not suggest that he has either interest in, or understanding of, its possibilities.

Yet this vital gap has got to be filled. Germans have got to be made to understand that their hopes begin when Nazism is broken.

Is there no one in our War Cabinet with the imagination to seize this immense opportunity? After Hitler's last speech, there is a real chance, both in Italy and Germany, of using the propaganda weapon to great advantage.

Carry On, Cripps

I HOPE we are not going to lull ourselves into the belief that the failure of Stafford Cripps's Indian mission excuses us from further effort.

The more carefully the White Paper is studied, the more apparent, I think, are the weaknesses in the offer he made. The Viceroy was to remain the effective centre of power; only the shadow of a Defence Ministry was conceded to India; and there was no proposal to get rid of the reactionary Indian official clique.

I should not for a moment deny that Congress was exasperatingly difficult; we ought to remember that we have been preparing that exasperation for nearly 60 years. And we ought to remember, also, that every day of silence on our part now is only going to deepen the Indian suspicion that the offer was not a bona-fide one.

Stafford Cripps showed courage in undertaking his mission. But he would show great statesmanship if he now refused to accept failure and reopen the issue. To leave the position where it is means the certainty that, even if we manage to hold India against the Japanese it will be ungovernable after the war by Britain.

Out-of-Date M.P.'s

THE independent candidates are only just beginning and the Labour Party will make a great mistake if it imagines that it can check them by a letter from Mr. Attlee or even a resolution from the National Council of Labour.

The truth is that public opinion is so far ahead of this House of Commons that it suits which party the party machines appear already obsolete to the electorate.

There is no division on the need to win the war; but there is already profound division on what the war is to be won for.

The party leaders are trying to maintain a "national unity" which is already far behind the plane of action for which thoughtful men and women are everywhere ready. For this anachronism the Prime Minister is chiefly to blame; his eyes are fixed so firmly on the past that he has failed lamentably to understand that the future is already potentially here.

But I think, quite frankly, that Mr. Attlee must bear part of the blame. He has failed grimly to call into use the power behind him because he has thought only in terms of the House of Commons.

The electorate is commenting on that narrow vision. It is saying as emphatically as it can that if the old parties will not listen to its warnings, it will do what it can to break them.

Crisis for Labour

IT is a critical moment in our politics; and I hope all those who know how critical it is will take advantage of the Labour Party Conference to remind the leaders that they know it.

For when the major parties cannot contain the main ideas of the electorate there begins that atomisation of politics which is one of the landmarks on the high road to Fascism.

It is not merely the business of the Labour Party to chant that we must preserve national unity at all costs; it is also duty to lead the nation into a definition of the end that unity is to serve.

The Executive Resolutions do something to make that definition real. If, as I hope,

they are passed, what steps will the Parliamentary Party take to implement them?

Will it join the Lyttelton-Eden-Cripps chorus and chant that there must be a new world after the war? Or will it insist that the Central Reconstruction Committee is right in demanding action now?

I think myself that the future of the Party depends on this decision. A failure in courage and determination now will be interpreted by the nation as meaning that the Labour Party is not the instrument adequate to the task of Socialist transformation.

Woolton's Tenderness
LORD WOOLTON'S Restaurant Order is one of those administrative gestures intended rather to placate the public than to effect a substantial change. The fashionable restaurants will still be able to charge a minimum of twelve and sixpence (fifteen shillings with music) for a meal, apart from charges for wine; and there is the possibility of still further costs at the height of the social pyramid.

In other words, the real result will be rather less food at a rather greater cost than now.

This seems to me to show a tenderness to the big hotel interests which was notably absent when the concentration of industry order was applied to the small firms.

Most of us would not have felt it very deeply if Claridge's and the Savoy changed their present character. It might, indeed, have been really interesting if Lord Woolton had transformed them into British Restaurants.

The Key to Nazism
DR. FRANZ NEUMANN was one of the Socialist scholars whom Hitler drove into exile. A lawyer of great learning and distinction (he was an outstanding authority on German Trade Union law), he has now published in New York a book called "Behemoth," which, by long odds, the ablest study I have seen of the Nazi system at work.

It is a terrible picture, the more vivid by reason of the completeness and precision of its detail.

I hope an English publisher will speedily make it available over here. Until it is digested, no one can fully understand why the co-existence of Nazism and civilisation are impossible.

And not the least terrifying aspect of Nazism is its power to feed on the inertia of the multitude.

If there is one lesson rather than another in Dr. Neumann's remarkable book it is the lesson that it moves to victory on the divisions among the Left. With the Right it can always find agents through whom terms can be made.



"Trust Sahib please to excuse violation of honourable game."

Hopes for Heroes

AN untruthful correspondent sends me a cutting bearing a report of the following moving utterance by Mr. Herbert Morrison: "I expect loyalty from the people who serve me."

This doubtless explains a dramatic incident which occurred last week at Hyde Park, when a troop of mounted Home Office clerks, waving their swords and shouting "A Morrison! A Morrison!" charged at full gallop through the Marble Arch gates and fell upon a Free Speech meeting.

The fight was short but fierce. Though hopelessly outnumbered, the gallant little band refused to surrender but fought on with gay, reckless courage till sheer weight of numbers bore them down.

Some hours afterwards a keeper, picking up lost limbs and ration cards, came across the still form of a young man, sorely wounded, lying beneath a tree, his dying eyes fixed steadfastly upon a photograph of the Home Secretary.

"Why did you do this?" he asked. "You must have known it was certain death." "It is happiness to die for our Leader," whispered the dying man, with a blissful smile, he passed away.

That night there were sounds of revelry in Whitehall.

★ by YAFFLE

They were toasting the exploit of their gallant colleagues. And high above the roar of traffic was heard the refrain of the well-known Departmental Drinking Song (2D18B/HM Section XV).—

"Morrison! Morrison! And who'll do him right now? Morrison! Morrison! And who's ripe for fight now? Give a rouse! Give a rouse! In hell's despite now! Morrison!"

A question is to be asked in the House.

★ We now turn with a sigh to more prosaic affairs. Where (asks another correspondent) does the law stand now in regard to the making of statements "calculated to cause...?"

As a test exhibit, let us consider a recent newspaper article well calculated to reduce the best-regulated stomach to the last stages of that sinking feeling.

It is headed "Employment Picking Up," but, despite its cheering title, it is not a promise but a warning. Its author, though hiding his pickers' lives under the pseudonym "An Industrial Correspondent," is easily recognised as Weeping Willy, who says, his virtually eliminated unemployment, and raises hope of full employment after the war. "It is a lie," he says, "to be under no illusions. Full employment means rising prices."

Now, continues the voice of Doom, rising prices are most undesirable, because (and mark carefully this foretaste of the post-war Utopia)—

Our export trade will be more important than ever after the war. We can only hope to recover it if costs of production are competitive with those of other industrial countries."

Hope, says Wordsworth, rules a land for ever green. In the past, continues this light-giver, prices have been kept down by processes which meant reduced wages and distress. If we are to

avoid this in future "we must evolve some alternative. And what is his alternative? Here we come to the crux of the matter: He doesn't say."

★ The uncensored publication of this atmospheric depression is the more remarkable in view of the disclosures made in the recent report of the Official Inquiry into British War Production.

