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Exhaustion Will Decide Final Victory in War

Kind of Neutrality In U. S. Will Have Big Influence—Lippmann

BY WALTER LIPPMANN.

NEW YORK.—The true character of the war cannot become clear in these preliminary military operations.

Thus it has always been evident that the Polish army could not withstand the attack of the best troops of the German army, that it would be pushed back, would lose ground, and suffer heavy losses.

Nobody has ever supposed that Poland could defend her frontiers against invasion; the only question has been how long the Poles would maintain a resistance after which, how much they could make the Germans pay for their victories and how much of the German army they could engage in the occupation of Polish territory.

Whether Poland is to survive will depend on the final result of the war, not on the outcome of the first battles of the campaign.

Ordeal of Exhaustion.

It has been no less evident all all times that the British and French could not give immediate and effective direct assistance to the Poles, and that their struggle with Germany would not be decided by battles but by the ordeal of exhaustion. When, sooner or later, the necessary Polish campaign ends, the real nature of the struggle will be clarified.

It will be a struggle in which the great neutral powers—Russia, Italy and the United States—are almost certain to exercise an influence which will make the war a very long war, and as far as one can see stand an indecisive war.

Once the Polish battles between Germany and Russia is down, the Russians will be able to supply the German generals, including those taken from the Czechs and Poles, with raw materials.

American neutrality is so arranged now that we shall supply the allies with the raw materials for their generals but not with weapons.

Outlook Is Serious.

What Italian neutrality will mean has yet to be disclosed. But it may be surmised that the Italians will begin to threaten France, once the Germans are able to come to their assistance, having overrunn Poland and organized the necessary supplies from Russia.

How long will Jugoslavia, Hungary, Rumania, and Italy be able to maintain an effective neutrality after the Germans and Russians have achieved a working arrangement?

As for Japan, it must still be assumed that her neutrality is expect to direct Britain is tentative.

There is no disputing how serious is the outlook, how probable it is that the war will be as long as it is bitter, as desperate as it is indecisive. Of the four great neutrals, three, namely, Italy, Japan and Russia, have here in one form or another allies of Nazi Germany.

Whatever may be the sentiments of the mass of the people, there is in each of these so called neutrals a dominant party of hold men who have staked their own personal fortunes on the ultimate victory of Hitler and on the destruction of the power of the British and French democracies.

For the moment they are waiting to see. But their neutrality, unlike our own, is not parallel and innocent. It is calculated with a view to achieving on the first favorable occasion the maximum gains at the least risk.

Committed to Revolution.

Each of these three neutrals is ruled by men who are committed to a revolutionary change in the constitution of the old world, the Japanese to a so called new order in China and the western Pacific, the Russian Communists and German National Socialists to a new order in Europe and Africa, and Mussolini to a new Roman Empire of Italian Fascists to a participation in the distribution of the spoils.

What keeps these neutrals neutral is not, as it is with us, a sentiment of isolation and a horror of war, but uncertainty as to whether Hitler's army is able to deal with the maritime and military power of Great Britain and France. They will go, we must assume, to the assistance of Hitler if he seems to be winning, or they will remain neutral if the allies seem destined to win.

They will watch so particularly, and the character of our neutrality will have a profound influence on the character of their neutrality.

Influenced by United States.

This fact has already been revealed in the case of Japan, when the abrogation of the commercial treaty and the threat of an embargo on oil, made her more friendly neutrality even before the Stalin-Hitler pact was signed.

There is every reason, for supposing that Italy, which is so vulnerable to sea power, will be profoundly influenced by the American position.

An American neutrality which weakens the British and French will almost certainly encourage the Italians to practice a neutrality which ends in intervention if over the British and French are sufficiently weakened. And Stalin will certainly help a victorious Germany much more than a falling Germany.

Thus, it seems to me, are the great realities of the struggle rather than the battles in Poland or the incidents of the war at sea and in the air.

DOWNS.—(FNS)—M. Thompson, new principal of Kickapoo Union grade school, Downs, comes from Argenta where he was principal for three years. He was president last year of the Macon County Principals association, and has been in administrative work for eight years.

215 Pupils Enroll In Danvers Schools

DANVERS.—(FNS)—There are 112 pupils enrolled in the Danvers high school and 103 pupils in the grade school, according to report Thursday of G. L. Clinebell, principal of the school.

Auxiliary Installs At Minonk

Mrs. Elma DeFries Is New President

MINONK. —(FNS)— The first meeting of the season of the Minonk unit No. 142 of the American Legion Auxiliary was held Wednesday evening at the home of Mrs. Dorothy Johnson.

Assistant hostesses were: Mrs. Josephine Tolle, Mrs. Stella Ingersol, Mrs. Anna Reichmann, Mrs. Kate Stupek and Mrs. Irene Gollwas. John Williams and Gerald Gengerich, who were sent to Springfield by the Legion and the auxiliary, gave reports.

Mrs. Helen Spiers installed the following officers: Mrs. Elma DeFries, president; Mrs. Mary Williams, first vice president; Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, second vice president; Mrs. Helen Manley, secretary; Mrs. Ethel Williams, treasurer; Miss Myrtle Tucker, chaplain; Mrs. Hattie Dorsey, sergeant at arms; Mrs. Josephine Tolle, historian. Mrs. Kathryn Stevenson was acting sergeant at arms.

Mrs. Louise Yeagle, Mrs. Helen Manley and Mrs. Elma DeFries, who represented the local unit at the state auxiliary convention at Peoria, gave reports.

Tuesday afternoon the auxiliary will have a 1 p. m. potluck luncheon at the city park for Mrs. Helen Manley, who recently moved to Streator.

Mrs. Curtis Rose was the winner of the National Defense plate which was purchased by the unit during the last year. The membership drive is being planned by the chairman, Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, and will be begun as soon as the new year's supplies are received by the department.

Mrs. Eunice Roberts is the chairman of the new Junior activity unit. All daughters of Legionnaires up to the age of 18 years are eligible to belong.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. John Cannon with Mrs. J. M. Knapp, Mrs. Gertrude Williams, Mrs. Ethel Williams, John Grosch, and Mrs. Filomena Cecharelli as assistant hostesses. The meeting will be Oct. 4.

335 Pupils Attend School in Atlanta

ATLANTA —(FNS)—School opened here Tuesday with an enrollment in the grade school of 237 pupils. In the high school there are 118 students, making a total of 355.

Clinton Rail Notes

CLINTON. — (FNS) — Perry G. "Peg" Moreland, switchman on the Illinois Central railroad at Clinton, celebrated his 65th birthday anniversary Thursday by retiring from service on pension, after completing 40 years service with the company.

Mr. Moreland, who lives at 801 East Main street, was born Sept. 7, 1874 and entered Illinois Central service Sept. 20, 1899. He has worked all of his 40 years at Clinton.

President J. L. Bevan of the Central wrote this letter to Mr. Moreland on the occasion of his retirement.

"Dear Mr. Moreland: Your last day at work for the Illinois Central system is one to which I am sure there is attached a good deal of feeling, and the purpose of this letter is to send you a cordial greeting on the occasion. Speaking for the railroad, I thank you for the good like you have put in these last 40 years, and I compliment you on the record you have made.

"My earnest wish for you is that the years ahead of you are nearly and that they are mighty happy ones. With my kindest regards, Sincerely yours, J. L. Bevan."

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