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RUSSIA IS ENIGMATIC

speculation Still as to What Heavy Movements of Troops Towards Roumania and Esthonia May Mean

LONDON, Sept. 27. (CP)—Intention of Soviet Russia towards Roumania's Bessarabia, which was Russian before the last war, and towards Esthonia on the Gulf of Finland continued to arouse speculation as the Red Army of occupation in Poland reached the demarcation lines arranged with Germany.

It is understood that large numbers of Soviet troops are marching toward the recently increased frontier with Roumania. The best unofficial estimates set the Russian army strength in the Roumanian Sector at about forty divisions either near the frontier or enroute to it.

It was believed that Russia has over one hundred divisions on the western front of Esthonia. The Esthonia government, however, denied last night reports of Russians massing on their frontier. Russia has charged Esthonia with harboring enemy submarines and thus menacing the security of Soviet waters which Moscow demands must be preserved. It is alleged that Esthonia permitted at least one Polish submarine to escape.

Special privileges are being demanded by Russia in Gulf of Finland and Baltic Sea waters.

Last Rites For Floyd Gibbons

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 27.—Following arrival here of the body from Strassburg, Pennsylvania where the famous war correspondent and commentator died at the first of the week, funeral services for the late Floyd Gibbons were held here today with rites of the Roman Catholic Church. Interment was made in Mount Olivet Cemetery.



SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and enclosed Tender for supply and installation of heating system, R. C. N. V. R. Building, Prince Rupert, B. C., will be received until 12 o'clock noon, Thursday, October 12, 1939, for the supply and installation of a low pressure heating system in the R.C.N.V.R. Building on the Canadian National Wharf at Prince Rupert, B.C.

Plans and specifications can be seen and forms of tender obtained at the offices of the Chief Architect, Department of Public Works, Ottawa, the Resident Architect, Post Office Building, Victoria, B.C., the Caretaker, Post Office Building, Vancouver, B.C. and the Caretaker, Post Office Building, Prince Rupert, B.C.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on the forms supplied by the Department and in accordance with the conditions set forth therein.

Each tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque on a chartered bank in Canada, payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, equal to 10 percent of the amount of the tender, or Bearer Bonds of the Dominion of Canada or of the Canadian National Railway Company and its constituent companies, unconditionally guaranteed as to principal and interest by the Dominion of Canada, or the aforementioned bonds and a certified cheque if required to make up an odd amount.

By order,
J. M. SOMERVILLE, Secretary,
Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, September 21, 1939.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE ELI GREEN, DECEASED, Intendant of the Post Estington band, intestate.

Take Notice that by virtue of authority of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, I was appointed administrator of the estate of Eli Green, deceased Indian of Post Estington band in the Province of British Columbia.

All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to furnish same properly verified to me on or before the thirtieth day of September, and all parties indebted to the estate are required to state their indebtedness to me forthwith.

J. GILLET, Indian Agent.

TENDERS INVITED

Anglican Synod of Caledonia. Tenders are invited for the building of the Motor Launch "Western Hope" also for a suitable marine engine (installed). These two tenders to be submitted separately. Specifications, plans and full particulars can be had at the Ward Electric & Marine Supply Company, Cow Bay.

All tenders to be submitted to C. V. Eviatt, Synod Office, Prince Rupert, B.C., marked "Mission Boat Tender," not later than Saturday, October 7th, 1939, the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

PIN IS HIS REWARD FOR 20 YEARS OF SAFE DRIVING



For driving 20 years without an accident, J. Beckwith, left, was presented with a barpin by the Duke of Kent at a Safety First congress held in London, England. The National Safety First association started a competition in safe driving, the best at the end of two decades to receive an award. Beckwith, a bus driver, and 20 others completed the 20 years with perfect slates and received their awards at the congress.

Drama Of West Front

Military Experts Agree Break-Through by Either Side is All But Impossible

FRENCH ARMY STRONGER

German Army Has Never Caught Up Lack of Training of Conscript Classes

Written for the Canadian Press

By J. F. B. LIVESAY

LONDON, September 27. (CP)—In the last war the decision was reached on the West Front. It was there the enemy was pinned down and bled to death. True, there was the stranglehold of the blockade. And our success in the minor theatres one by one stripped him of his allies, of Turkey, of Bulgaria and of Austro-Hungary. But in a

military sense he did not crack till his armies were beaten in Flanders, on the Aisne, the Meuse and the Moselle. In that final victory the Canadian Corps led the van.