Reviewing the factors which prevent 100 per cent. efficiency, it says that the average worker, though determined to see this war through to victory, is uneasy as to what victory will bring.

He dreads a return to normal conditions, is haunted by fears of post-war depression, and associates victory with a return to insecurity.

And now, a hundred years after the Hungry Forties, when he finds himself in a war for democracy, the only

Peace Aim offered him is the possibility of a repetition of the international wage-cutting competition of the Thirties.

★ Why, it will be asked, is this dirge permitted? Why does not Mr. Morrison march to the newspaper office at the head of a posse of pikemen and arrest the editor for publishing statements calculated to cause gloom and gumbols?

I meditated profoundly upon this puzzle in the night watches. The answer came to me after a glass of carrot-juice:

The Government wishes to make the people of this country so terrified of peace that they will work and fight to the last man and missile.

Subtle? Yes, but there are some deep thinkers in the Cabinet.

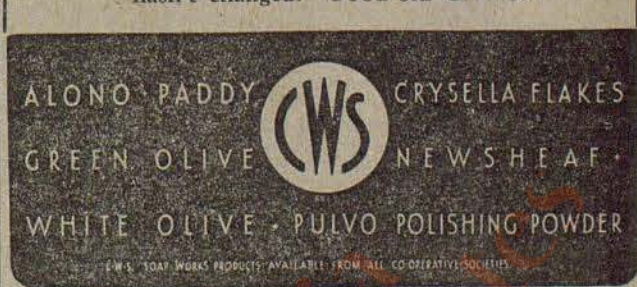


Remember the Time?

Problems of homework—minor tragedies of school life—all came to Drd. He always found the right way to do things and to get over troubles.

Remember Too?

Mother had her problems as well. Keeping us clean and healthy was one. Wasn't she lavish with the soap—can't be now. But she still uses it, for that, at least, hasn't changed. Good old C.W.S.!



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C.W.S. 100% PURE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FROM ALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

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Take Doan's Backache Kidney Pills. This modern medicine will stimulate sluggish kidneys to flush out excess uric acid and other poisons. The early use of Doan's Pills may save you weeks of needless discomfort.

1/5, 2/5, 5/6 (inc. tax). Ask your Chemist for

DOAN'S Backache Kidney Pills

25 for 7/-

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TO-DAY'S RADIO

HOME 200.0m., 201.1m., 439.1m., 439.5m.

7.0 a.m.—News. 7.15—Clifford Quintet. 8.0—Music by Grieg (gramophone). 8.30—Popular Organ Music (percussion).

9.0—News: Programme Parade. 9.30—Morning Service. 10.15—11.00—Religious Service in Welsh. 11.30—In Town Tonight (recording). 12.0—In Town Tonight (recording). 12.30—Mostly for Women. 1.0—In Town Tonight (recording). 1.30—In Town Tonight (recording). 1.45—In Town Tonight (recording). 2.0—In Town Tonight (recording). 2.15—In Town Tonight (recording). 2.30—In Town Tonight (recording). 2.45—In Town Tonight (recording). 3.0—In Town Tonight (recording). 3.15—In Town Tonight (recording). 3.30—In Town Tonight (recording). 3.45—In Town Tonight (recording). 4.0—In Town Tonight (recording). 4.15—In Town Tonight (recording). 4.30—In Town Tonight (recording). 4.45—In Town Tonight (recording). 5.0—In Town Tonight (recording). 5.15—In Town Tonight (recording). 5.30—In Town Tonight (recording). 5.45—In Town Tonight (recording). 6.0—In Town Tonight (recording). 6.15—In Town Tonight (recording). 6.30—In Town Tonight (recording). 6.45—In Town Tonight (recording). 7.0—In Town Tonight (recording). 7.15—In 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PRICES-AN PROFITS-SOAR

Racketeers Keep Necessities from Poorest War-workers

Interned Japs Made 'Whoopee'

By a Special Correspondent

JAPANESE interned in the Isle of Man celebrated the fall of Singapore on champagne, according to a report received by Count Karolyi, former Hungarian Prime Minister, and President of the Free Hungarian movement in London.

He told a meeting at Cambridge that Hungarians recently returned from the Isle of Man stated that one night they had not been able to sleep because their Japanese neighbours were on singing and cheering for hours.

When complaint was made about it they were told the disturbance had been an exception. The Japanese had been celebrating on that particular night the fall of Singapore.

FAT MEN MUST GO WITHOUT CLOTHES!

By A STAFF REPORTER

FAT men are having a fat time now. And entertainers are not amused. Their trouble is that, in the clothes rationing scheme—and particularly in the new restrictions that are being imposed—the Board of Trade did not take their special needs into account.

When you get fat men and entertainers combined the position in so much the worse.

Teddy Brown, 20-stone xylophonist, is the classic example of such a combination.

He requires six yards of cloth for a suit—his 74 inches round the waist—and we 11-stone men require 3½ yards of cloth. He goes to his tailor for a suit for 26 coupons, but it is politely told he can't have one.

No Hats Off at Her Funeral

Mrs. Cecilia Mary Bruce Macrae of Bournemouth, who left £12,500, directed that her funeral should be simple and as economical as possible.

"The officiating clergy," her will stated, "and all men present shall keep their hats on at the funeral."

To John Gallagher, her son's batman, who lost a leg in the battle of Loos, she left £50; and to Winifred Cowan, "because of her great courage and because she was my son's best friend," she left an annuity of £50.

IN this, the thirty-third month of the war, vast and ever-increasing profits are being made out of goods the common people of this country need.

Wherever there is no Government control, or where that control is inadequate, profiteers are—quite legally—reaping rich harvests from the spendings of the poor. And they are preventing the very poor from getting things they need.

These facts—most of which are common knowledge to the country's womenfolk—have been confirmed by investigations Reynolds News reporters have conducted during the past week. Their survey included clothes, food, household goods, children's toys and other articles.

A tour of the West End brought interesting results. Double sheets, pre-war price £2 10s. a pair, were being sold at over five guineas a pair in some big stores.

Handbags, pre-war price a guinea, were fetching five guineas. Straw hats, two years ago sold at between 10 and 15 shillings, were nearer 30s.

Utility skirts are on sale—22s. 6d. the most expensive, with some shops selling them at 15s. But some stores are selling skirts that, pre-war, fetched 14s. 11d., at over £22. Cotton print material, 1s. 6d. a yard before the war, is now 4s. 6d. Lingerie material has risen from 2s. 11d. to 5s. 11d. In the West End, too, a cup and saucer that would not have cost a shilling before the war is now sold at 3s. 6d.

COSTLY FOOD

Profitable Salads?

The position in provincial towns is the same. The following price figures secured yesterday in one such town are typical of most and not far from those obtaining in London.

In the centre of the town yesterday lettuce were being sold at 8d. and 10d., ending greens cost 6d., a lb. radishes 8d., a bunch, and beetroot 6d. each.

A two-penny bus ride away, at a large council estate, spring greens cost 6d., a lb., rhubarb 6d., a lb. lettuce 10d., each, and so on.

But the shops closed at 6 p.m., and war workers streaming home from the factories had no opportunity to go to the lower prices.

Cucumbers were cheaper—this week when even the modest watercress costs 1s. 4d. a lb., a cucumber cost only 1s. The reason is simple. Lord Woolton has controlled cucumbers at 10d. a lb., if you can get them.

