

GERMANY

L. J. - Linnoco. March 20, 1935. Wednesday.

Current  
Use

Flowers  
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Today's news from the disturbed diplomatic area in Europe is a strictly logical follow-up to our reports last evening of dissatisfaction about the British attitude toward Germany. With France and Italy perturbed about John Bull's mildness toward Berlin, the three former Allied nations have now swiftly got together for some mutual planning. It was Mussolini who proposed the formula for the united front, and quite a rational formula it is.

The discontent of France and Italy was based on two things -- firstly, the mildness of the British protest to Hitler, and secondly the fact that England, in spite of Germany's open violation of the Versailles treaty, was going ahead with a scheduled plan of having Foreign Secretary Sir John Simon make a trip to Berlin for conferences with Hitler. It all looked as if John Bull were marching along all by himself and didn't consider German re-armament as serious enough to alter diplomatic plans that had been arranged before Germany took the drastic step. So Mussolini's formula was that ~~they~~ there should be a swift conference between England, France and Italy -- this to take

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place before Sir John Simon began those Berlin conversations.

And secondly that there should be another three-cornered pow-wow between the former Allies right after Sir John returned from Berlin.

These proposals have been promptly accepted by London.

So now there is swift activity in staging the first meeting, which will be held in London. It will have to be held in a hurry, because Sir John Simon is due in Berlin on Sunday. They say the second conference, after he returns, will be staged in Rome.

Meanwhile, there are reports of some secret doings in London.

## ITALY

Italy still remains in the interesting position of being concerned not only with the German rearmament crisis, but also with her own troubled affairs in East Africa. Rome has filed another protest with the Abyssinian King of Kings, complaining about some more of that tribal raiding across the Ethiopian border into the Italian African colonies. This time the Abyssinians attacked a native caravan camp in Italian territory and stole a hundred camels. ~~An Italian military detachment~~ chased after the raiders but abandoned the ~~pur~~ pursuit so as not to take a chance of any further trouble with the Italian soldiers guarding their frontier.

This reminds us of last night's story of the Abyssinian protest to the League of Nations, in which the King of Kings spoke of ~~border~~ frontier incidents for which he should not be held responsible. And it is a fact that the trouble is caused mostly by savage tribes on the warpath, tribes over which the Emperor at Addis Ababa has only the merest nominal control. There are said to be constant raidings by war parties across the Abyssinian border into the British province of Kenya. But then the British understand that the Abyssinian government is not responsible for ~~it~~ and take the raids as just a part of life in the savage wilds.

And then there is the case of that ferocious episode in French Somaliland, in which raiding Abyssinian tribesmen wiped out a detachment of French military police. It happens that I have received a letter from a chap who has just made a trip from the East African coast to the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa. He is Rex Barton, a traveller and writer now on a round-the-world tour for World Letters. And he happened to be not far away when the tribesmen attacked the French detachment. Here's the way Rex Barton tells about it in his letter:-

"I have just returned from Addis Ababa, from the land of roving warriors. Tribesmen, leaning on their long spears, had looked sullenly at me as the train chugged through the desert borderlands between Ethiopia and Somaliland. I didn't know that at that very moment warriors such as these were waging a murderous battle a few miles away.

And Rex Barton continues:- "The Assai-Maras, a tribe of nomad fighters, swooped down from the Ethiopian Hills, burning Somali villages, killing men, women and children, or taking them for slaves; stealing their herds of goats and camels. The Somalis were outnumbered. They sent a runner to the nearest French outpost to ask the white man for help and protection. The lone French officer with his eighteen native troops, marched out of his little fort to drive the raiders back to their hills. It was rifles and a machine-gun against spears, but there were a dozen tribesmen to every soldier.

"The brave young Frenchman and his army were soon surrounded. Their rifles cracked. The machine-gun sputtered. But the war-crazy tribesmen would not be driven off. Ammunition ran low -- gave out. The enemy, their spears flashing red in the setting sun, came closer, closer. The machine-gun blazed again and -- jammed. With a mad yell the tribesmen closed in. Their spears had won. A single native escaped to tell the story of bloody massacre and pillage within a few miles of the peaceful harbor of Djibouti.

No doubt the Abyssinian government is justified in saying that it should not be held responsible. But then Mussolini's comeback would be that if the King of Kings cannot restrain his ferocious tribes, why not let somebody else do it?

Maple

Mar. 20  
1935.

DEAN MAPHIS

With international affairs a dominant issue of the day, I brought to the studio with me tonight Dean Charles G. Maphis of the University of Virginia. Dean Maphis is head of the Institute of Public Affairs, which each year holds nationally important round-table discussions of world problems. This summer Dean Maphis, and his University of Virginia colleagues, are staging a particularly ambitious program for the Institute of Public Affairs.

Dean Maphis, what is your slant on the present diplomatic flare-up in Europe?

Dean Maphis:- It seems to me that it's one of those inevitable things. The problem of a re-armed Germany had to be faced some-time. I have recently been talking to Dr. McElroy, the American professor at Oxford, England, who will head our round-table on the Problems of Reconstruction. He says that the events that have followed the World War are pretty much the same as those that followed other great struggles. And he points to the Napoleonic Wars and our own Civil War.



L.T.:- You mean that pretty much the same thing occurred in the case of each of those wars?

Dean Maphis:- Precisely. Take the economic trends after the Napoleonic Wars, and more especially -- after our own Civil War. We had a boom and a depression a good deal like our boom and depression after the World War.

L.T.:- And do the similarities hold good in international politics too?

