WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY ROGER SHAW

Italy Joins Germany in War As French Retreats Continue; Allies 'Ready' for Mussolini

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

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THE WAR:
Enter Italy

After nine months of watching his ally Hitler carry on the actual warfare against France and England, Benito Mussolini has finally thrust the armed force of Italy into the European conflict. In a dramatic announcement the Italian dictator told his people and the world that his country had decided to enter the war on the side of Germany.

From Berlin came reports that the first Italian troop movements had been directed into French Riviera, even as Mussolini was notifying British and French diplomatic officials that a special train was ready to take them out of his country as war against their native lands was already under way.

Italy's main war aim as outlined by Mussolini is control of the Mediterranean by that country.

This grave development presented a truly serious military problem for

BENITO MUSSOLINI
After 9 months—ACTION!

the hard-pressed French armies. While they have been expecting the move for some time, they were so busy fighting off the German advances in the north that the spread of battle to the south weighed heavily upon the high command.

Italy's chief value to Hitler as an ally lies in the fact that the nation is geared to strike fast—in the blitzkrieg manner so well liked by the Fuehrer. Military experts generally agree that Italy is not in an economic position to successfully wage a long and costly war.

Naturally reaction to Italy's entrance into the war was varied. Here is a brief summary of this sentiment from the various world capitals:

London—An information ministry communique declared that preparations of the allies to meet Italy's war bid were complete and that Britain and France know how "to meet sword with sword."

Berlin—Cheering crowds hailed the reports as being added evidence that the end of the war for a victorious Germany was at hand. Hitler wired Mussolini that he was glad Italy had come in "of her own free will."

Washington—President Roosevelt declared in a speech made the same day as Italy entered the war, that Italy had scorned the "rights and security of other nations," by this move. He promised material aid to the "opponents of force."

Politics

Premier Reynaud dropped "appeaser" Daladier from his cabinet, and it looked as if "appeaser" Chamberlain was also on the way out of the Churchill dictatorship. Churchill and Chamberlain had been on bad terms from way back, and this was Churchill's chance to get even. Furthermore, the British veterans back from Flanders were especially bitter with Chamberlain and his friends because of the lack of British airplanes to hold back Goering's daredevils.

Battle of France

With the battle of Flanders at an end, the follow-up battle of France began. The so-called battle of France was primarily a German drive for Paris, Normandy, and such additional channel ports as Havre and Cherbourg, and Seine port Rouen, where Joan of Arc was burned by the English in the Fifteenth century.

Twenty-four hours after Mussolini had entered the war, German tanks were encircling Paris and the city was under constant bombing by the Nazi air force.

Whether the Germans could keep it up or not, depended largely on the amount of their tanks destroyed by the allies in the battle of Flanders. The new Aisne-Somme front was 125 miles long, but probably only two-thirds of the northern French army was left to hold it. Meanwhile, the English army had been driven back to England, with the loss of all its mechanized equipment.

Generalissimo Weygand invented a new anti-tank strategy, which consisted of opening "free" lanes for the German Suhls and A. Y. V.s and then hammering them from all sides. These were exactly the anti-elephant tactics of the old Roman, Scipio Africanus, with which he finally beat the great Hannibal, that master of "tank" warfare. For Carthaginian war elephants were used just like Hitler's battle wagons.

LATIN AMERICA:
V Columns

There was a lot of fifth-columnar talk from Mexico, Uruguay, Ecuador, and Colombia. Many critics seemed to feel that the Nazis were at the bottom of anti-Yankee feeling in these countries, but that was hardly the whole case. For the United States has had serious trouble with Mexico, Nicaragua, Colombia, Chile, Haiti, San Domingo, the Argentine, and others, long before Hitler was ever heard of. Nearly a century ago, we annexed half of Mexico, and Latin Americans have a curiously unified feeling when it comes to Anglo-Saxons.

Naturally, tricky Nazi agents sought to fan these ever-present flames. But by a curious circumstance, the only truly totalitarian dictatorship in Latin America is our very best friend of the lot—Brazil, under Dictator Getulio Vargas. Most like ourselves in its institutions is the all-white Argentine, and the Argentine is our stoutest opponent among the 20 Latin American

DICTATOR VARGAS
Warships to South America, anyway.

"republics." Nevertheless, Uncle Sam sent warships to South America, to save the South Americans from V columns. Their primary objective was believed to be Rio.

WAR HUMOR:
One Bright Spot

Most beloved of all English wits today is the famous P. G. Wodehouse, who always depicts his countrymen at their worst—and most likeable. He and his wife were giving a gay cocktail party at Le Touquet, an English resort on the French channel coast. Little did they care about the war. Then the butler "Jeeves" knocked and announced—the Germans! The latter arrested the comic author, but not Mrs. Wodehouse. Mr. Wodehouse's farewell words were strictly Wodehousian: "Maybe, my dears, this will give me the material to write a serious book for once."

