

Washington, D. C. BRITISH WEST INDIES

Within a two hour plane flight of the Panama canal lies the British island of Jamaica, which is 99 per cent black and 100 per cent restive.

Jamaican Negroes have never been prosperous, but this year has been unusually bad. The cane crop was a failure, the banana crop was ruined by a hurricane, and on top of this, word is being passed around among the Negroes that their misery would disappear under German rule.

As a result, British authorities, practically deserted by the home government, are keeping a watchful eye on their arsenal.

Unrest in Jamaica would create a double problem for the United States and the other American republics. Roosevelt has already warned European dictators that he will tolerate no change of sovereignty in this hemisphere.

Note—Jamaica's harbor, Kingston, is one of the finest in the West Indies and just 600 miles from the Panama canal. At the beginning of the war, Britain held in this harbor a convoy fleet of 70 ships.

Changing Attitude.

Confidential reports cabled back to the state department show that the French people have become bitter not only toward Great Britain but against the United States.

Sentiment has been so vitriolic that it was the subject of a conversation held by Ambassador Tony Biddle, who substituted for Bullitt in Bordeaux. Sumner Welles also mentioned it a little sadly to the French ambassador in Washington.

The French simply cannot understand why the British and Americans did not come to their aid. Only their men were killed, their country destroyed, and their prisoners are now seen marching behind German guards.

Another effect has been a change of feeling in France toward the Germans. Frenchmen, especially in Paris, are beginning to say: "Well, after all we are Europeans, so let's be Europeans. To... with the Anglo-Saxons. They can't be depended upon. Maybe the Germans are not so bad, after all."

This attitude has been helped by the excellent behavior of the Nazis in Paris. There are almost no troops on the street. Nazis have kept out of sight, and the arrests made by Herr Himmler's Gestapo have been done very quietly.

Meanwhile, some of the French newspapers, obviously coked up by Nazi subsidies, have begun a terrific attack upon the British, together with a campaign to educate the French people regarding the better qualities of the Germans.

The French are still inclined to look upon their conquerors as Germans, not as members of the National Socialist party. Few Frenchmen seem to realize that this is a revolution, not a war, and that Hitler is conquering Europe for National Socialism, which has made more far-reaching changes in the capitalist system than Russian Communism.

Hitler's Tactics.

It has become increasingly obvious that the smartest thing Hitler did was to knock off the countries of Europe one at a time instead of permitting them to gang up on him.

When Hitler took Czechoslovakia, for instance, the Poles were encouraged to take a small piece of Czech territory. Then after they had taken it, Hitler took back the little piece of Czechoslovakia plus one-half of Poland.

One reason Hitler was able to take Poland was that he promised Russia the other half. And now Stalin, realizing his own peril, is frantically defending his Polish-Baltic border.

One year ago, talking to American diplomats in Berlin, Nazi leaders made no secret of their intention to employ the same strategy in the Western hemisphere; in other words, to isolate the United States from Britain and France, then provoke revolutions in South America and take those countries away two and three at a time.

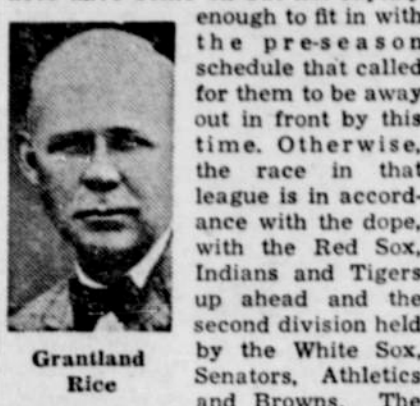
MERRY-GO-ROUND

Erudite Senator Wagner of New York is the author of most New Deal labor legislation, but his choice diversion away from the senate is strictly top-hat. He is the senate's leading grand opera fan; buys a season ticket for the Metropolitan every year.

Senator Josh Lee of Oklahoma is not only one of the senate's most accomplished orators, but also is a hot wild West movie fan. Three nights a week he takes in a ride-embowboy thriller at a 15-cent cinema.

AS THEY SWING THROUGH JUNE

BASEBALL form still is somewhat muddled as the major league teams swing along. In the National league, the Reds and the Dodgers are holding up, but the Cardinals, heavy pennant choice in some sectors when the spring predictions were under way, lag so badly that if they are not already out of the race they are teetering on the verge.



