

BRISBANE THIS WEEK

Maybe Peace, After All Building in a Big Way A Level-Headed King One Strike Method

The real war news from Europe—it sounds like peace news—is that England has refused France's request for immediate assistance in forcing Germany's armies from the Rhineland. England even hints that France may be partly to blame.



Arthur Brisbane of the Locarno pact are not inclined, in the language of the day, to "stick their necks out."

France appeals to all members of the League of Nations "in a fight for peace." But, with England holding back, other signers of the Locarno pact are not inclined, in the language of the day, to "stick their necks out."

The United States is doing and spending in a big way. The Public Works Administration says more than \$1,000,000,000 worth of projects have been completed, with \$2,200,000,000 of other work still under construction. Twelve hundred millions have been spent for materials, all involving labor; \$630,000,000 for wage payrolls, by P.W.A. Organized labor presents a building program of \$500,000,000 to occupy the idle building trades.

If money holds out, and the inflation bonds keep their value, this will be remembered as the building age.

A level-headed young man is the new English king. After seeing the new giant Cunarder named for his mother, walking seven miles up and down in it, he visited the slums of Glasgow, called the worst and "reddest" in England. Some ultra "left wing" city councilors refused to be presented to him. "That's perfectly all right," said the king. "Tell them I'll come and have ten with them instead." This he did. Two thousand ship workers cheered and called him "Good Old Teddy."

The king, who visited individual tenements, knocking at the doors, patting babies on the head, keeps up with the times. No English king did that before.

There are different ways of handling strikes, depending on public officials. At Akron, Ohio, a strike of milk drivers disturbs consuming families and producing farmers.

Herman E. Werner, public prosecutor, says coldly: "Anyone who interferes with milk deliveries will face guns, and the order will be 'Shoot to kill.'"

Akron has 10,000 men out of work; too many, at one time, for that sized place, and the city is tired of it.

How many millions would be killed, gassed, bombed, ripped to pieces by shrapnel and machine-gun fire before Hitler or the nation back of him could be persuaded that he is not a reincarnation of Frederick the Great, or Napoleon?

This time a murderous war would be deliberate. No grand duke heir to an Imperial throne has been murdered to supply the spark.

The Department of Commerce cannot explain the Arkansas air crash, on January 14, that killed 17. It says some passenger "may have incapacitated the pilot or interfered with controls."

The local sheriff says somebody inside the plane fired a kind of pistol. Bullet marks were found. Let air passengers before embarking pass before the electrical device that reveals instantly a pistol or any other metal object. No decent passenger would object. Guns and knives might well be "parked" on entering a plane.

Japan is the question mark in the war situation, but wise Japan would not deliberately antagonize all her customers and friends in western Europe by striking at Russia, in a war interesting to all of them.

It is probable that Japan this time, as in the last war, would send "observers," thoughtful and silent, to watch the white races cutting each others' throats.

Mrs. Akeley, who used to help her husband hunt lions and gorillas before he died, has been to Africa on her own account and reports that in south East Africa natives cling to their old ways and methods; nothing will change them.

The chief who is sick wants a witch doctor to come, howl, dance and tell him that he has been bewitched into swallowing a small crocodile, which is biting his insides.

Next summer, Chicago entomologists will watch 50,000,000 mosquitoes, after they have been dyed red, green, yellow, blue and brown, and learn how far mosquitoes can fly.

The treasury finds that in the first eight months of this fiscal year it has accumulated a deficit of \$2,410,000,000. The country took in \$2,348,000,000 and spent \$4,758,000,000. In prosperous times, the country's total income is \$90,000,000,000; but when will those "times" come back?

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A Sandal Shop in Tokyo.

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NOT many years ago it was held up against the Japanese that they never indulged in athletics. Today there are in Tokyo two huge stadiums, one originally seating 65,000 people, but enlarged in 1931 to accommodate 80,000, the other 30,000, and on the days of baseball games there are few vacant seats.

With the exception of wrestlers, there are no professional athletes in Japan. Teams are made up largely of undergraduates in the various universities, and it is the intersarsity games which draw the largest crowds.

Baseball, skillfully and intelligently played, is as popular in Japan as in the United States, but it is not the only popular athletic sport. Rugby football is played everywhere and played well. As it is part of the army training and as something like 100,000 young men go through this training annually, rugby may well supersede baseball in popularity. Hockey and association football are played more and more and boxing is becoming popular. Wherever there is space in Tokyo, there is a tennis court. The Y. M. C. A. pool is always full of swimmers, as are the great outdoor pools in summer, and Japanese swimmers hold some world records. More and more rowing crews in racing shells are appearing on the rivers and lakes.

Golf clubs are springing up, and, as in America, the links are used largely by business men. At the army maneuver field, on the outskirts of the city, you can see magnificent riding. So the old accusation of lack of interest in athletic sports can no longer be made.

These modern games have not entirely driven out the old, purely Japanese sports. Thousands gather, as of old, to watch the wrestling matches, where the immensely fat men so well known in Japanese prints carry on their strange matches under the ancient rules. Archery is also popular among the chosen few, and the great matches are almost always sponsored by some of the Imperial princes. It takes a strong man even to bend some of the tough old bows.

Athletics Build Up the Race.