Now, the West Front is a doubly-fortified line from the Alps to the North Sea. What prospect is there of a break-through by either side? Is the present French assault a strictly limited liability program designed to relieve pressure on Poland or has it a real prospect of driving in a wedge? Time only will show. But it is interesting to hear what military critics have to say about it.

In his recent book, "The Defence of Britain," Capt. Liddell Hart says in effect it (a break through) can't be done, and if it could, it would not be worth while because it would leave the victor exhausted: "The difficulty of a 'knock-out blow' is greatly increased by the modern superiority of defence over attack. That is already established on land, where all recent experience goes to show that an attacker needs at least a three to one superiority in armament in order to gain even a local success. And now in the air, also, the defence appears to be overtaking the advantage that the attacker formerly enjoyed."

"Thus, in sum, the soldier's dream of the lightning war has a decreasing prospect of fulfillment."

Mechanized Reinforcement

He goes on to say: "Today a German offensive against the French frontier would be met by the Rhine and the Maginot Line, whose resisting power is enhanced by the mechanized rapidity of reinforcement. An attempt to make a renewed sidestep through Belgium would have to overcome not only the modern superiority of the defence, but a series of waterlines which are a serious obstacle to the mechanized forces on which the chances of a rapid advance would largely depend. The alternative detour through Switzerland would have to overcome still more obstacles."

So he concludes that the possibility of a serious German offensive in the West becomes more than doubtful. He goes on to say that a Western offensive looks no more promising for France: "I can imagine nothing the Germans would appreciate better—as an opportunity to set a trap and inflict a disaster worse than the French suffered in 1914—the disaster that nearly lost the Battle of the Marne."

Short War Improbable
Fresh light on the problem of

system of conscription."

On the other hand, owing to the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, the German military classes from 1901 to 1914, did not take part in a training on the same level as was customary in Germany before the war, and in France both before and after. Since Hitler came into power these neglected classes have been called up for short-term training but cannot be considered in the same category as the classes that on reaching their 20th birthday are trained for two years. So he concludes: "The German Reich has at its disposal scarcely more than 1,500,000 men who have taken part in a thorough two-year training, in comparison with the 5,000,000 France possesses."

"A modern war will be even more a struggle of machines than was the last war," he says. "The soldier will be presented with extra-

ordinarily complicated tasks, the performance of which demands exact and precisely worked out training which is unobtainable in a short course."

The lack of the necessary number of officers and non-commissioned officers for the essential cadres makes the situation worse, for the German, excellent soldier that he is, needs to be well led.

So Dr. Lajos agrees with Liddell Hart that prospects of a lightning war are poor. And he quotes Stephen Possony, the military authority: "If we suppose an equal economic and moral strength of both opponents, a quick victory is out of the question, or, in other words, defence becomes the decisive factor, and the blockade the principal weapon."

He proceeds to a careful analysis of German military and economic resources. But his conclusions are largely vitiated by the subsequently concluded Russo-German agreement.

If we could put ourselves 25 or 30 years distant, free of the prejudices and predilections of the moment, we would perhaps see September 1939 as the opening phase of an extraordinarily interesting drama about to be played out on the West Front.



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"A Sweet Cap would go even better!"

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Woolcot Blankets—Part wool, sateen bound. 56x80. Each \$1.95
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All Wool Grey Blankets—Size 60x80. Weight 7 lbs. Pair \$4.95
White Blankets—Super quality white wool. Pastel borders. Size 72x84. Weight 7 lbs., pair \$8.95

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Trains leave Prince Rupert for the East Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6 p.m.

Steamer for Ketchikan and Stewart every WEDNESDAY, 2 p.m.

For fares, etc., call or write City Ticket Office, 528 3rd Ave.



Whifflets

From The Waterfront

In port from 3:30 to 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon southbound from Skagway to Vancouver, C. P. R. steamer Princess Louise, Capt. S. K. Gray, had on board a total of 106 passengers of whom fourteen disembarked at this port. Four persons took passage from here for the south on the vessel.

Hallibut sales at Seattle yesterday totalled 48,500 pounds and were

as follows: Yaquina, 23,000 pounds, San Juan, 12c; Angelus, 19,000, Sebastian, 12 1/2c and 12c; Forward, 1500, 13c.

Weather Forecast

General Synopsis—The pressure continues high off the British Columbia coast and is relatively low over the interior.

West Coast of Vancouver Island—Fresh to strong west winds, cloudy and cool with showers.

Mr. and Mrs. William Reid, who have been on a holiday visit to Vancouver, returned to the city from the south on the Prince Rupert this morning.

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USE FOR

HEAD COLDS
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