All the time, mark you, I'm giving shows for the Forces every Sunday, yet the Government won't do anything for me."

So if a new nudist xylophonist is discovered in the near future, you'll know the reason why.

FIRE STOPS TRAFFIC

A fire in the offices of the Over-Forty Organisation, adjoining Victoria Station, London, caused a traffic hold-up in Victoria-street for some time. Bus traffic in the station yard was disorganised.

"No one was hurt," said a spokesman, "and no one was injured."

premises and firemen quickly extinguished the outbreak.

Cheapest cotton materials for children's frocks are 1s. 6d. (and two coupons) for the yard. A pair of shoes for a girl of nine costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 10 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 11 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 12 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 13 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 14 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 15 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 16 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 17 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 18 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 19 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 20 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 21 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 22 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 23 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 24 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 25 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 26 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 27 costs 18s. 11d., a pair of shoes for a girl of 28 costs 18s. 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COAL

HOW can we economise in the distribution of coal? To answer this question, the Government need look no farther than the 1938 report of its own Departmental Committee on the Distribution of Coal. The facts are there. There, too, the problems are analysed plainly.

The facts are that, whereas members of the Coal Merchants' Federation of Great Britain then expended from 11s. 8d. to 13s. 5d. in distributing every ton of coal, and earned profits of only 2d. a ton, retail Co-operative Societies, paying the best current wages, distributed coal at costs varying from 5s. 11d. to 10s. 11d. a ton, and earned surpluses as high as 4s. 7d. a ton.

These lower costs and higher surpluses were not the result of financial arrangements. They derived directly from the Co-operative method of cutting out waste in distributing coal by selling it to an organised and known market. They derived from economy in the handling of coal.

Analysis of the figures yields more light for our guidance through present difficulties.

Distributive costs were lowest in the North, where rail and road transport, first to the depot then to the home, were lowest; they were highest in the South, where these same charges reached their peak.

Rationing

These facts point the way to more economical handling of coal.

First, the Government must tighten up the system whereby markets are supplied from the nearest collieries. To serve these markets, it must be prepared to reopen, on a geographical basis, pits now closed because they fail to produce profits for private owners. It must rationalise all methods of delivery to the limit.

Second, the Government must require the registration of all consumers, including consumers of less than two tons per annum, who are not called upon to register now. It must allocate supplies to merchants according to the known markets which complete registration would enable them to organise. It must guarantee the labour and transport necessary to meet the needs of these markets.

The public, then, would endorse whatever rationing was found to be necessary. The majority of consumers are not opposed to rationing. What they fear is the hardship occasioned by inequitable distribution of supplies. What they resent is rationing of a commodity whose full production is obstructed by anti-social considerations.

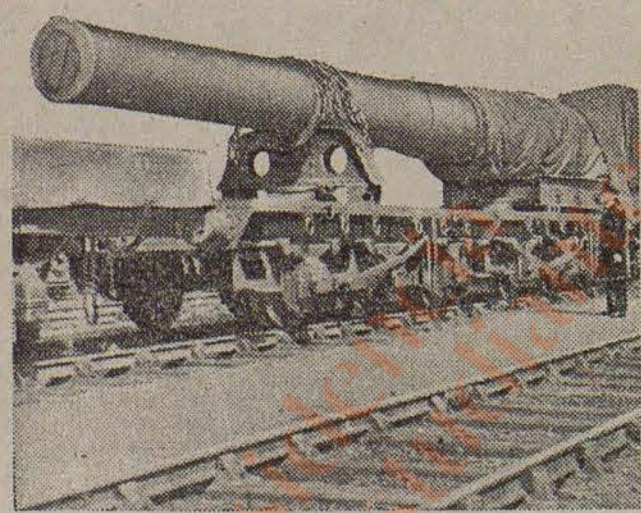
Production

How can we produce more coal? To this question, also, the Government can find a ready answer. It emerges from countless investigations and reports. It is to take the mines out of the private ownership which has failed the country miserably in every crisis, and to nationalise them.

Would there be a decline of output during the transition from private to State ownership? Every miner knows the answer.

The promise of a better future would revitalise the industry. It would purge the coalfields of their evil past. It would release fresh endeavour and sacrifice. It would send output soaring.

A powerful argument



DON'T TRAVEL

UNLESS IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL

No meals will be served on trains between May 22nd and 26th, inclusive

RAILWAY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The war—a people's revolution

This time the common man in all lands will build a new world, says Henry A. Wallace*

THIS is a fight between a slave world and a free world.

Just as the United States in 1862 could not remain half slave and half free, so in 1942 the world must make a decision for complete victory one way or the other.

As we begin the final stages of this fight to the death between the free and the slave world, it is worth while refreshing our minds about the march of freedom for the common man.

The idea of freedom is derived from the Bible with its extraordinary emphasis on the dignity of the individual. The prophets of the Old Testament were the first to preach social justice.

But that which was sensed many years before Christ was not given powerful political expression until our nation was formed as a federal union 150 years ago; even then, the march of the common people had only begun.

Most of them were unable to read and write, and there were no State schools to which all children should go. Men and women cannot be really free until they have plenty to eat and time and ability to read, to think and to talk things over.

If we measure freedom by standards of nutrition, education and self-government, we might rank the United States and certain nations of Western Europe very high. But this is unfair to other nations where education has become widespread only in the past 20 years.

Russia, for example, has changed from an illiterate to a literate nation within one generation, and in the process Russia's

appreciation of freedom has increased tremendously.

Everywhere reading and writing are accompanied by industrial progress and industrial progress inevitably brings a strong Labour Movement.

Fundamentally, there are no backward peoples, lacking in mechanical sense. Russians, Chinese and Indians all learn to read and write and operate machines just as well as your children or my children.

Everywhere the common people are on the march. By millions, they are learning to read and write, learning to think together, to use tools. They are learning to think together in Labour Movements, some of which may be extreme or impracticable at first, but which will settle down to serve effectively the interests of the common man.

In the countries where the ability to read and write has been acquired recently—62 per cent. of the people of the world are still illiterate—where people have had no long experience of governing themselves on the basis of their own thinking, it is easy for demagogues to prostitute the mind of the common man to their own base ends.

Such a demagogue may get financial help from some person of wealth. The demagogue is the curse of the modern world; of all demagogues, the worst are those who are financed by wealthy men who sincerely believe their wealth is likely to be safer if they can hire men with political "clout" to change the system and to use the people back into the most degraded slavery.

The march of freedom of the last 150 years has been a long drawn-out people's revolution. In this great revolution of the people there were the American Revolution of 1776, the French Revolution of 1792, the Latin-American Revolution of the Bolivarian era, the German Revolution of 1848, and the Russian Revolution of 1917.

Each spoke for the common man in terms of blood on the battlefield. Some went to excess, but the significant thing is that people broke their way to the light. More of them learned to think and work together.

The people's revolution aims at peace, not at violence, but if the rights of the common man are attacked, it unleashes the ferocity of the she-bear who has lost a cub. The people are on the march towards even fuller freedom than the most fortunate people of the world have hitherto enjoyed.

No Nazi counter-revolution will stop it. The common man will smoke the Hitler stage, but will not open in the United States, in Latin-America, and in India. He will destroy their influence. No Laval or Mussolini will be tolerated in a free world.

