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DAILY EDITION Tuesday, May 20, 1941.

EDITORIAL

Preliminary Invasion - - -

As a sort of practice invasion the Germans are trying to take Crete, the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. The island is about as far from German bases in Greece and Italy as England is from the Channel ports or German and Scandinavian ports. In the invasion, the first of its kind the world has known, Germany evidently expects to learn a number of lessons. Troops are being conveyed by air and by sea but the people of Crete are not as well prepared as will be the people of Britain. It is important as an object lesson and Britain as well as Germany will have much to learn from its success or failure.

Canada's Financial Position - - -

"The war will inevitably add to Canada's national debt," says the Toronto Star.

"A substantial part of the old debt has been refinanced of recent years at greatly decreased interest rates.

"As a result of this refinancing, the interest amounting to $139,239,000 which was paid in 1940-41 was actually a little less than the interest paid on the much smaller dept of 1920-21, when Canada was a weaker and smaller nation.

"The Dominion therefore entered this war with its national debt in good shape. Great War bonds exempt from income tax are all paid off, and income from these is now subject to taxation. More than 85 per cent of the Dominion's debt is payable in Canada.

"Canada is a rich country; her people a prosperous people with living standards such as are unknown to the countries of Europe. If the present heavy taxation which is designed to put the war as nearly on a pay-as-you-go basis as possible lowers these living standards to some extent, it is a sacrifice which Canadians will willingly make. Most of them will still be better off than Europeans have been even in peacetime. And no sacrifice can be too great for the preservation of democracy."

Religion Is Dragged In - - -

"From the National Broadcasting Corporation's foreign correspondent, William Hillman, comes a novel reason why Rudolf Hess flew to Britain to see the Duke of Hamilton. This well-known radio commentator—who has just returned from Europe—says the former No. 3 Nazi is a member of the Oxford Group Movement and fled the Reich 'to confess his sins and mistakes and help put an end to the slaughter of men.' Mr. Hillman elaborates:

"Just before the war broke out, Dr. Buchman, whose Oxford Movement had swept England like an old-fashioned religious revival, went to Germany. There he met many prominent Nazi leaders—among them Hess. Hess has now come to plead for peace. He has told the British that he has finally got religion."

The Victoria Times says: "Probably the foregoing is as good as some of the other explanations that already have been given to the public. But if wa were in Rudolf's shoes we should feel inclined to hesitate before offering this reason for his bolt from the Nazi realm to, say, Mr. Churchill or Mr. Bevin. While the head of the British government is maintaining a discreet silence—as his position demands—until he is in possession of more information, his Minister of Labor let himself go in language which even the most unsophisticated victim of emotionalism would not fail to understand. Mr. Bevin regards Herr Hess as just a common or garden murderer whom he figuratively cursed 'with book and bell and candle.' Quite right.

"Dragging Dr. Buchman into this fantastic comedy, whether it be a comedy of errors or a sinister plot emanating from a disordered mind, would seem to us to be especially unfortunate in more than one respect. We do not know what this pseudo-crusader is thinking about the world condition or the part the head of the Nazi state is playing but we have not forgotten that it was none other than Buchman who said: 'Thank God for a man like Adolf Hitler who will stand against the anti-Christ of Communism.'" Most normal folk will be excused if they suggest Mr. Hillman is drawing the 'long bow.' And there are conversions—and conversions."

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HITLER'S BROKEN PLEDGES

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Poland

January 26, 1934—Hitler's government signed with the Polish government a 10-year Pact of Non-Aggression, Hitler's communique stating that both countries "should renounce the use of force in their mutual relations."

January 30, 1934—Hitler: "Whatever may be the differences between the two countries in the future, an attempt to remove them by warlike actions would have disastrous effects which would bear no relation to any possible gain." (Documents on International Affairs, 1934, Page 324.)

May 21, 1935— Hitler (to the Reichstag): "We recognize, with the understanding and the heartfelt friendship of true Nationalists, the Polish State as the home of a great, nationally-conscious people. The German Reich, and, in particular, the present German government, have no other wish than to live on friendly and peaceable terms with all neighboring States." (British War Blue Book, Page 3.)

March 7, 1936—Hitler (to the Reichstag): "I would like the German people to understand the inner motives of National Socialist foreign policy, which finds it painful that the outlet to the sea of a people of 35 millions is situated on territory formerly belonging to the Reich, but which recognizes that it is unreasonable and impossible to deny a State of such a size as this any outlet to the sea at all." (British War Blue Book, Page 3.)

February 20, 1938—Hitler (to the Reichstag): ". . . this most dangerous spot from the point of view of European peace has entirely lost its menacing character. The Polish State respects the national conditions in this State, and both the city of Danzig and Germany respect Polish rights." (British War Blue Book, Page 4.)