U. S. DRAFT:
Conscripts Again

The N. Y. Times, which some believe to be in a nervous state these days, published an editorial advocating U. S. conscription, which they called "compulsory military training." It created a stir. Roosevelt said he found the editorial most interesting, but declined to comment. War Secretary Woodring said it was a matter for the populus americanus to discuss. Secretary Wallace said that the populus americanus was waking up.

NAMES
. . . *in the news*

¶ Said a Washington official, here **perforce anonymous,** to your correspondent: "We must stop **Hitler,** and save the British empire. We simply must! But if we save the British empire a second time, we will have to take it over, lock, stock and barrel."

¶ **Peter Gannon,** age 18, of Long Island, joined the regular U. S. Eighteenth infantry. He was the sixth Gannon brother to enlist. Gannons now have been joining up with Uncle Sam for just 10 years—since 1930. This is supposed to constitute a regular army record, and a sarcastic pacifist spoke of "Gannon-fodder."

¶ Said parliamentary **Deputy Sam Valck** of Chile: "Although I myself am the son of a German, born in Chile, I firmly believe that our government should investigate the activities of Nazi elements here."

YE PRESIDENCY:
Its Pet Names

Somebody just figured out the following tags for the present incumbent of the White House at Washington—

The President, if one reveres him.

F. D. R., if one likes him.

Mr. Roosevelt, if one is objective about him.

Franklin, if one despises him.

"Comrade" Roosevelt, or "Rosie," if one shudders at his name.

1. Is popular in the South, and in the N. Y. Times. Also, in wishful England.

2. Is popular with machine politicians.

3. Is popular with this column, etc.

4. Is popular in New England and the N. Y. Harvard club.

5. Is popular in "ultra-ultra" Philadelphian circles.

KING'S FALL:
And Rise Again

Former King Edward of England—"Bonnie King Eddie"--gave up his job as British major general and liaison officer between the London and Paris war departments in France. He retired to rest on the Riviera, so the story went, and some thought he had been forced out of office. His successor, strangely enough, also had an American wife, though not a Warfield of Baltimore.

There was an inner significance, some felt. King George has never had marked social sympathies like brother Eddie, and if England should lose the war, Eddie might regain the kingship. His support would come from the unemployed, the hungry and underprivileged, the Welsh coal miners, and Mosley's blackshirts, all of whom upheld him against brother George back in 1936. Strangely enough, Winston Churchill was also on Eddie's side at that time, while Chamberlain stood for George, as did the dowagers and archbishops.

Eddie, however, is reported as without any strong personal ambition, although his wife, reputedly, had vague fascist sympathies before the II German war. As for brother George, phony rumor persists that his two little princesses are tucked away in some fool-proof Canadian hamlet, and that he may soon follow after.

GUNS:
Instead of Butter

New York state planned to incorporate three anti-aircraft regiments in its National Guard outfit. Two of these would protect New York city, and a third would look out for the western part of the state. New York's historic Seventh (fashionable) and Sixty-ninth (Irish) infantry regiments would be converted into anti-aircraft units, according to the scheme. This would class them as, officially, "coast artillery."

It was reported from Washington that some 600,000 old World war rifles and 2,500 W. W. field guns would be sold to the allies, plus ammunition. This stuff is not considered "satisfactory" for U. S. requirements, but might help to replace material lost by the British in Flanders—material which, the Germans said, would serve to equip no less than 40 fresh Nazi divisions. A ruling by Attorney-General Jackson appeared to have cleared the way, legally, for a highly profitable sale.

MONEY:
They Toss It Around

The tax subcommittee of the house ways and means committee took on a formula to permanently broaden the base of the federal income tax. Some 2,000,000 new taxpayers would be annexed, and $800 "singletons" and $2,000 marrieds would now be made to hand over.

The house committee also decided that the legal national debt limit should be raised by a mere four billion—to $49,000,000,000.

DOMESTIC:
Oddses and Endses

Earl Browder, serving a four-year jail term, was yet again nominated by the Americo-communists, to run for red President of the U. S. this year. The communist convention was held in New York. Browder probably will run against such presidential perennials as Norman Thomas and Franklin Roosevelt.

The Belgian exhibit at the New York World's fair took out the handsome white marble bust of King Leopold.

The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND
By DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C.

CHICAGO LINE-UPS

Speaker Bill Bankhead is in a direful predicament.

It's a White House secret, but the courtly mannered and able Alabaman is the President's personal choice for keynoter at the Democratic convention—a high honor much sought after by a number of big shot party leaders. At least half a dozen are pulling every possible wire to land it.