The people, in their millennial and revolutionary march forward, are manifesting here on earth the dignity that is in every

being after the war. Meantime, their snobbish devotees are striving to keep the same school effect that, if all children go to the same school, we shall enter the Fascist State and take the first step towards barbarism.

Mass illiteracy means civilisation; mass intelligence means slavery! I have never read such twaddle.

What happens when the parents of children hammer out educational programmes is about to be revealed in Sheffield. I am told Labour and Conservative members of the Educational Committee have reached agreement on plans to provide:

(a) Continuous day-school education up to 16; (b) The building of junior colleges as educational centres for the youth organisations now springing up everywhere; (c) Courses in the Social Sciences for citizens over 16.

Bravo, blithered Sheffield! DR. HERBERT VERE EVATT, 49-year-old Australian Minister of External Affairs now sitting in at War Cabinet meetings, is no fool. He has scored a great success in London.

He is tall and gay and handsome, with easy manners. But when, early the other morning, I talked to Dr. Evatt—he was in pyjamas and dressing-gown, relaxing after working half the night—I found his easy manners deceptive; he has a mind like a knife.

His travels in America and Great Britain were undertaken to secure full understanding of Australian needs in the war against Japan. They have done that. They have also reaffirmed the Minister's own belief that, if democracy is to live, it must embrace fully the vital and vitalising principle that injustice anywhere in the modern world is the business of everybody everywhere.

Dr. Evatt is a man to watch to-day and to-morrow.

MANY times have I pilloried Sir Thomas Inskip for his follies as a politician. To-day, I praise him for his common sense as Lord Chief Justice.

Chapel-en-le-Frith, recently, the Magistrates before them a householder who, the billeting officer urged, to take care of a child evacuee in accordance with Defence Regulations. The ob-servant men of the Chapel Bench dismissed the information on the grounds that the evacuee—a girl aged 14—was not, legally speaking, a child.

The case came before Lord Caldecote on appeal. His judgment was witty and full of punch.

I must say about this Regulation and the billeting arrangements that, in general, a quite remarkable exhibition of public spirit has been shown by the people who have undertaken to care for both children and young persons and children, where a different disposition is exhibited.

I think the point taken by the magistrates is a bad one. A girl of fourteen is so plainly a child that it is not open to magistrates to hold otherwise.

Lord Caldecote having thus condemned the Chapel Magistrates, sent the case back to them for hearing and decision.

It is too late to reorganise British railways, to bring them under single control. At whatever cost to the war effort, we have to tolerate the waste of Capitalism because, argues Lord Leathers, Minister of War Transport, a change now to full State control would cause confusion and delay.

Lord Leathers told that story a year ago. Now, I hear, he is adding to his baronial arms the inspiring motto, "It's always too late to mend."

human soul. They hold as their credo Roosevelt's Four Freedoms, which are the very core of the revolution for which the united nations have taken their stand.

We in the United States may think there is nothing very revolutionary about freedom of religion, freedom of expression, and freedom from fear of secret police.

But when we begin to think about the significance of freedom from want for the average man, then we know that the revolution of the past 150 years has not been completed either here in the United States or in any other nation in the world. We know this revolution cannot stop until freedom from want has actually been attained.

We failed in our job after the World War. We did not know how to go about building an enduring world-wide peace. We lacked the nerve to follow through and prevent German rearmament. We did not build a peace treaty on the fundamental doctrines of the people's revolution.

We did not strive to create a world where there could be freedom from want for all peoples.

But by our very errors we have learned much; and after this war we will be in a position to utilise our knowledge and build a world which will be economically, politically, and, I hope, spiritually sound.

Modern science, which is a by-product and essential part of the people's revolution, has made it technologically possible to see that all peoples throughout the world get enough to eat.

Peace must mean a better standard of living for the common man, not merely in the United States and England, but also in India, Russia, China and Latin-America—not merely in the united nations, but also in Germany, Italy and Japan.

Some have spoken of "the American Century." I say that the century we are entering, which will come into being after this war, can be, and must be, the century of the common man.

Perhaps it will be America's opportunity to support the freedoms and duties by which the common man must live.

Everywhere the common man must learn to build his own industries with his own hands.

Everywhere the common man must learn to increase his productivity so that he and his children can eventually pay to the world community all that they have received.

No nation will have the God-given right to exploit other nations. The older nations will have the privilege of helping the younger nations to get started on the path of industrialisation, but there must be neither military nor economic imperialism.

Modern science must be released from German slavery.

The international cartels that serve American greed and the German will to power must go.

Cartels in the peace time must be

necks; roads were built, gun sites prepared and equipped. The man entrusted with this preparatory work was Professor Blume, the traffic expert in the Technical College at Hannover, who had 80,000 men at his disposal.

As long ago as 1933, General Eimannsberger, the theorist of the German tank divisions, was in favour of omitting artillery preparation almost entirely.

"In this age of motorisation, which was only beginning in the last war, preparation can be speeded up and the surprise made more devastating."

Two days' supply of ammunition will surely be possible in one night. This is the complete concentration, for the motorised and armoured units, because of their mobility, need not be assembled before the assault.

The attack on France was, in fact, carried out almost exactly on these lines. Moreover, by W. NECKER

Military Correspondent, Die Zeitung

the transport of parachutists can be arranged far in the rear and long in advance.

Now, although this attack always achieves some success at first, it is not bound to bring victory.

There are means of defence which, rightly used, can be decisive.

A defence system, which covers the whole country with a network of strong points isolates the attackers, who can be wiped out piecemeal. This winter the "hedghog" defence of the Germans, and, no doubt, the Russians also, has shown that an easy break through is a thing of the past.

If one is lost or damaged, the machine is unusable. If the tanks are held up by effective defence, or the planes fall through ground and air opposition, the machine breaks down.

The Germans attacked so early in March, 1918, in order to forestall the American Army, which would have entirely altered the balance of forces.

Hitler's position to-day is more dangerous than that of the German Army in 1918. Then Russia had been knocked out and there was only one front to defend. Now the Eastern Front will soon be as strong as the Western. Hitler must therefore attack—and quickly.

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Hitler's position to-day is more dangerous than that of the German Army in 1918. Then Russia had been knocked out and there was only one front to defend. Now the Eastern Front will soon be as strong as the Western. Hitler must therefore attack—and quickly.

There is only one thing that he can regard as a defence system, which covers the whole country with a network of strong points isolates the attackers, who can be wiped out piecemeal. This winter the "hedghog" defence of the Germans, and, no doubt, the Russians also, has shown that an easy break through is a thing of the past.

If one is lost or damaged, the machine is unusable. If the tanks are held up by effective defence, or the planes fall through ground and air opposition, the machine breaks down.

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subject to international control for the common man as well as being under the control of the respective home governments.

In this way, we can prevent the Germans again building a war machine while we sleep.

With international monopoly pools under control, it will be possible for inventions to serve all people, instead of only a few.

When peace comes, the citizen again will have the supreme duty of sacrificing a lesser interest for the greater interest of general welfare.

Those who write the Peace must think of the whole world. There can be no privileged peoples.

If we really believe we are fighting for a people's peace, the rest becomes easy. Production? Yes, it will be easy to get production without strikes or sabotage, production with whole-hearted co-operation.