September 26, 1938—Hitler (in the Berlin Sportpalast): "We are all convinced that this agreement will bring lasting pacification. We realize that these are two peoples which must live together, and neither of which can do away with the other. A people of 33 millions will always strive for an outlet to the sea. It was a real work of peace." (British War Blue Book, Page 5.)

April 28, 1939— Hitler (to the Reichstag): said he had proposed to Poland (1) Return of Danzig as a Free State into the framework of the German Reich; (2) Germany to receive a route through the Corridor, possessing the same extraterritorial status for Germany as the Corridor itself has for Poland. This offer having been rejected, he denounced the ten-year non-aggression pact of 1934.

August 25, 1939— Anglo-Polish Agreement of Mutual Assistance signed.

September 1, 1939—Hitler (to the Reichstag, announcing annexation of Danzig and the invasion of Poland): "I will not war against women and children. I have ordered my air force to restrict itself to attacks on military objectives." The same day, Hitler's air force bombed open towns in Poland in defiance of international law and in spite of Hitler's pledge.

September 26, 1939— Gauleiter Greiser (in a speech to Nazi youth): "The German who goes East goes as master of the land. The Pole is his servant. Go there, German youth, go where the battle is to the strong. Sieg Heil" (Deutschlandsender)

September 29, 1939— Germany signed a pact with U.S.S.R., partitioning Poland.

Denmark

May 31, 1939—Hitler's government virtually compelled Denmark to sign a treaty of non-aggression, whose first article ran: "The German Reich and the Kingdom of Denmark will in no circumstances resort to war or to any other form of violence against each other." (The Times, June 1, 1939.)

October 6, 1939—Hitler (to the Reichstag): "We have concluded with Denmark a treaty of non-aggression. Our relations with that country are therefore aimed at an unalterably loyal and friendly collaboration." (The Times, October 7 1939.)

April 9, 1940—Just because Denmark offered an easy "Bridge" to Norway, Hitler ordered it invaded.

Norway

April, 1939—Hitler offered Norway a pact of non-aggression.

October 6, 1939— Hitler (to the Reichstag): "Germany has never had any conflicting interests with the Nordic States, nor has she any today. Sweden and Norway were both offered non-aggression treaties by Germany, but they rejected them because they thought that they were not threatened in any way." (The Times, October 7, 1939.)

April 9, 1940—Hitler's army and air force entered Norway.

April 10, 1940—"Germany's action in Scandinavia indicates her genuine desire to maintain the neutrality of the neutrals, and her determination not to infringe the territorial integrity and the political independence of Norway and Denmark now or in the future." (Broadcast from Bremen.)

The Low Countries

January 30, 1937—Hitler (to the Reichstag): "The German government has assured Belgium and Holland that it is ready to recognize and guarantee these States as neutral regions in perpetuity." (Documents on International Affairs, 1937, Page 186.)

August 26, 1939—The Reich Minister at The Hague informed Queen Wilhelmina that Germany would in no circumstances cease to respect the inviolability and integrity of the Netherlands, provided that the Netherlands maintained a strict neutrality. The German Ambassador in Brussels gave a similar assurance to the King of the Belgians.

October 6, 1939— Hitler (to the Reichstag): "The New Reich has endeavoured to continue the traditional German friendship with Holland. It has neither found any existing differences in that state, nor created any new ones. As soon as I took over the government I tried immediately to create friendly relations with Belgium. I renounced any revision and any wish for revision. The Reich has raised no demands likely to be considered a threat to Belgium." (The Times, October 7, 1939.)

May 9, 1940—"The Reich government declares that Germany has no intention of touching the sovereignty and kingdom of the Netherlands or Belgium, either with regard to their European or Colonial possessions, now or in the future." (Nazi Memorandum to the Belgium government.)

May 10, 1940—Hitler sent his army and air force into Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg, and opened one of the most shocking chapters in history.

France

December 6, 1938—Von Ribbentrop arrived in Paris to conclude a peace pact with France, recognizing that there were no territorial questions outstanding and that the frontier line as then established was final.

August 25, 1939—Hitler (in conversation with Sir Nevile Henderson): The Fuehrer renewed his assurances that he is not interested in Western problems and that a frontier modification in the West does not enter into consideration. Western fortifications which have been constructed at a cost of milliards were final Reich frontier on the West." (British War Book, Page 157.)

September 1, 1939—Hitler (to the Reichstag): "The Neutral States have assured us of their neutrality, just as we had already guaranteed it to them. When statesmen in the West declare that this (invasion of Poland) affects their interests, I can only regret such a declaration. I have solemnly assured them, and I repeat it, that we ask nothing of those Western States and never will ask anything. The frontier between France and Germany is a final one. Germany has no interests in the west, and our western wall is for all time the frontier of the Reich on the West." (British War Blue Book, Page 210.)

