

YUGOSLAVIA'S ATTITUDE SEEN BLOW TO AXIS

By DeWitt MacKenzie
Associated Press Writer

That's a striking show of resistance the Yugoslavs have been making to Hitler's demand that they join the axis against their friends.

If you exclude the crucial battle of Britain, the most important engagement of the European war at the moment is this battle of Yugoslavia, in which not a shot has been fired.

Certainly it furnishes one of the most fascinating psychological studies of the whole conflict. Almost you can read the mental processes of this great but peaceful Balkan state as she struggles with the momentous question of which road to take.

The alternative to joining the axis might be war to the death. The problem is whether to fight or not to fight.

Actually what Yugoslavia has to determine first is whether she can trust the axis promises of a future filled with milk and honey, or whether there is a menace in the Hitlerian drive down the Balkan peninsula. Apparently the Yugoslavs as a whole already have decided that there is a threat.

How great is it? Is it directed against sovereignty and cherished institutions which are worth fighting for—worth dying for? Has Yugoslavia obligations to her neighbors—is she her brother's keeper?

If Yugoslavia decides that she has a cause worth fighting for, she will fight. The Yugoslavs are a brave folk. By way of precaution they are rushing more men to arms, which likely means that they are crowding the million mark. There can be small doubt, too, that they have been in consultation with the Greeks, Turks and British.

It is natural that Yugoslavia should proceed cautiously, especially since she is all but surrounded by the axis powers. She realizes that upon her decision may hang not only her own fate but that of the whole position in the vital eastern Mediterranean. Should she decide to join the Anglo-allies the Balkans would flame into that second great war front which Britain desires but which Hitler has been trying to avoid.

Whatever Yugoslavia's decision may be, it won't be based on love for the reich. The Yugoslavs as a whole don't like Germany. Their memories are long and burn fiercely, and they haven't forgotten the sufferings they endured in their fight against the central powers in the World War. They haven't forgotten, either, that they owe their present great kingdom to the allies. Always they have resented the politico-economic overlordship of Germany. But there is another great reason for Yugoslav dislike of nazidom. In my notes on Yugoslavia I find this, written in Belgrade on October 31, 1938:

"While the Belgrade government is friendly with Berlin, the general public is hostile to the fatherland because of its treatment of Czechoslovakia. That hostility is something for Germany to jot down for future consideration."

I should explain that the Belgrade government was "friendly with Berlin" because Prince Regent Paul (who is pro-British) had laid down a firm policy of maintaining friendly relations with all countries. Yugoslavia was bitter, however, over the crushing of her choice ally.

FISHERMEN CHARGED

HONOLULU, T. H. March 19 (UP)—Twenty-seven defendants, most of them Japanese, today pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges in connection with alleged fraudulent registration of fishing sampans.

SOIL DISTRICT VOTED

BAKER, Ore., March 19 (UP) Formation of the Keating Soil Conservation district appeared a certainty today after landowners voted 138 to 8 in favor of the move. The state soil conservation committee will canvass results of the vote.

From Farm to Vast Powder Plant—Just Six Months



Twenty-three thousand workers, the only persons allowed at the dedication of the new Radford, Va., powder plant, watch ceremonies open the 11-million-dollar project. Six months ago, there was nothing but a farm here.

PTA Notes

FAIRHAVEN

One of the most successful PTA meetings of the year was held at Fairhaven Friday afternoon, March 14. The teachers presented the following well planned and interesting program: advance of the flag, by the first grade; puppet show, by the sixth grade; two songs, "Over the Heather" and "The Little Red Drum," by the fourth grade; two folk dances by the first and second grades; two songs, "Are You Sleepy?" and "Blue Bells of Scotland," by a reading, "The Duel," by the fifth grade, and "The Soldiers Drill," by the third grade. The Fairhaven PTA will send two delegates to the state convention which will be held in Eugene in April.

Members appointed on the nomination committee include Mrs. Lee Holiday, Mrs. Wesley Cross and Mrs. Margaret Loomis.

The Boy Scout troop of Fairhaven will sponsor a dance on April 19. The support of the community is requested.

