

Bruckart's Washington Digest

Official Washington Is Watching Events in Europe With Uneasy Eye

State Department Voices Disgust of American People at Hitler's Dastardly Actions; Our National Resources of War Materials Should Be Developed.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART  
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WASHINGTON.—Obviously, official Washington, as indeed the whole world, has been watching what has been going on in Europe in the last few weeks. They have been watching with more uneasiness, more genuine fear, how Hitler has been expanding the Reich, seizing, crushing, stealing, new territory, subjugating new peoples, as his insane ambition leads him on and on. Those charged with official responsibility have watched because there can be no mistake about the dangers inherent in this wild remaking of the map of the world.

Our government has had the courage to speak out, through its department of state. It has said the Hitler action in overpowering the peoples of Europe, the minority races, is a dastardly thing. There was nothing else that could be done about it. Secretary Hull and Under Secretary Welles, of the department of state, have left no doubt in the minds of other nations, however, that we, as a people, are angry about what Hitler has done. But again: we can do nothing more than protest, because the United States has no business going to war over some other nation's troubles.

But while our state department has been getting on record with its disgust, and there has been a great deal of strengthening our national defense just in case trouble would break out and involve us, Washington bureaucrats and some selfish elements in congress have been foiling correction of our greatest weakness. President Roosevelt has used his most patriotic voice to force action by congress in development of airplanes for defense, in construction of new battle boats and has moved strongly for production of equipment, guns, and the like.

British royal commission which made the study added that while they and the United States are friendly and none can see any reason for that friendship ever to be disturbed, "no man can forecast the future."

"The shortage of nickel," said the report, "might be a weakness sufficient to determine the issue of a war."

I discussed this question of war essentials with various members of the house—Representative Murdock of Arizona, Representative Francis Case of South Dakota, Representative Scrugham of Nevada, among others. To a man they said that the will of congress was being thwarted by bureaucrats who are unwilling to encourage American industry. Mr. Scrugham, for instance, a former governor of his state and a mining man, told how the bureau of mines had reported there was no worthwhile nickel deposits in Alaska. The same agency has found no reason to encourage American capital to develop manganese deposits in the United States. Mr. Case has been trying to get congressional action on measures to get some use of the metal deposits of South Dakota, but always selfish corporate interests, seeing no further ahead than the point of their red noses, have stalled the programs.

Pleads for Money to Develop Mineral Resources

Mr. Murdock, also a mining man, made a plea on the floor of the house the other day for congress to provide some money enabling realistic procedure with respect to our unknown and undeveloped metal resources—so that we would know in case of war, if for no other reason.

"Since my school boy days," said Mr. Murdock in house debate, "I have been told that Alaska is a treasure house of natural wealth and economic resources. I believe we have been and are overlooking that fact in our dealing with that far off corner of our country. I feel that we ought to develop those resources; we ought to know more about them."

Mr. Murdock's statement causes me to ask the question: since it is our national policy (at present, at least) to spend billions of dollars under the guise of making work, why not designate some few of the millions for worthwhile national development?

Reference was made the other day to testimony given two years ago before the senate finance committee. I looked it up and found that the late Francis P. Garvan, then president of the chemical foundation, had caused an investigation to be made of Alaskan metal resources. The report brought in by a Wisconsin university professor, who did the searching and digging on the ground, makes one wonder what undercurrent of influence has prevented the development of metal claims, such as nickel and tin, up there. Very few of the national legislators knew of the testimony.

Buying for Reserves Would Start Brand New Industries

In my conversations among Rocky Mountain congressmen, I could not avoid the conclusion that capital funds held in the United States will not be put to work on such things without some encouragement from officials in Washington. I know that some representatives and senators are of the opinion that the federal government ought to offer to buy these war essentials here and disregard foreign sources. They believe that a commitment to buy for reserves, if made by the federal government, would start brand new industries going in many, many parts of the United States. All of the while, however, we have the bureau of mines and the war department sitting back and making it hard for Americans to develop America.