But Bankhead, who can have it on a silver platter, doesn't know whether he wants it or not.

Reason for his dilemma is a virulent case of vice presidentitis. Bankhead feels he is a strong second-place possibility and that the keynote speech customarily is made by a dignitary who is not a candidate. For him to accept the role, therefore, would be an admission that he was out of the running. And Bankhead is anything but that. He is very much in the vice presidential race.

Roosevelt picked Bankhead because he liked the speaker's witty speeches at the last two Jackson day banquets. But while flattered, the speaker is still undecided whether to accept the President's offer.

Note—Roosevelt's choice for permanent chairman of the convention is Senate Floor Leader Alben Barkley, 1936 keynoter and also a vice presidential hopeful, though not a very hot-and-bothered one. The President's choice for his floor manager is brainy little Senator Jimmy Byrnes, assisted by Senators Minton of Indiana, Pepper of Florida, Lister Hill of Alabama and Mayor Ed Kelly of Chicago.

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HOOVER VS. LANDON

Behind the scenes a bitter struggle is shaping up between Herbert Hoover and Alf Landon at the Philadelphia convention.

The ex-President is bent on writing into the platform an "endorsement" of his administration along the lines of the one in the Glenn Frank Program committee report. Landon is not flatly opposed to this, although he considers it unnecessary and likely to prove a campaign handicap.

But he is prepared to wage a last-ditch fight for a liberal platform. He is determined to resist to the end Hoover's plans for a platform to fit his conservative views. Landon is against any blanket denunciation of the New Deal.

Landon will be in a powerful position to wage his battle. In addition to leading a midwestern bloc of at least 100 votes, he also will be the Kansas member on the resolutions committee.

Note—In its original form the arrangement under which Hoover will speak Tuesday night, the first session of the convention, also called for a speech by Landon. But this was dropped when it was pointed out that as a delegate he can get the floor any time.

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WILLKIE BOOSTER

Remember the Liberty league which crusaded against the New Deal in 1936? And remember Jouett Shouse, its dapper head, who was a crony of Al Smith and the duPonts? Well, Jouett is now the No. 1 Washington booster of Wendell Willkie.

"Dewey will lead on the first ballot," he says, "but that will be his high point. From then on he will fade out of the picture. On the second ballot, Taft will jump to the front. But he, too, won't have the staying power; and on the third ballot Vandenberg will forge to the fore—for a moment. But that will shoot his bolt. He won't have what it takes to make the grade and the leaders will then turn to the one man who has—Willkie.

"On the fourth ballot Willkie will lead and after that it will be a stampede."

Shouse's explicit forecast should interest the other candidates—particularly Senator Taft, who has publicly declared he will lead on the first ballot. It also is interesting in view of the fact that Willkie is the one dark horse who so far hasn't a single delegate pledged to him.

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POLITICAL CHAFF

Thirty years ago, a young man named James Mead came from Buffalo to Washington to take a job as a Capitol policeman. He was befriended by another policeman, James Reilly. Today Mead, a senator, is trying to get a raise for Reilly, now dean of doorkeepers.

Airplanes have brought a mosquito from Africa to Brazil which is spreading malaria up and down the Amazon. Public health directors agree that if not checked it might decimate the population of South America.

Ambassador Joe Davies is filling a job which should have been done in the state department long ago. He is contact man with congress. For years the state department has depended upon natty young men to go up and lobby with senators. Result: Foreign policy lagged on Capitol Hill. But Joe speaks the right language.

Tourists are pouring in at the White House at the rate of 8,000 a day, of whom 1,700 see the private parlors by congressional letter. The others see only the East room and ground floor.

Scene of Biggest Army Maneuvers

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL HUGH A. DRUM, commanding general First Army, with Headquarters at Governors Island, N. Y., who will command the First Army Maneuvers to be held in the Plattsburg-Watertown area in northern New York during the period August 3-31, and map of states which will send troops.

The First Army maneuvers which are to be held during the period August 3 to 31 in the Plattsburg-Watertown Area in Northern New York are the largest of the four Army maneuvers to be held this summer as part of the nation's defense program.

More than 100,000 officers and men of the Regular Army, National Guard and the Organized Reserves will concentrate in the Plattsburg-Watertown area for these maneuvers. They will include troops from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. First Army units include the First, Second and Third Tactical Corps; the 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 43rd and 44th National Guard Divisions; the 1st Regular Army division and certain Corps and Army troops, both Regular Army and National Guard.

The concentration in the maneuver area will be divided into two opposing groups.

Lieut.-General Hugh A. Drum, (inset, above) who will supervise all training programs and maneuver activities from a headquarters at Canton, N. Y., has emphasized that the purpose of the maneuver is the training of officers and men in "the approach to and conduct of battle."

