

Assassinated Alexander Tyrant of Deepest Dye Says Ashland Observer

"Compared with the late King Alexander of Yugoslavia, Adolph Hitler is a dove with an olive branch," declared Gordon Claycomb last night in a talk to Ashland's service club in the Ashland hotel.

Claycomb has spent the last five years in Vienna, studying music, covering newspaper assignments in Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, making frequent trips through the smaller Balkan states.

King Broke Faith.

"The country of Yugoslavia was established after the World war with Alexander on the throne," stated Claycomb. "The king promised his people a parliamentary form of government, and concentrated all the wealth in Serbia, which he was sure would remain loyal. He realized that a revision of treaties and national boundaries was inevitable, and that it was necessary for the continuance of his reign to concentrate his power as quickly as possible.

"Exploitation is too mild a term to use. He actually robbed his people. He was known as the wealthiest monarch in the world, outside the Orient.

Built Great Palaces.

"His palaces and state buildings would do justice to a major power, such as England, France, or the United States. To build them, he robbed the people in the southern provinces, and concentrated all the wealth in Serbia, which he was sure would remain loyal. He realized that a revision of treaties and national boundaries was inevitable, and that it was necessary for the continuance of his reign to concentrate his power as quickly as possible.

"Yugoslavia has a population of some 14,500,000, four million of whom are Serbs, and ten million of whom are disident minorities, each of which desires independence. Thus, there has been a huge opposition to the policies of Alexander, who maintained himself solely through ruthlessness, military means.

Heavily Is Mottled.

"The Croats, one of the most determined of the opposition groups, vowed to get revenge after an occurrence in 1931, when their two most able leaders were assassinated on the floor of the Yugoslavian parliament. Croats then determined to kill Alexander as soon as he set foot out of the country.

"The king had many other crimes to his record, which intensified the hate felt by the Croats. People were shot down in the streets by police. Others were murdered in their homes, or in the compartments of railway trains.

Will Not Cause War.

"Results of the recent assassinations in Marseilles? It doesn't appear that anything dangerous will happen to disturb the general peace of Europe. But if Petrus Kalemien had been a Macedonian instead of a Croatian, things might be different. Macedonia is also a disident group who hated the king. Protected by Italy and Bulgaria, Yugoslavia would probably have declared war on those two countries, and France, who has spent millions in Yugoslavia in an attempt to build a "ring of steel" around Germany, would be drawn into the quarrel on the side of Yugoslavia.

In describing the general European situation—one of tense waiting — Claycomb said:

France to Blame.

"France is to blame for the situation on the continent today. Her constant fear of Germany has led her into certain policies, under the guise of building for the future. She has invested enormous sums in the governments that border on Germany, especially Poland and Czechoslovakia, besides Yugoslavia. She wanted to build an armed wall around Germany that would be under the dictatorship of France. The German reaction to this is Hitlerism.

"France couldn't expect the German race to live under such conditions, to submit to outside domination. Germany lost faith in disarmament. France was trying to make German sons suffer for the sins of their fathers, and the sons refuse to suffer silently.

Two Dangerous Crises.

"Two crises in Europe this year could have started a war—the assassinations of Chancellor Engelbert Dollfus of Austria, and of King Alexander. But the principal weapon of peace is the lack of sufficient funds in all countries.

"But the countries are picking sides now, and a war is not far off."

Returning to the Balkans, the speaker described a revolutionary organization in Yugoslavia that was almost as strong as the state. A large population of Bulgarians are violently discontented under Yugoslavian rule, and wish to return to Bulgaria.

Party Is Powerful.

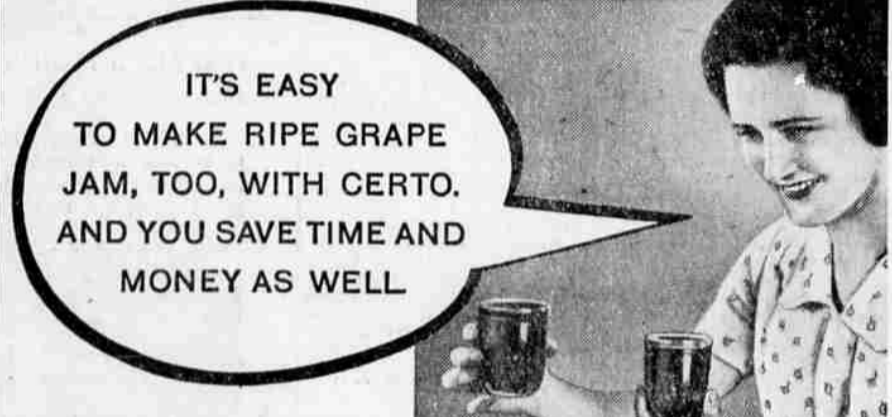
"As a result," said Claycomb, "the most powerful revolutionary organization the world has ever known has

been built. They elect their own leaders every three years, and carry on many of the functions of government. Of course, they meet with intense opposition from the nominal government. But all the members of the group would rather die than to give up the cause, and the movement remains alive, despite numerous assassinations.

"With the death of Alexander, the dictatorship has been broken. The most likely result will be the establishment of an ultimate military dictatorship.

The talk met with an enthusiastic reception, and he has been invited to continue his story of European politics at the meeting next Wednesday.

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Measure sugar and juice into large saucepan and mix. Bring to a boil over hottest fire and at once add Certo, stirring constantly. Turn bring to a full rolling boil and boil hard 15 minutes. Remove from fire, skim, pour quickly. Paraffin hot jelly at once. Makes about 11 glasses.

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Federal court gave families five weeks in which to move. The section, eight blocks long and one wide, is dotted principally with old shacks. Most of the persons in the area said they would like to move back when the project is completed.

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