Officials Unwilling to Learn From Other Nations

Those fellows in the executive departments apparently are unwilling to learn from other nations either. I came into possession of a document, for example, that made a confidential report to the national emergency council more than a year ago. It told that the British government had stored in warehouses enough nickel and tin for a three years supply to be used by industries manufacturing war materials. This was done by the British government, notwithstanding the fact that London is the seat of the great International Nickel corporation which owns the largest nickel mines in the world and does 88 per cent of the world's trade in nickel. The British thought it was wise to have the essential material available, when and if needed, and it had that conviction even with the largest nickel mine known now located on British territory at Suds-worth, Ontario, Canada.

Further, according to that report, the British were unwilling to leave the main nickel refinery on United States soil. It was moved to a Canadian spot where, according to the report, it would be "out of distance of any long range guns." The

Sheer Fabrics, Lace, Color Varied Headdress for Bride

By CHERIE NICHOLAS



FORTUNATE indeed is the bride-to-be who is planning a lovely spring wedding, in that fashion is not setting down arbitrary rules in the matter of bridal array but rather is encouraging fancy-free individual choices.

This departure from stereotyped traditional dress is particularly evidenced in the matter of color. The prospective bride who has secretly cherished the idea of an eye-appealing subtle tint for her nuptial gown and veil instead of traditional white, will have the joy of finding that dreams do come true.

A very successful color technique on the part of designers robes the bride and her maids in the same color or, as the case may be, in different intensity of the same color. A suggestion along this line is pale pink satin for the wedding gown with bridesmaids' bouffant dresses of sheerest net in a trifle deeper tone. The bride either wears white orchids or carries roses in the pink of her gown, while the attendants' flowers are of deeper hue.

As to the styling of the gowns, sentiment runs high in favor of full-skirted types with quaint, fitted bodices or hiplength basque effects. There is a pronounced flair this spring for exquisitely sheer weaves for both bride and maids, such as marquisette, mousseline de soie, or nets of sheerest type.

As to lace for the wedding gown it is ever a favorite the more so this spring in that enthusiasm for lace is so general throughout all fashiondom. The gown pictured fits into the springtime wedding scene

with queenly grace. Its artful soft styling brings skirt fullness to the front in latest approved manner. Its form-fitting midriff accents a slender waistline as is required of fashions today. The heart-shaped neckline and the high shouldered full-at-top long fitted sleeves are significant styling details.

No matter how entrancing her gown, a bride fails at looking her prettiest if her headdress and veil do not flatter. Here again is fashion indulgent to the spring bride, in that the new fantasies of tulle and flowers and lace include every possible type, suited to every individuality. Best of all, in the modern way of doing things there is no fuss or flurry at the last moment to get the veil pinned into shape by nervous unskilled fingers, for that has been taken care of in advance by specialists. All that is required of the bride-to-be is to take her milliner into confidence long before the happy day or the consulting adviser in the wedding bureau where you are supposed to come and ask questions, as established nowadays in all high-class establishments. If it is a period type, or a youthful ingenue headdress, or a stately coronet, if it be a simple inexpensive piece or a most elaborate one let your needs be known and by some magic, it's there before your very eyes.

The various types of headdress shown in the little inset pictures are typical new trends such as are available in shops and specialty departments that cater to seekers of bridal array.

Call for Plaids



Among the definite impressions conveyed by apparel collections in leading couturier salons is that of the importance of handsome plaid woools made up into stunning topcoats or jackets. Paris designers especially favor huge plaids. Per example, Creed designs a multi-color plaid coat with very unusual pockets to replace the handbag as you see here pictured. The tailored sailor by Rose Valois tunes smartly to the chic of this handsome coat. If it is a jacket suit that claims your interest consider it in terms of a handsome plaid wool as pictured at the top. This costume, also a Creed model, achieves perfect ensembling via a multi-colored jacket, a blue pleated skirt and a dark red silk blouse.

Gypsy Dress Late Caprice of Fashion

Stripes and plaids in taffeta, in silk crepe, in printed linens in thin woools in glamorous cottons are selling as fast as the yards and yards it requires for a full-at-the-hem skirt can be measured off. These skirts are usually gathered in peasant-wise at the waistline. To be sure a blouse is inevitable and what a story of charm and romance the new blouses do tell! Together skirt and blouse are providing the big sensation in the spring pageantry of fashion.