I need say little about our duty to fight. It is true American youth hates war with holy hatred. But because of that fact and because Hitler and the German people stand as the very symbol of war, we shall fight with tireless enthusiasm until war and the possibility of war has been removed from this planet.

I am convinced that the Summer and Autumn of 1942 will be the time of supreme crisis for us all.

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It was at least open to question whether we had not made our dispositions too much from the point of view of sentiment, undertaken too many forlorn hopes, and paid too little attention to strategy and to the importance of superiority at the point of contact.

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The author of 'The Red Duster,' best-selling Merchant Navy story, here tells a true-to-life tale of our heroic seamen

These, Our Merchant Venturers

THE freshening breeze carried a smudge of black smoke up-river; a big freighter swung slowly towards a dock entrance, and a couple of fussy tugs nosed her in. The chatter of pneumatic tools, whistle of engines on a light railway, and the clank of great semi-rusted plates from a nearby slipway, where a new child of the Seven Seas was being born, half-drowned the welcoming blare of the ship's siren. She was saying: "Well—I'm back again... bit on the dirty side... need a coat of paint... but I've a load of food for you!"

From stern and stern whistles were sounding; mooring ropes were being made fast; a gangway was eased into position. My old pal Shorty Gordon was aboard the freighter, and I had to see Shorty. I had been given a message to deliver from the "Mister's" bloke, back home.

"Mister Gordon, merchant seaman since his schooldays, had another daughter—sixth in succession. And he'd always wanted a boy.

His family had been seafarers for more than a hundred years; grandfather Gordon was shipmate with one of the old packet-rats, who died in his arms the final trip the old man made in the notorious four-master that took him on three months between Boston and Liverpool. Like hundreds more British names, that of Gordon is synonymous with Western Ocean.

My old friend poured the remains from a pint pot down his gullet, grunted contentedly, and spoke. "Six gels, eh? Mebbe we'd better quit raisin' a family. Looks like there won't be no more Gordons goin' to sea after me, not now."

"Pity... becos there's gonna be real chances afloat for youngsters when this lot's over. It took two full-size wars in 25 years to make our job anywhere near secure... an' then th' missus 'n' I have to have six gels! Ah, well—it mighta bin worse—an' things're a lot different, these days... ay!" and he breathed heavily.

Then he knocked the glowing dottle from an old briar, and went on:

"Mind you, I'm not sayin' there's not a hell of a lot still to be done. But so far as pay goes these days, th' Western Ocean runs okay, an' there isn't any need for a bloke to kick th' gong around waitin' for another ship."

"When Bevin sets up that E.W.O. of his, grandad said th' noo conditions looked so good to him, he'd 'ad a damn good mind to try gettin' a ship himself. I'd just finished more'n six months on th' coast, so I told th' old rascal if he still wanted a taste of th' bad old days, he couldn't do no better'n take my place in th' coaster I'd just paid off..."

★ Shorty slipped a half-noggin into a tooth cavity. "You wouldn't call th' Western Ocean th' sort o' place for pleasure cruising, these days—but compared with th' North Sea!"

"This coaster I was tellin' you about was like dozens o' others; she carried cap'n, mate, bo'sun, couple of A.B.'s—I was one—an' ord'n'ry seaman, a boy, two engineers 'n' three firemen."

"In a ten-week spell we worked more'n 800 hours. Th' pay worked out at about a bob an hour."

"Day before we sailed th' last trip I made in her, a couple o' blokes—all gold lace and ideas—come aboard. They said they'd received instructions to check-up on our armament, which'd only bin put in th' previous trip."

"When th' Old Man wanted to know if anything's wrong, they told 'im th' gun was to be removed."

"They said it was becos th' ship was one o' th' class th' Admiralty 'considered unsuitable for Naval ratings on account of th' living conditions aboard. Good enough for us, it weren't good enough for the R.N."

"Mind you, they were right, too. Th' only place we could keep food anywhere near fresh was on a shelf we rigged in th' crew's lavatory."

"She's bin built in 1938, an' th' Board o' Trade food-lockers they fitted were fixed around a dirty coal-stove... you couldn't move 'em nowhere else, there wasn't room."



Like most other seamen employed for any length of time in British coastwise shipping, Shorty was lucky to escape chronic dyspepsia. If you care to check up on that, you'll find that national health records prove that in regard to digestive and chest complaints and rheumatism, coastwise seamen suffer in higher proportion than any other trade in Great Britain.

In the case of the coasting ship Shorty spoke of, the men worked a 90-hour week; watch; men working that length of time are mostly too tired to do cooking for themselves. They live on fried dishes, hurriedly prepared.

★ Stevedores and gangs were unloading the freighter in which Shorty had just crossed the North Atlantic. Her long sticks popped upright into the early Spring sky; once again it was to be a quick turn-round.

A lorry with ship's provisions was unloading at the freighter's side as we walked the dock. Shorty said:

"Th' old grandad use to say, 'Gawd sends th' food, an' th' devil sends th' sea cooks.' But that was in his time... things're changin'—slowly. Nobody seemed to think a seaman wanted good food before this war started. That's so, isn't it?"

It is so. Shorty and his kind are knowledgeable, and there wasn't much that escaped their notice. We fell to talking of food, and this is roughly how Shorty figures it out:

From 1906 until the latter end of 1939, the scale of rations allotted to a seaman—on paper—was pretty much the same that applied to the land army at sea. The scale was revised by Statutory Orders, No. 1859, on December 20, 1939.

Subject to a lot of "ifs" and plenty of "buts," the average seaman from 1940 onwards stood a fairly good chance of enjoying a steady improvement in what Shorty calls his "chuck."

But the service and the variety of the food has never altered, and does not look like altering. Then, to further his argument, Shorty delivered himself of an idea I commend to readers:

★ "Look at it this way," he said. "You can reckon th' difference between good 'n' bad conditions afloat as being ruddy small compared with what owners're being paid nowadays for th' hire of their ships."

"There's a hell of a lot of talk about Woolton don't away with white bread for th' duration, isn't there? He says if everybody saved one thin slice off a two-pound loaf, they'd save one pound for 57 ships every year th' war lasts."

"Now, a two-pound loaf costs 4d., doesn't it? See where I'm heading?"

Briefly, this is what was on his mind: Allowing not more than 3d. a ton on voyages from, say, the River Plate to United Kingdom ports, owners would have ample to

INJURED SURVIVORS from a blazing ship are taken aboard the escort vessel in mid-Atlantic.

make all the vitally necessary difference in the lives of the men who earn the dividends and profits and their dependents who, today, are still mighty hard put to it to eke out their allowance until the next is due.

A large percentage of freight from the direction of the River Plate is grain—and as deep sea cargo grain can be anybody's headache in peace time, let alone when merchantmen run constant risk of attack by U-boats, E-boats, four-engined Condors and long-range Focke-Wulfs—and that extra 3d. a ton in freight rates would mean an increase on the price of a two-pound loaf of less than one farthing.

Would YOU agree to pay the additional price for YOUR bread—for men like Shorty? Think it over...

★ The night before his ship sailed out into the most dangerous stretch of ocean in the world, to maintain unbroken the lifeline that will win this war, Shorty and I walked among a maze of great steel plates. The squat little locomotives hooted derisively at us; pneumatic tools chattered incessantly, saws screeched, heavy hammers thudded.