News headquarters will be established at Ogdensburg, N. Y.

Political Oratory Doesn't Win Votes

Political oratory, as far as winning votes is concerned, is the bunk, according to Dr. Allen L. Edwards of Northwestern university, who recently described an experiment he had made.

To make his test, Dr. Edwards used three groups of listeners. One was composed of strong believers in the Roosevelt administration's New Deal. The second group was composed of strong anti-New Dealers. The third group was made up of neutrals.

Then Dr. Edwards recited as strange a political speech as has been made for many months. Half of the speech was a stirring tribute to the New Deal. The other half was a strong condemnation, denouncing everything the New Deal has attempted.

Dr. Edwards then sat down, getting ringing applause from both sides, and the listeners were given an examination to test what they remembered of the speech.

The memory results were just what you might expect.

Those who favor the New Deal remembered the sections that praised it.

Those who hate the New Deal remembered the sections that criticized it.

It indicates, Dr. Edwards concluded, that you remember what agrees with you, and don't remember much else. He put it in somewhat more scientific terms.

"Material that harmonizes with respect to an existing frame of reference," he said, "is learned significantly better than material that conflicts with the same frame of reference."

War Fears Add Deaths In U. S., Says Professor

Hate and fear rising out of the general war in Europe will undoubtedly be responsible for many deaths in this country, Prof. W. Don Craske of the Chicago College of Osteopathy recently told the Illinois Osteopathic association.

"High blood pressure resulting from the tension, excitement and frustration of modern living accounts in part for the increase in the heart-disease death rate," said Professor Craske. "This strain, which has been aggravated by the worries of the depression and recession years, will now be further intensified by the intrusion of war fears and war news.

"Millions of Americans fear we will be drawn into the European conflict and, additionally, the outbreak of the war has increased hatreds many Americans have against one side or the other.

"Hate and fear have extreme physiological effects. Tension caused by these powerful emotions causes the heart beat to increase, the minute muscles in blood vessel walls to contract and the internal organs to labor under pressure."

Warmongers or others who act to increase fear and hatred, he concluded, are enemies of public health. He pointed out that the death rate for heart disease in the United States is twice that of its nearest rival, cancer, and three and a half times that of tuberculosis, accounting in all for about one of every six to seven deaths.

Believe It or Not, Coeds Really Do Study

The Chicago Vassar club has revealed the answer to what co-eds do with their time. A time survey conducted by Vassar's Student Curriculum committee showed that the students spend an average of 43 hours a week on study.

The 11-week survey, watched by educators all over the country, showed that the college woman of today (at least at Vassar) studies an average of 4½ hours more each week than the co-ed of 15 years ago. Educational institutions throughout the nation have written to the famed Poughkeepsie college for information on its survey and for copies of the booklet "Where Does Your Time Go?" which was distributed to 1,200 Vassar students.

The students were asked to record the number of hours spent on academic work, exercise, sleep, college activities, absence from college, cultural and miscellaneous activities. The records of 901 students were found acceptable for the survey.

Although 43 hours was the average figure, the hours of study varied from a high of 67 to a low of 29 hours a week. A detailed analysis of time spent on individual courses also showed an uneven distribution. Other hour averages for a typical college week were: exercise, 3.5; sleep, 55; college activities, 3.5; self-help, 2; cultural activities (unrequired lectures, good books, plays, operas), 5; time away from college, 12; and miscellaneous, 56.

Dean C. Mildred Thompson saw the neglect of exercise as the most unsatisfactory finding of the committee.

A special study was made of the reports of the freshman class, in order to determine how its needs and abilities differed from those of the upper classes. The survey showed that the freshmen studied longer than members of the other classes, spent more hours sleeping and less time away from college.

Biggest Gun in World Was Made by France

One of the biggest guns the world has ever contemplated was begun in Britain during the Great war. It was a 20-inch monster, firing a shell weighing two tons. It was designed to the order of Lord Fisher, first lord of the admiralty, but the Germans gave in in time. The gun was never completed.

Lord Fisher's gun would have made Germany's "Big Bertha" look silly: "Big Bertha," a gun with a range of 75 miles, was only a freak. It was designed to spread terror by its unexpected and startling range, rather than by the destruction of its shell. The caliber of "Big Bertha" was only 8¼ inches, and its 330 pound shell carried only 33 pounds of explosives.

"Big Bertha" did, however, achieve the highest muzzle velocity ever attained by any man-propelled object—5,000 feet per second, or 3,400 miles an hour.

The French, during the World war, made the biggest gun the world has ever seen. It was a monster with a bore of 20½ inches, and a barrel 76 feet long. Its shell weighed 3,200 pounds.

One smack from this gun on Fort Malmaison, in 1918, put the fort, then the strongest ever built, permanently out of action.