Grantland Rice

In the American league the Yankees have come on but not rapidly enough to fit in with the pre-season schedule that called for them to be away out in front by this time. Otherwise, the race in that league is in accordance with the dope, with the Red Sox, Indians and Tigers up ahead and the second division held by the White Sox, Senators, Athletics and Browns.

The Browns, it seems, have had their splurge and from now on not much is likely to be heard from them. One of the main surprises has been offered by the Giants who, after a bad start, have moved up into the running. At the outset, the Giants didn't look any better than they did at the finish of the 1939 campaign.

They still don't look as if they might sneak through and grab the pennant. But they do loom as a threat to the Reds and Dodgers, between whom the pennant seems to lie. They can make a lot of trouble for those teams. Unable—or so it appears—to win themselves, they can have something to say about who does win.

The Reds naturally are favored. They moved back briskly from their collapse against the Yankees last fall, lost little time taking over the lead and have played at a steady gait most of the way.

The Dodgers have exceeded the expectations of Larry MacPhail and almost met those of the Brooklyn fans. Larry said in the early spring he didn't think the Dodgers would be as good as they were last year, while the fans claimed the pennant.

And, of course, they remain the most exciting team in baseball. A Quick Comeback The robustness of the Dodgers' spirit was emphasized by the manner in which they threw off the effects of the loss of those two games to the Giants on Memorial day.

That, it must be remembered, was more than just the loss of a doubleheader. It was a bitter, humiliating and total defeat suffered on the home grounds at the hands of a hated enemy and with all the fans who possibly could be packed into Ebbets field looking on. It was enough to have thrown them off their stride for a couple of weeks at least, but they bounced right back from it as only a thoroughly game outfit could.

Once more Leo Durocher is demonstrating his skill as manager as he guides the Dodgers past bumps such as that defeat by the Giants and the loss of Pee Wee Reese. The Brooklyn players—and this is one of their main sources of strength—think he is the greatest manager the game ever knew.

The Yankees, though they have lagged, may be on their way at last—not yet with the smoothness that is characteristic of them—but in a fashion that makes them still look like a fair bet to smash precedence and win a fifth pennant in a row. They have got over their bewilderment, brought on by early season setbacks, and are hitting again. In Marvin Breuer—they have the best first-year pitcher in either league. They have had days recently such as they usually have at their peak.

The Red Sox, holding first place, aren't going to be overhauled easily. Even the Yankees know that. Cleveland, with Bob Feller swinging along and a fine second-base combination in Mack and Boudreau, and Detroit, with a lot of power, are dangerous, too. The White Sox are going to be troublesome from time to time—as they were last week, when they took two games out of three from the Yankees—but they scarcely are contenders and the rest of the clubs do not matter, either.

That's the way it looks as the teams roll through these weeks.

WHY A FRENCH ROUT?

"Something is rotten in the state of Denmark"—and now perhaps, in France. Not enough facts have come out of that stricken country to give even a shadowy opinion of what it is. But, regardless of the undoubted superiority of the German strength in guns and equipment and giving due regard to the crushing power of the new mechanized and motorized equipment, the collapse of all French resistance in so short a time simply can't be explained except by soft spots in the French command.

The territory over which this headlong rout took place is unlike many areas of campaign. It has been a path of conquest and a battleground since the beginning of recorded history. Every hill and fold of ground is known. Its military strength or weakness proved over and over again, its features mapped in intimate detail, not only on paper but in the minds of every competent officer in France.

The French army, except in the air and as to some classes of equipment, was very strong. In its complement of highly trained professional soldiers, many with war experience, it was much stronger than the German army.

Some of our amateur military commentators say that the key to the puzzle is mistaken French reliance on the fixed fortifications of the Maginot line and that the campaign proves such lines worthless. That is wrong. There was no assault here until that line was outflanked and taken from the rear. The Germans built and successfully relied on the somewhat different fortifications of the Siegfried line. It is true that this aspect of the case shows a terrible blunder. But the blunder was solely in relying on Belgium and other nations to the north and leaving the left flank of that line bare to assault as the "paunch of the pursuer's sow."

Then here is an added lesson for us—among dozens of others in this war. In this double-crossing, treaty-breaking, lying world, no nation can risk its existence on any other or on anything but the strength of its own right arm and the courage, unity, loyalty and devotion of its own people.