Out on the slipway yet another child of the seas was being fashioned; so far she was little more than a skeleton, but craftsmen were shaping the flesh about her gaunt bones. Shorty was saying:

"By th' time she's bin away a twelve-month, mebbe th' war'll be over. Aye, mebbe. Come to think of it, there's a hell of a lot to look forward to. There's a lot for me... even though there's six gels 'n' no boy."

I said: "Okay, Shorty, you should worry! Don't they carry girls in Russian ships? Why shouldn't we? If we ever do, you and your missus've got six pretty good arguments for maintaining better conditions afloat!"

He snorted, and chuckled. "Russia? Not so long back some o' th' 'Big shots' here sent all their time criticisin' th' way they did things out there, in Russia."

"When it looked like Hitler might try starvin' us out, after Dunkirk, th' country realised how much it depended on its merchant seamen, didn't it? That being so, one o' these days, mebbe, now that gels're pullin' their full weight alongside men, we'll take another tip from Russia 'n' make th' 'weaker sex'!"

Shorty's got an idea, there. But whether we do, or do not, you and I have got to see that the future of the British seaman is an assured future.

We've got to see that the "casual labour" angle is scrapped. We've got to make seafaring a profession, for such it surely is.

★ At dawn I watched a couple of tugs nose the big freighter down to her marks, out into mid-channel. And the last I saw of Shorty was his leathery-like face beamed at me from a fo'c'sle port-hole, and he shouted:

"I've bin thinkin' o' that Soviet angle... if y'see th' missus, tell her it's okay by me. Tell her mebbe we'll get a crew together, even yet, an' buy a second-hand freighter. There's gonna be big money, after the war, if we play our cards properly."

A freshening breeze coming across the river carried a smudge of smoke away into the north. The freighter swung slowly round, hooted a cheery farewell, and was gone.

Far Eastern Futilities

WHEN a writer who has been for a number of years in the British Foreign Office speaks of the ending of our Asiatic Empire in the old-fashioned sense, it is clear that he is not afraid of facing up to facts. Nor does Mr. Simon Harcourt-Smith in "Japanese Frenzy" (H. Hamilton, 6s.) fear to probe into the reasons why it is ended.

He says bluntly that "the modern British colonial system has been revealed as a flimsy construction with few foundations in the happiness of the peoples it has ruled." We have fought in the Far East "as strangers among sullen populations, who either regard the war as a trial of strength between rival bands of interlopers, or welcome the Japanese as symbolising the end of an odious British rule."

Next, this former Secretary of the British Legation in China and member of the Foreign Office Far Eastern Department, blames our Ministers in Thailand for not knowing that the Japanese had that country in its grip, and the white inhabitants of Singapore for "going on with their dances and tennis" in the presence of danger signals, and "for banning Asiatics, when possible, from Civil Defence organisations, which were rapidly being turned into clubs of a new and agreeable sort."

When fighting began, it was soon apparent that not only were we outnumbered and weaker than the enemy in machines, but that we were not as skilful fighters as the Japanese. We did not use what we had intelligently, says this critic born in the ruling Class and impelled by his sense of duty to expose its futile incompetence.

The book shows how long and carefully, though not secretly, Japanese Governments had prepared for this war. Mr. Churchill said it was due to "the civil government being overwhelmed by the military" (House of Commons, January 29 last). That happened, Mr. Harcourt-Smith points out, many years ago. The War Cabinet, which initially misapprehended the whole Far Eastern situation.

An alarming conclusion, but one which is amply justified by this knowledgeable, frank and moderate study. H. F.

CHILDREN

DOR HOUSE HARVEST FIELD

In a Maze

THIS little mouse is looking very perplexed. Can you help him to trace the family to which he belongs?

To do this, you must follow his tail carefully until you come to the correct name. When you have discovered this write the name NEATLY on the back of a POSTCARD.

Add your full name, address, age, and number if you are a Girl, and send your entry to Uncle Bert, Reynolds News, Pioneer House, Wicklow Road, London, W.C.2. It will arrive by Friday, May 22. Do not enclose your name in an envelope.

Prizes will be awarded for the nearest correct entries, age being taken into account, and remember all Girlie winners receive DOUBLE the prize!

COMPETITION AWARDS

First prize in the "Place Them There" competition is awarded to Theresa Fullan (13), Wigtown, Scotland. Second prize has been won by Josephine Yates (8), Crews. Third prize goes to Allen Rees (10), Carway, near Kildare, Carmarthenshire, South Wales.

SUNSHINE CIRCLE

To become a Girlie, send three stamps and four consecutive coupons (such as 485-466-467-468) to Uncle Bert, Reynolds News, Wicklow Road, London, W.C.2. You will receive a Membership badge and the privilege of winning double prizes in all competitions. Join Now.

SUNSHINE CIRCLE BADGE

White men on 15, 18; Kings on 4, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31, 36, 41, 46, 51, 56, 61, 66, 71, 76, 81, 86, 91, 96, 101, 106, 111, 116, 121, 126, 131, 136, 141, 146, 151, 156, 161, 166, 171, 176, 181, 186, 191, 196, 201, 206, 211, 216, 221, 226, 231, 236, 241, 246, 251, 256, 261, 266, 271, 276, 281, 286, 291, 296, 301, 306, 311, 316, 321, 326, 331, 336, 341, 346, 351, 356, 361, 366, 371, 376, 381, 386, 391, 396, 401, 406, 411, 416, 421, 426, 431, 436, 441, 446, 451, 456, 461, 466, 471, 476, 481, 486, 491, 496, 501, 506, 511, 516, 521, 526, 531, 536, 541, 546, 551, 556, 561, 566, 571, 576, 581, 586, 591, 596, 601, 606, 611, 616, 621, 626, 631, 636, 641, 646, 651, 656, 661, 666, 671, 676, 681, 686, 691, 696, 701, 706, 711, 716, 721, 726, 731, 736, 741, 746, 751, 756, 761, 766, 771, 776, 781, 786, 791, 796, 801, 806, 811, 816, 821, 826, 831, 836, 841, 846, 851, 856, 861, 866, 871, 876, 881, 886, 891, 896, 901, 906, 911, 916, 921, 926, 931, 936, 941, 946, 951, 956, 961, 966, 971, 976, 981, 986, 991, 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Make the most of MILK with **BIRD'S CUSTARD**

Court Hear 'Alarm' Case in Public

REJECTING the prosecution's suggestion that the case be held in camera, the Newport (Isle of Wight) Magistrates decided, yesterday, to hear in open court the evidence against an aircraft worker, Arthur Harold Sydney Mason (47), of Brighton, who was charged with making statements likely to cause alarm and despondency.

Mason, who pleaded "Not guilty," was fined £20.

Mr. Palmer, prosecuting, stated that Mason was alleged to have made certain statements to fellow-workers and to customers at the village inn at Brighton.

"GAOL FOR PREMIER"

James C. W. Damant, of Cotes, staff captain in the Home Guard, said that about the time of the fall of Singapore he heard Mason say, "Thank goodness, by the end of the week we shall have the Prime Minister in gaol. That will make an end of this capitalist war."

"We ought to give territory to Germany to keep her quiet," he said. "We have never done anything with our Empire except exploit it for the benefit of the capitalists."