Dean Maphis:- Yes, the victor is always tempted to bear down too hard on the vanquished. Napoleon tried to keep Prussia down, and disarmed. In our own Civil War, the North imposed a harsh peace on the South. The attempt to keep the South suppressed did not succeed in the end. It led to all sorts of disturbances and to a series of political evils that lasted for many years. In the case of the World War, it's the same story with Germany. The statesmen of the world ought to study more thoroughly the history of other times.

L.T.:- I suppose we all should, Doctor, compare our time with

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other times. And also, compare our land with other lands.

Take for example those two riots -- one in New York and the other in northwestern India. In both cases a trivial incident leads to a wild outbreak.

In India it was the case of a procession. The procession went marching against the Hindus. In a wild fit of fanaticism they were going to stage a massacre of the Hindus. British troops intervened and then followed a desperate battle with troops opening fire and the Mohammedans retreating - killed and wounded on all sides.

In New York the trivial incident was that of a negro boy who tried to steal a ten-cent article in the store. The store employees caught him, he struggled, there was a small scuffle. And the next thing you know a crowd of white employees had wrecked the place. Agitators, black and white, started the report that the negro boy had been badly treated.

Trivial incident however the case was a fierce drive along the street, by mere chance. It was nothing to do with the incident, but the word spread among the negroes that the boy had

## RIOTS

In India it was some unfavorable remark made by a Hindu about the Prophet Mohammed. A Moslem took it as an insult to his religion and killed the Hindu. He was tried for murder and hanged. His fellow Mohammedan tribesmen hailed him as a martyr, dug up his body and carried it in a procession. The procession went marching against the Hindus. In a wild flare of fanaticism they were going to stage a massacre of the Hindus. British troops intervened and then followed a desperate scene with troops opening fire and the Mohammedan rioters falling - killed and wounded on all sides.

In New York the trivial incident was that of a negro boy who tried to steal a ten cent knife in the Five and Ten. The store employees caught him. He struggled. There was a small scuffle. And the next thing you know a crowd of negro customers had wrecked the place. Agitators, black and white, circulated the report that the negro boy had been badly beaten.

Trivial incident Number Two came when a hearse drove along the street, by mere chance. It had nothing to do with the trouble, but the word spread among the negroes that the boy had

been killed and that the hearse was coming for him. And the next thing you know a regular race war was on, with fighting, stoneing, stabbing and shooting all over New York's Harlem. And the situation is still steaming and stewing.

Today New York's District Attorney is threatening drastic action against Communist agitators, who are accused of having taken advantage of a petty event to stir up a violent outbreak of race hatred.

## INCOME

It'd five days since income tax day, but the government has already given out the figures. Let's study them for a moment. There's one reason why this year's March collections might be expected to be less than those of March a year ago. This year there was a tax deduction of ten percent on net earned incomes up. But the tax total says "no decrease." It's the other way round. There's an increase of twenty-nine per cent over March a year ago.

The totals read this way: A year ago the March collection was a hundred and forty-eight million dollars. This year the figure at the moment is a hundred and ninety-one million dollars, to which fifty-five million more is to be added. This is in the form of checks and money orders which have been received by the government but have not yet been deposited and cleared. So the total comes to some Two hundred and forty-six million.

Naturally, there's jubilation in Washington over the twenty-nine per cent increase. Speaker Byrnes of the House of Representatives broke into enthusiastic comment when he saw the figures.

"We're out of the depression," he grinned. "As soon as business men find that out, our troubles will be over."

MINE

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Over in Wales they're opening a mine, and it will be one of the most extraordinary operations in the history of men that dig in the black pits. Last September we heard of that Welsh coal mine disaster in which two hundred and sixty-five men lost their lives. An explosion in the pit, and they were trapped! Since then the mine has remained closed. It has been too dangerous for men to venture to descend into the wrecked pit twenty-five hundred feet below the surface of the earth. It's a task that has required the most peculiar and extensive preparations. A party of men, volunteers all, have been training for weeks, ~~in preparation~~ for their grim task. They have been practicing in full life-saving equipment, with special gas masks. A replica of the mine shaft has been built, and it has been cluttered up with debris such as is likely to be encountered in the devastated pit.

The reconstructed shaft was filled with poisoned mine fumes and was heated to the suffocating intensity likely to be encountered below. And into it the men have gone in repeated practice, familiarizing themselves with the perils they are going to encounter in the actual shaft pit below the earth. A squad of

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doctors are in readiness. A special diet is prescribed for the crew, as if they were about to undergo a dangerous operation.

That's the way they are going about the desperate task of reopening the tragic mine.

There is an unusual flair of interest in flowers this year. The International Flower Show at Grand Central Palace drew twenty-seven thousand people on the opening day. And the suite of the blessed enthusiasts have been throwing a series of parties at the Waldorf-Astoria. The Garden Club of America has been turning the dining hall of the stately Waldorf into a riot of the fragrance of flowers.

Amid the blossoming displays, you will find a tiny flower, the mustard plant. I was told that this is one of the most important flowers of all - because no mustard plant, no mustard pictures. Movie films must have gelatin, gelatin comes from cows, but a cow, in order to produce good gelatin, must have plenty of mustard plant in her diet. So, without the humble mustard plant, we would have no life stars. That a calamity!



## FLOWERS

And now about roses, violets, gardenias, azaleas, daffodils - and mustard. No, you don't put mustard on the gardenias. But just the same, mustard is an interesting theme at the Flower Show, the humble mustard plant.

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Amid the blooming displays, you will find a tiny flower, the mustard plant. I was told that this is one of the most important flowers of all - because no mustard plant, no motion pictures. Movie films must have gelatine. Gelatine comes from cows. But a cow, in order to produce good gelatine, must have plenty of mustard plant in her diet. So, without the humble mustard plant, we would have no film stars. What a calamity!

And -- SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.