Bob McLean announced the next court of honor of the Boy Scouts will be held at Fairhaven gym at 7:30 o'clock next Wednesday night, March 26. All friends and parents of Boy Scouts are cordially invited to this most interesting event.

Mrs. B. C. Johnston, president

of the county council, issued an invitation to all PTA members to the potluck meeting of the county council on April 7, at Henley.

Mrs. Loomis reminded everyone that the next meeting of the PTA card club will be held at the home of Mrs. Lee Holiday at 1:30 p. m. Thursday, March 20. This club has just recently been organized, and everyone interested in bridge is cordially invited.

Mr. Robinette announced Thursday, March 27, as visiting day at the school, and urges all parents and friends to visit school on that date.

RIVERSIDE

Fathers and mothers of students from the first to the eighth grades, and a number of visitors, enjoyed the potluck supper at Riverside school Tuesday evening. Following supper Mrs. Harlan Bosworth led the discussion of "Allowances for Boys and Girls," both mothers and fathers taking part. Second grade mothers were hostesses.

Later dancing was enjoyed in the gymnasium with music provided by Miss Johnson, Mrs. Nelson and Mr. Gordon. Carl Cook

called the square dancing. The next meeting of Riverside PTA is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15, at which time first grade mothers will be hostesses.

FAIRVIEW

Fathers' night at Fairview PTA will be the evening of March 25, at 8 o'clock. There will be open house in each of the rooms for the parents first, with special entertainment and skits done in pantomime to follow. The gentlemen will conduct the meeting. The executive committee will serve the refreshments.

Fairview PTA rummage sale, April 4 and 5. The hunt to be announced later.

FREMONT

Officers who will serve during the 1941-42 year were elected at the meeting of the Fremont PTA held March 18 at the school auditorium. These include Mrs.



CALIFORNIAN WARNS NATION OF DEPRESSION

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19 (UP)—A warning a serious depression may follow the national defense boom was given the California Association of Employers Tuesday by Alfred J. Lundberg, president of the California state chamber of commerce.

"Stimulation of business from defense operations is a purely artificial stimulation," he told the delegates from California and Nevada. "It is no permanent cure of the economic diseases from which we are suffering."

"Unless the diseases are cured, the depression that will surely follow the defense boom—if there be one—will be a depression that will make 1933 look like boom times," Lundberg said.

Earl G. Callender, Watson-

Frank Peyton, re-elected president; Mrs. Paul Winters, vice president; Mrs. Matt Kohn Jr., secretary, and Henrietta Ekern, treasurer.

Plans were made for a rummage sale to be held by this PTA on March 29, which will be under the direction of Mrs. Burge Mason Jr.

The afternoon's program consisted of two numbers by the sixth grade chorus and octet, with Richard Yates as soloist, and two violin selections by Ethel Mae Skinner, accompanied by Connie Hunt. Tea was served by Mrs. Landrum, assisted by the fifth grade girls.

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ville, retiring president of the association, said:

"We do not believe labor should be competitive. We believe every employer has definite responsibilities to his employee and every employee has definite responsibilities to his employer. We are seeking a common ground for both to meet."

E. E. Carriger of Santa Cruz was elected president; Arthur Steele of Petaluma, Lester Hilp of Reno, E. B. Campbell of Tulare and Carl Hamon of Marysville, vice presidents; Frank Hollender of Pittsburg, secretary, and Frank Helm of Modesto, treasurer.

When anyone is full of himself there isn't room for much else.

48-Hour Week Set for Defense Jobs By WPA

PORTLAND, March 19 (AP)—

A 48-hour week will go into effect at once on WPA projects certified as national defense construction jobs, E. J. Griffith, state administrator, said today.

Griffith said increased working hours would average from 20 to 60 per cent more, affecting 200,000 workmen at present employed in a work-week of 30 to 40 hours.

A signpost in Montreal, Canada, has arms designating the way to the North Pole, South Pole, London, and Paris.

An estimated 5,000,000 per-

sons attended basketball games in the United States during 1939. Some species of grasshoppers fly to heights of 2000 feet.

"The fact is that the word 'leisure' never inspires me... Do we want a lot of leisure? Is leisure the goal? I think not.—J. B. Priestly, British novelist."

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