Mrs. Iris Mary McGroarty, a worker at a factory where Mason is employed, stated that Mason said, "The people ought to have their heads seen to for living under such a Government. Hitler is definitely a better man than Churchill. He is a man with a purpose and knows what he is doing."

"FAR BETTER OFF"

Mrs. Maude B. Ford said she heard Mason say, "We should be far better off under Hitler. Churchill is an old woman. This war will be over by Christmas and Germany will win."

Mason strongly denied making the statements.

H.G. USES BOMBS

Live bombs were used in mock street battles in Newcastle yesterday when senior Home Guard officers from Northumberland, Durham and North Yorks guarded invasion tactics.

WARTIME GARDENING

NO. 7

Grow Beans and Save Points

It's never too late to start gardening. If the ground is fit to dig, it is nearly always time to prepare it to grow some crop. If you haven't planned to meet your family's needs next winter, begin at once. The sooner you get going, the more vegetables you will be able to grow to help you over the lean period from Christmas to June.

Has it occurred to you that you can save "points" by growing beans in tins and dried beans are now on the ration—so why not grow your own? In the South and West of England haricot beans do well. In less favoured districts in the Midlands and the North you could grow French beans like Marquisette and Canadian Wonder instead. The ripe beans can be cooked like haricots.

Sow your dwarf French beans or haricot beans now. Allow 2 1/2 inches apart and sow them 9 inches apart. Sow a few extra in boxes, or at the ends of the row, to make up for losses. Runner beans, if you grow them, should be sown now in a double row, spacing the beans 9 inches apart, and allowing 15 inches between rows. In cold districts, where runner beans do not succeed, plant seedlings of summer cabbage to give you greens in early autumn.

It is safe now to sow marrow seeds outdoors. Sow in groups of four or five, 6 inches apart, allowing about 2 feet between groups.

REMEMBERS

If you haven't sown a row of spinach beet, do it now. You will be glad of the fresh green leaves in autumn and next spring. Watch your spinach beet like a hawk, and draw a little soil over any shoots that are showing. Do this every evening to avoid damage by early morning frosts.

And don't plant tomatoes outdoors until the end of May; in the North and in cold districts wait until the second week in June.

Cut out this guide and keep it

KEEP RABBITS—PRODUCE MEAT FROM WASTE

POST THIS COUPON FOR FREE LEAFLETS

To Ministry of Agriculture, Hotel Lindum, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Lancs. Please send me the following leaflets: (Cross out those not required.)

GROUP A Vegetable Growing GROUP B Vegetable Storing GROUP C Pest Control

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Every sort of SKIN DISEASE VANISHES with Cadum

No skin trouble, however far gone, can withstand the irresistible healing power of Cadum Ointment. Where skin has been ravaged by terrible eczema, boils, acne—Cadum heals and leaves it clear and healthy. The agonies of ulcers and piles are quickly and permanently banished. Yet wonderful Cadum Ointment costs only 1/6 and 3/6 a box (including Tax) at all chemists.

Cadum the wonder-healing ointment

How Doctors Treat Indigestion

By a well-known Doctor.

Although doctors are human, you rarely find them suffering from indigestion. The reason is that they know exactly what causes it and how to treat it. Personally, I know nothing to equal "Bisurated" Magnesia as a speedy and lasting remedy for all digestive troubles. If I eat anything that disagrees with me, I take either a teaspoonful of the powder, or four of the tablets, and there is an end of the trouble. Indeed, there is something almost miraculous about the speed with which "Bisurated" Magnesia arrests acute stomach pain. I advise every sufferer to take some after their next meal; the relief will be a revelation.

Note: "Bisurated" Magnesia, referred to above, is sold by all chemists at prices from 7d. to 2/6, including Purchase Tax.

Why We Lost—by an Eyewitness

BURMESE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WE WERE FIGHTING FOR

IN Burma we had many of the Burmese as our enemies because they "were ignorant of what we were fighting for," says Daniel Berrigan, B.U.P. war correspondent, who has been with our troops since the campaign began.

In his latest dispatch, received yesterday, he gives five main reasons why we failed to stop the invaders.

The gallant British forces (he writes) are the heroes of this campaign; they are the men who, often without rest, short of food, continually on the move, attacked, ambushed and bombed, have hit back from one end of Burma to the other.

The fate of Burma was decided long before Japanese armies had crossed her borders.

Lessons Ignored

Lulled to sleep by the comforting thought that high mountains and what were thought to be trackless jungles separated her from Siam, Burma ignored the lessons of Malaya.

I believe there are five main reasons for the loss of this campaign. They are—

1. There had never been any real attempt to win the support of the Burmese.

2. The Imperial forces were inadequate and ill-equipped to defend a country the size of Burma.

3. Communications were not developed to stand the strain of war.

4. The air force was not big enough to defend the vital centres of supply and administration and at the same time support the fighting troops; it was overworked far too hard.

5. The Civil Government proved unequal to the task of controlling the country under war time conditions.

Lieut.-Genl. Sir H. Alexander the G.O.C., was the first high military authority to recognise publicly the disadvantages of holding a long transport system which was slowly strangling the Imperial Forces, compelling them to remain on the roads where they were at the mercy of the enemy, who swung round the British flanks, establishing blockades which could be broken only by the intensive use of men and materials.

Joined the Japs

This was a process which went on during the entire campaign.

We had a big enemy in a large proportion of the Burmese. They were disorganised because they were ignorant of what we were fighting for. The Japs used them, used them as guides to show those famous "traps" in the jungle which did not exist so far as we knew.

The outlawed Thakins' Party (the "Liberators") helped the Japanese by filling their ranks with fanatical soldiers, harassing the Imperial forces behind the lines by sabotage, burning, arson and the intimidation of peasants who otherwise would have been willing to supply us with food and guides.

It was the Thakins who helped Japanese officers through our lines, who moved about the countryside at night, burning villages and terrorising farmers and peasants and causing them to flee.

The arrival of American tanks, driven by British crews just before the fall of Pegu and Rangoon, and a few troops from India, comprised almost the sole reinforcements for our men since the battle for the Sittang River.

Against this the Japanese, with control of the sea, the air, and the land, were able to throw in reinforcements.

Transport Saved

Although unsuited for jungle warfare, these tanks undoubtedly prolonged our resistance and enabled us to break through the road blocks at Pegu, Schweidaung, Yenangyung without abandoning our transport.

Chinese officers to whom I spoke insist that their forces would have been able to hold up the Japanese behind the Sittang if permission had been given earlier for the Chinese to join Imperial Forces there.

As a result of delay, the Chinese occupied Tounghun at the time when the Imperial troops were withdrawing up the Irrawaddy, exposing their right flank and forcing the Chinese to move slowly back to straighten their line.

Imperial, American and Chinese officers in Burma all agreed that one of the greatest difficulties in the campaign was the lack of communications.

Radio's Part

Road and railway transport broke down when labourers fled from Japanese bombs, and, in the final stages of the battle in the Central Valley, Chinese workmen took over the railway under the direction of an American Army Captain.

The Japanese had an excellent system of communication by portable radio sets; the Imperial and Chinese forces were often without communication to their units for days at a time.

On one occasion an entire British battalion was isolated for two days and surrounded by Japanese because headquarters was unable to get through an order to fall back.