May 13, 1940—Hitler advanced into France.

Alsace-Lorraine

January 31, 1940— "Alsace does not exist for us. We renounce all claims in Alsace-Lorraine." (German Broadcast in French.)

July 18, 1940— "Alsace is pushed back to its natural lebenstraum, the German Reich." (Strassburger Neueste Nachrichten.)

September 21, 1940— "Lorraine has always been German, although at times the French succeeded in repressing German traditions." (Gauleiter Burchel, at Metz.)

Britain

May 21, 1935—Hitler said he would co-operate for world peace, if Germany had an equality of rights.

June 18, 1935 — Anglo-German Naval Agreement signed.

January 30, 1937—Hitler: "The day of political surprises is over."

September 30, 1938—Hitler promised Anglo-German peace, known as the Munich Peace Pact. "We are resolved that the method of consultation shall be the method adopted to deal with any other question that may concern our two countries."

April 28, 1939—Hitler (to the Reichstag): "Since England today, both by the press and officially, upholds the view that Germany should be opposed under all circumstances, and confirms this by the policy of encirclement known to us, the basis for the Naval Treaty has been removed. I have therefore resolved to send today a communication to this effect to the British government." (British War Blue Book, Page 67.)

April 28, 1939— Hitler (to the Reichstag): "The only claim I have ever made and shall continue to make, on England is that for a return of our colonies. But I always made it very clear that this would never become the cause of a military conflict." (British War Blue Book, Page 67.)

August 23, 1939—Hitler (in letter to Chamberlain): "Germany has never had the intention of taking military measures other than those of a defensive character against England or France, and has never intended, and does not in the future intend, to attack England or France." (British War Blue Book, Page 134.)

August 28, 1939—British reply to above: "The German government will be aware that His Majesty's government have obligations to Poland by which they are bound and which they intend to honor. They could not, for any advantage offered to Great Britain, acquiesce in a settlement which put in jeopardy the independence of a state to whom they have given their guarantee." (British War Blue Book, Page 163.) To which Sir Nevile Henderson added; in conversation with Hitler: Hitler wanted Britain's friendship. What value would he place on our friendship if we began it by disloyalty to a friend? (British War Blue Book, Page 167.)

September 3, 1939—Britain and France declared a state of war existed between them and Germany, by reason of Germany's unprovoked attack upon Poland.

Roosevelt's Peace Apeal

April 28, 1939— Hitler (to the Reichstag) replying to Mr. Roosevelt's personal appeal of April 15, in which the President asked for Hitler's assurance that his armed forces would not attack or invade Finland, Esthonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, Great Britain and Eire, France, Portugal (Spain, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Poland, Hungary, Roumania, Yugoslavia, Russia, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Iraq, the Arabias, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and Iran: I have polled certain neighboring countries as to whether they felt themselves menaced by Germany, and "their reply was in all cases negative—in some cases strongly so." Hitler added that Germany was nevertheless prepared to give each of them an assurance of the kind desired by Mr. Roosevelt, provided the state asked for such an assurance "together with appropriate proposals." (Bulletin of International News, Vol. XVI., No. 9, May 6, 1939, Page 12.)

And Here is Their Fate—

Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania—Thrown to Hitler's Russian confederate, except for Memel, which he wanted himself and seized on March 22, 1939. (Estonia and Latvia had pacts of friendship with Germany dated June 7, 1926.)

Sweden—Menaced into betraying her best friends.

Norway and Denmark—Invaded and conquered, April 9, 1940.

The Netherlands, Luxembourg and Belgium—Invaded, open cities bombed unmercifully and conquered, May 10, 1940.

Great Britain—Attacked by air continuously.

France—Invaded May 13, 1940, and conquered.

Poland— Invaded savagely and conquered, September 1, 1939.

Hungary— Reduced to a vassal state.

Roumania—A vassal state, occupied by German troops.

Bulgaria and Russia—Partners in crime.

Greece—Invaded by Hitler's ally, October 28, 1940, backed by Hitler's men. Overrun by German troops respite heroic resistance.

Egypt—Attacked by Hitler's ally, September 13, 1940, backed by Hitler's planes.

Yugoslavia — Overwhelmed by Nazi troops.

December 10, 1940— Hitler: "Where the German soldier stands no other soldier will ever set his foot. No power in the world will ever be able to dislodge us from the occupied territories." (Talking Points, December 11, Page 1.)

Pledges Not Yet Broken—

ITALY

May 3, 1938—Hitler (visiting Rome): The frontier line in the Brenner is eternal.

May 22, 1939—In Berlin, in presence of Hitler, the German-Italo Political and Military Alliance was signed.

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