Victorian Hair-Dos Bring New Bonnets

With the revival of Victorian hair-dos there comes a group of bonnets including an open or cabriolet style often trimmed with plain taffeta ribbons, with matching gloves; smaller shapes covering the top of the head and tied under the chin, trimmed with veils having embroidered borders; and coal-scuttle bonnets jutting forward, in fine straws or white pique.

Beige Suits Spiked With Vivid Shades

Paris dressmaker strategy with beige suits is to dose them a-plenty with vivid color, such as red, splashy printed stuff, or gaudy pink and such pastels. The color comes in the blouse, hat, gloves, and other details.

Or they put a beige jacket with a brown or black skirt, and throw in a brilliant blouse and accessories in a third color.

New Gowns Flouzy Rows of flounces form some of the newest evening skirts, giving them a minaret silhouette.

ADVENTUROUS AMERICANS

By Elmo Scott Watson

Unlucky North Pole Seeker

ON OCTOBER 25, 1933, an automobile in Washington, D. C., struck down and killed a 71-year-old man who, for 20 years, had defied the numerous pitfalls of death in the frozen North and who once just missed sharing in the honors of just discovering the North pole. He was Evelyn B. Baldwin.

Baldwin first went beyond the Arctic circle in 1893 as meteorologist with Capt. Robert Peary's second expedition to Greenland. On a previous expedition, Peary found what he thought was a "royal road to the pole," via Independence bay.

Baldwin suggested that a better route lay through Kane basin. But Peary decided otherwise. Ironically enough, when Peary did make his successful dash to the pole, several years later it was by the very route which Baldwin had suggested.

In 1897 Baldwin was en route to accompany the famous Andree balloon expedition to find the pole when Andree, suddenly favored by good weather, decided to start, without waiting the arrival of Baldwin's ship next day. On July 11, the ill-fated Andree sailed away, never to be heard of again until 1930 when a party of Norwegian explorers found his skeleton.

But this narrow escape from death did not daunt Baldwin. In 1898 he was second in command of the Wellman expedition which reached the then "farthest north" of 81 degrees and 30 seconds before turning back. Baldwin then set off with several companions and discovered new land, named Graham Bell land.

In 1901 he made his supreme attempt to reach the pole with the Baldwin-Ziegler expedition. It failed because his supply ship did not arrive in time and only good luck prevented the entire party from perishing. Before he could finance another expedition Peary discovered the pole and Baldwin's career as an explorer ended.

Tenderfoot Triumph

IF EVER Americans deserved the title "tenderfoot," it was the band of emigrants, led by John Bidwell, which left Missouri in May, 1841, for the West. They had heard of the riches of California but knew nothing about the country they must cross to gain their promised land. Once they reached the Great Salt Lake, they believed they could float down rivers that were supposed to flow to the Pacific. So they took a big supply of tools to build boats when needed.

Guided by Thomas Fitzpatrick, the fur trader, and Father De Smet, the missionary, they reached South pass in Wyoming safely. Then, despite warnings against trying to cross the desert of the Central basin, they turned off from the Oregon trail and headed southwest.

Soon they were in a bewildering country of salt plains. Food and water supplies ran low. Cruel mirages lured them on. But somehow they managed to survive and reach the Humboldt river in Nevada. They followed it to the Humboldt Sink and turned south to the Carson river. By the time they reached the Walker river they were forced to kill the last of their oxen.

Six weary months after leaving Missouri they reached the rich San Joaquin valley. Theirs had been an epic journey. For the success of the Bidwell expedition pointed the way for the first thin trickle of emigration to California that began soon afterwards and reached its high tide in the Golden Days of '49.

Bad Boy of the Mayflower

AMONG the Pilgrim Fathers who came over on the Mayflower was John Billington, accompanied by his wife and two sons, Francis and John Jr. Early in that historic voyage young John disgraced himself. While playing in the family's cabin with his father's fowling piece, he fired the weapon close to an open keg of powder. "Only the Lord's mercy saved the ship and the entire company from being blown to pieces," writes a pious historian of those days.

After the Pilgrims had settled Plymouth, young Johnny got into another scrape. He wandered off into the woods one day by himself. When he failed to return, a party set out to look for him. After a week's futile search, it was learned that he was in an Indian village 20 miles south of Plymouth.