Civilian morale was weak almost from the beginning of the invasion. The A.R.P. organisation broke down when members left after seeking compensation for the loss of their jobs.

The problems which faced the military and civil authorities in Burma are those which India must face too.

'U.S. can Rout Japs'

Lieut.-Col. Warren Magnuson, who is on leave from the U.S. Navy as a member of the House of Representatives, and who returned to Seattle yesterday from duty in the Pacific, stated on arrival:

"Every time we met the Japanese ship for ship, man for man, in the air, and on the water, we have routed them, and their losses have been ten to 20 times as many as ours."

Our fleet in the Pacific is getting stronger and stronger. "If we had 50 per cent. more aircraft carriers out there today, the war would be over in a hurry."

BULGARS SENT 'EM HAMMER AND SICKLE

GERMAN military authorities in Sofia have drawn the attention of the Bulgarian Government to the fact that in most of the Easter presents sent to German soldiers by Bulgarian teachers anti-Hitlerite leaflets were found with the hammer and sickle on them.

Moscow Radio told this last night.

It was also related how an Austrian prisoner, Herman Martel-Mueller, a private in the infantry, told at interrogation that one of the Austrian divisions on the Soviet-German front refused to go into action.

German Command immediately disbanded all Austrian divisions.

"The termination of the Cripps Mission was as sudden and mysterious to me as it was to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru," said Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, former Premier of Madras and the "rebel" Indian National Congress leader, last night.

In an interview with the United Press of India, Mr. Rajagopalachari declared that it was "misunderstanding the position" to believe that he had broken away from the uncompromising position of the Congress Party.

"A Suicidal Policy"

"Whatever be my differences with the Congress Executive I cannot acquit the British of blame."

Mr. Nehru emphatically appeals to the Indian people to oppose Japan, but he is equally emphatic in demanding power to enable them to put forth their full strength. Unfortunately Britain is pursuing a suicidal policy in not co-operating with India that is willing to join the struggle against the Axis Powers.

Question to Cripps

"If Britain was willing to part with power, as it is said in the British Press and Parliament, why did Sir Stafford not accept the last letter of Dr. Azad, our Congress President? He could have asked Dr. Azad for his definite proposals for the constitution of the interim Government, which would have to satisfy the Moslem League. This would have been understandable."

Sir Stafford announced his intention to return to London. This sudden departure and his subsequent statement are difficult to understand, they have only irritated Nationalist India.

Agency, stated that Soviet attacks near Masek, in the Caucasus, were repulsed.

One Soviet bomber raided Helsinki on Friday night.

German attempts to counter-attack on the north-west front, in the Lake Ilmen area, have been beaten back, states a Red Star dispatch.

Our troops successfully repulsed all the enemy's attempts to improve his position and are grinding down his regiments one after another.

(Reuter and A.P.)

GUERRILLAS BLOW UP NAZI RESERVES

While Timoshenko drives westward the other Red Army behind the German lines is intensifying its activities.

This army of the guerrillas has grown in strength during the winter, and is equipped with captured German arms.

Donetsk coal miners yesterday blew up a railway track, derailed 60 cars carrying German troops on their way to the Kharkov front.

OPEN BATTLE

These guerrillas are also engaging the Germans in open battle, attacking garrisons and capturing quantities of weapons and important staff documents.

Another guerrilla detachment operating in the Sumy region, destroyed 30 lorries and blown up several road bridges.

One Ukrainian district did German Command sent considerable forces of infantry, cavalry, artillery and planes against the guerrillas, but they lost about 500 officers and men and a large quantity of arms in the attempt.

The Ukrainian guerrillas are in control of large districts, says a Moscow message. Their strength and experience have increased, that they can now carry out simultaneous operations at several points in accordance with a strategic plan.

SCOUTS BEHIND LINES

Another sign of Soviet activity behind the German lines comes in a Moscow message, which says the High Command is kept accurately informed of the strength and position of Nazi reinforcements.

The Soviet communists have a stone's throw of the enemy are sending back the messages.

1,000 London Children Greet Soviet Youth

MORE than a thousand school children from London and the Home Counties were received yesterday by children of the Soviet school in London.

The meeting was arranged by the Education Committee of the Society for Cultural Relations with the U.S.S.R.

It took the form of greetings to Soviet schools from English school children, parties of whom presented messages from their respective schools, together with gifts of toys which had been presented or made at the schools, albums recording their school life, and donations totaling over £250 towards a British school mobile X-ray unit for service on the Russian front.

The Soviet children wearing the Komsomol (Communist youth) uniform were flanked by Boy Scouts and Girl Guides carrying Allied flags.

The Soviet children, to the schools of the Soviet Union, and a pledge "to do everything we can to help in winning victory over Hitler," were dispatched.

PAID HALF BIG FINE IN SMALL CHANGE

Alfred Noel, of Mac's Café, Benham, Berks, who was fined £50 and costs at Reading for having gaming machines, paid £28 13s. 6d. in penalties and sixpences, the contents of three of the machines.

50,000 EGGS LESS

Fifty thousand eggs destroyed in a fire at a packing station at Holmby, near Rutherford, is likely to affect the normal distribution in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

PRISONER IN ITALY

Trpr. Cyril Hammond (25), Monk Heath-gardens, Chadwell Heath, Essex, a prisoner of war in Italy, says Reuter.

Hitler Arrests Dutch Officers

EVERY officer and cadet in the former Dutch Army has been arrested by the Nazis and sent to prisoner-of-war camps in Germany.

This new indication of the desperate Nazi effort to stem the tide of revolt in Holland came yesterday in an announcement by the German-controlled Dutch Radio.

More than 2,000 are affected by the order, says Reuter.

The official announcement stated that "some of the officers broke their word of honour and participated in actions hostile to Germany."

HOSTAGES TAKEN

Four hundred and sixty hostages—all persons well known in Netherlands public life before the invasion—have also been seized.

These measures have been taken by the German High Command "in view of the recent trials which led to the execution of 90 Dutchmen," the wireless stated.

The Dutch people were warned that the commander of the German forces in the occupied Netherlands had emphasised that every attempt against Germany would lead to an extension of this measure.

Former officers and N.C.O.'s of the Dutch Army Reserve would in that case be rounded up as well.

GREEKS GREETED R.A.F.

Another story of Europe's revolt comes from Greece. A traveller arriving in Istanbul told the Associated Press that the Greeks were helping the Allies in every possible way.

A large number of citizens of Piræus, he said, were shot by the German and Italian authorities following the recent R.A.F. raid near Athens because they deliberately violated the Axis black-out orders—A.P.

The shootings followed warnings given after lights had blazed from many windows in Piræus and Athens during earlier raids.

NEWS ROUND-UP

'Cannot Waste Our Youngsters'

Mr. R. A. Butler, President of the Board of Education, speaking at a Boys' Brigade display in the Albert Hall yesterday, said:

"When we ask boys to undertake some kind of duty, we do not want everyone to enter a purely military formation. At the other extreme we do not want to see a game of hide-and-seek on the part of boys and girls who are not ready to take on some form of duty."

"We do not want to compel you to do something particular. Yet we cannot afford to let our young talent go to waste."

"Our school successfully retrained country can produce sufficient young boys and girls in the rising generation to take on the greatest mission that ever lay before any land or people—the mission of carrying forward the standards of our Christian civilisation."

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