It would be impossible to estimate what athletics are doing for the Japanese as a race. The Bible says that no man by taking thought can add a cubit to his stature, but there is no doubt that succeeding generations of Japanese are taller. When you meet young men in Tokyo, dressed in gymnasium costume, running through the streets; when you see the finely proportioned bodies of the boys in the Y. M. C. A. pool; when you go to a university graduation and see the students all together, you no longer think of the Japanese as a particularly "little people." With a better-regulated and better-balanced diet and with physical training from the earliest years, through all grades of school, the Japanese are growing up physically. They grew up mentally a long time ago.

It is said that the generation now reaching maturity is, on an average, an inch taller than the preceding generation. As a generalization, one should doubt this, but at the same time one feels sure it is true in the cities where modern ideas of exercise and diet are prevalent.

There is probably no phase of life in Tokyo which more clearly shows the contrast between the old and the new than do the theaters. You go to the Kabuki-za or to the splendid Tokyo theater and there see ancient dramas given in the old style of acting; or you go around the corner to a movie theater and see the latest Hollywood production. One seems just as popular as the other and just as crowded.

The Kabuki and Tokyo theaters are enormous, thoroughly modern, handsome buildings. The orchestra seats are like those in an American theater, except that they are lower. The boxes have no seats, because people seem to prefer to sit on the floor, in the old style. The plays begin—there are generally three or four given in succession—from two until four o'clock

In the afternoon and last until ten o'clock at night.

Huge Theater Stage.

The stage is enormous, the lighting and scenic effects superb. It is probably true that the Japanese were the first to have a revolving stage for quick shifts of scenery. The actors strut in the ancient style and chant their lines. In fact, if the lines are emotional, they are sung by the musicians at the sides of the stage, since it is not considered proper to show too great emotion.

But, in spite of all this, the actors—men, of course, take the women's parts, and a Japanese lady explained this as being necessary "because men are so much more graceful"—are really great and make a profound impression on any foreigner who has the intelligence to rise above the "queerness" of the performance.

It may be true, as some have said, that the living actors of the stage adopted their stilted style from the puppet shows of old, but the style cannot hide their power of character portrayal. You feel, on leaving the theater, that you have been living in all the color of past centuries.

And then the movies are just as crowded as the theaters. There is a movie industry in Japan, but this does not detract from the popularity of the Hollywood productions. Talking pictures were hard to deal with at first, but now a solemn individual sits at the side of the picture and translates, apparently to the satisfaction of the audience, as the play progresses.

The translator's endeavors to keep up are more interesting to the foreigner than are some of the plays. The contrast between the two types of entertainment is merely characteristic, like all the other contrasts.

The Japanese are voracious readers of newspapers. Newsboys run or bicycle throughout the city, dropping their papers in every shop. At important street corners stand women with bells, which they ring continually to show that here are newspapers with the latest papers.

Where fifty years ago the newspaper was unknown, they now are read far more generally than in the United States, two of the great dailies having a larger circulation than any standard-sized papers in the United States.

These great papers are thoroughly up-to-date. They have regular airplane services of their own to carry pictures from Osaka to Tokyo, and transmission of pictures by wireless or by wire is as much used as in the United States. Moreover, the papers carry on large humanitarian work in the maintenance of hospitals or welfare enterprises.

Lots of Gay Cafes.

Tokyo is full of cafes, always crowded, modeled somewhat on the cafes of Paris. In former days people gave geisha parties, those rather solemn affairs at which geishas danced their symbolic dances. They were very expensive, and those who could not afford the expense contented themselves with picnics. Now the cafes are crowded, their principal patrons being, perhaps, the "mobos" and the "mogas."

The Japanese, more than any other nation, love to abbreviate, and "moba" is the abbreviation for modern boy, and "moga" is the abbreviation for modern girl. Indeed, these mobos and mogas, dressed almost always in European clothes and trying to adopt the freedom of European manners, are about the most modern aspect of Tokyo.

One might go on almost indefinitely in pointing out the various contrasts of this city, where at every point the contrasts between the old and new, between the occidental and the oriental, is so striking. It should never be forgotten that both the old and the new, both the western and the eastern, are real in Tokyo. Somewhere in the fusion of the two lies the truth of Tokyo. When one remembers that the western ideas have been naturalized for less than a century, one can understand the inevitable outcropping of oriental ideas.

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Eiffel Tower Modernized Into Television Structure

Back in 1887-89 Alexander Gustave Eiffel built the famous tower which bears his name for the International exposition in Paris. It was then regarded as a mere engineering "stunt." Sober engineers declared it was faultily built and predicted it would be razed.

Today, states a writer in the Washington Post, important as a meteorological and wireless station

and guide for airmen, it still towers above Paris. A short time ago France added to its usefulness by making it a station for the broadcast of television programs.

An interlaced ironwork structure, the Eiffel Tower reaches a height of 984 feet. The many visitors who ascend, by stairway and elevator, to the circular balcony surrounding the glass pavilion which tops the tower can see 55 miles on clear days.

MOTOR FOR SKIERS

A motor ski-tow consisting of an endless rope which runs over a guide pulley at the top of the hill and over a motor at the foot of the incline, is used in Woodstock, Vt., to tow skiers uphill. It takes skiers up 900 feet in one minute.

And Living

The man who thinks he knows it all has merely stopped thinking.

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Amazingly Fast Relief Now from "Acid Indigestion" Over-Indulgence, Nausea, and Upsets



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