But, even with all that said, we are left still groping for the cause of this complete collapse. For one thing, it shows the weakness of any democracy not based on a two-party system. There were more than 20 parties in the Reichstag—and in came Hitler. There were several in France—and in came Hitler through another and bloodier door.

The principal cause of French weakness is beginning to seem to be its half-and-half division in both its army and its legislature between men with Communist and men with Fascist leanings. There is as yet no news of outright treachery but it is hard to explain the mushiness of French defense on any other basis.

There is a third and false conclusion for us that is being preached by some of my columnar colleagues, and it is pure poison. It is that this war proves that democracies won't work in war, with an implication that we should forget this election, give autocratic authority to the power-seeking group of incompetents in Washington and perpetuate Hopkins, Morgenthau, Perkins, and Ickes to stumble, fumble and blunder us into war and they to run it for us.

We proved in 1918 that our democracy could out-Hitler any German in war efficiency, but you've got to have competent leaders to do it. There is much also to be learned from the astonishing, almost miraculous, German teamwork as between fifth columns, air, armored and mechanized land battleships and close following masses of old fashioned infantry. But to swallow that whole for our defense would be as stupid as to return to the World War for all our lessons.

PARIS BELONGS TO WORLD In a sense Paris belongs to the world and nobody wanted to see it a mass of smoking ruins. In cold military science, neither the capture nor retention of a city is of primary importance except as that city may be of strong defensive or economic value.

Failure to see this point clearly has cost more lives and lost more campaigns than any other single hoary blunder. For the first two years of our Civil war in the East, both the Federal and Confederate governments seemed to think that all that was necessary to win the war was to capture Richmond or Washington. In the West Grant saw the matter much more clearly. The reason he insisted on ramshackle Vicksburg was because its site controlled the Mississippi and its fall would cut the Confederacy in two.

Their Motto Is, 'Be Prepared'



Bearing posters demanding a strong national defense "to preserve the freedom won for us by the founders of our nation," these five girls, dressed in Revolutionary war soldiers' uniforms, rode up Fifth avenue, New York city, in a horse-drawn victoria, to observe the 165th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill.

War Planes Stalled by French Peace



These former U. S. army Northrup A-17-A fighting planes, destined for Canada, to be shipped to Europe, are shown at Mitchell field, L. I., where they are held pending word from the British government. The planes were for France, but the British may take them over.

Another Notch for a Nazi Flyer



Like the gunmen of America's wild west pioneer days who notched their guns for every killing, the pilot of this German fighting ship has a white stripe painted on the tail of his plane for every enemy shot down. The stripe is topped with the colors of the nationality of the vanquished pilots. This Nazi now has a "score" of eight.

More Airplanes



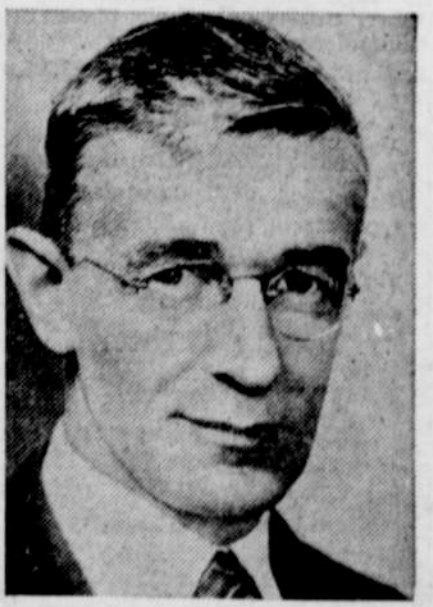
A worker at the Wright Aeronautical factory in Paterson, N. J., uses a J-6 cylinder head for a hat and comes to a salute to "mass production," as vast new plane-motor manufacturing unit is opened.

President Visits 4-H Boys and Girls



President Franklin D. Roosevelt is here shown visiting with one hundred and seventy boys and girls from forty-three states encamped at the fourteenth annual party of the 4-H clubs. The 4-H club members are, evidently, keenly enjoying this visit with the Chief. Josephus Daniels, United States ambassador to Mexico, is sitting in the car with the President.

Heads Committee



Dr. Vannevar Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, has been named to head a national defense resources committee of eight members.