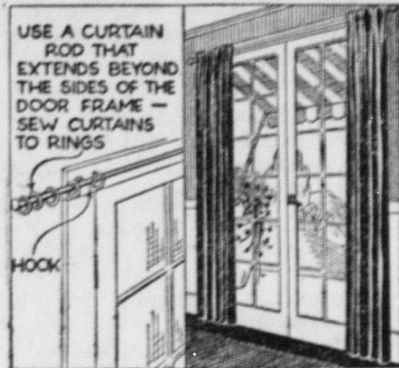
His mother shed tears of gratitude when friendly Indians brought him back, but some of the Pilgrims were "sorely vexed" because he had put them to all this bother. No doubt, he came by his trouble-making honestly for his father was that kind of man. In fact, John Billington, senior, has the unenviable distinction of being the first person hanged in Plymouth colony. He quarreled with young John Newcomin, waylaid him and shot him down. For this willful murder "by plane and notorious evidence" he was hanged on September 30, 1630.

Hanging Draperies Over French Doors

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

"I NEED some help," my friend's voice said over the telephone. "The living room draperies are finished. I am bursting with pride over them, but I don't know how to hang the ones for the French doors."

"Yes, I want to cover the door frame at the sides, but I can't cover much of the door because it must open and shut without interfering with the draperies. I did



Draperies for French doors.

want the curtain rod for the door to match the ones at the windows too."

Her voice trailed off in a discouraged tone as if there were just too many difficulties ever to be solved. But they all were solved. The sketch shows exactly how it was done. The curtain rod was placed on hooks near the top of the door frame and extended a good 7 inches over the wall at each side of the doors. The curtains were sewed to rings. When they were in place, they covered both the hooks and the sides of the door frame, and allowed the doors to be opened.

NOTE: These curtains were lined and had a pleated heading. They were made from the step-by-step sketches in Mrs. Spears' Book 1; SEWING, for the Home Decorator. Book 2—Gifts, Novelties and Embroidery, is also full of practical, money saving ideas that will help you with your Spring and Summer sewing. Books are 25 cents each; if you order both books, leaflet on how to make Rag Rugs is included FREE; Address Mrs. Spears, 210 S. Desplaines St., Chicago, Ill.

SAFETY TALKS

'Pedestrian Faults'

THE National Safety council has charged pedestrians with a large share of the responsibility for traffic accidents that killed 39,400 persons in 1937. Of this total 15,400 were pedestrians.

In "Accident Facts," a statistical review of 1937, the council said: "Many pedestrians show utter lack of caution in their use of streets and highways. Combined state reports for 1937 show that in 67 per cent of all fatal pedestrian accidents the pedestrian either was violating a traffic law or was acting in an obviously unsafe manner. In non-fatal accidents pedestrian faults appeared in 69 per cent of the cases."

The council described such things as jay-walking, failure to observe traffic lights, drunken walking, walking with instead of against traffic on rural highways, crossing streets in the middle of a block as "pedestrian faults."

NERVOUS?

Do you feel so nervous you want to scream? Are you cross and irritable? Do you scold those dearest to you?  
If your nerves are on edge and you feel you need a good general system tonic, try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made especially for women.  
For over 60 years one woman has told another how to go "smiling thru" with reliable Pinkham's Compound. It helps nature build up more physical resistance and thus helps calm quivering nerves and lessen discomfort from annoying symptoms which often accompany female functional disorders.  
Why not give it a chance to help YOU? Over one million women have written in reporting wonderful benefits from Pinkham's Compound.

Truth and Hypocrisy  
Truth speaks too low, hypocri-  
sity too loud.—Dryden.

CONSTIPATED?  
Don't Let Gas, Nerve Pressure Keep You Miserable

When you are constipated two things happen. FIRST: Accumulated wastes swell up the bowels and press on nerves in the digestive tract. This nerve pressure causes headaches, a dull, lary feeling, bilious spells, loss of appetite, and dizziness. SECOND: Easily digested food starts to decay forming GAS, bringing on sour stomach, acid indigestion, and heartburn, bloating you up until you sometimes gasp for breath. Then you can't eat. You can't sleep. Your stomach is sour. You feel tired out, grouchy, and miserable. Adialex gives you the DOUBLE ACTION you need. This efficient carminative cathartic relieves that awful GAS almost at once. It usually clears the bowels in less than two hours. No waiting for overnight relief.  
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