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Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S.A. Secretary of State, who is supporting President Roosevelt in his fight for the amendment of the Neutrality Act to permit the export of arms to belligerent nations.

MILITIA CAMP AT BATHURST

Local Unit Entrain October 7

Forbes militiamen entrain for Bathurst on Saturday morning, October 7, for a month's camp. Orders, calling up all members of the local unit, have been received from Battalion Headquarters, Bathurst.

This is what the notification from headquarters said:—

"A state of war having been declared, you are hereby ordered to report for continuous duty for a period of one month from October 7 to November 6, both dates inclusive. You will report on October 7, at 6 a.m., to Company Headquarters. Full uniform and equipment will be worn."

LIGHT HORSE CAMP

The Forbes troop of the 6th Light Horse Regiment will go into camp at Orange for one month's continuous training from October 5.

WOMEN THROWN FROM SULKY

Horse in Reverse

No Injuries

Thrown heavily from a sulky when their horse became fractious, a mother and her daughter, travellers camped on the outskirts of the town, were lucky to escape unscathed.

The incident occurred on the Commonwealth Bank corner shortly before lunch time on Tuesday.

Moving off from the corner, where the horse and sulky had stood while the women were shopping, they had covered about ten yards when the horse suddenly reversed and ran the vehicle forcefully into the kerbing.

The impact snapped the shafts and the women were precipitated, with a quantity of goods, to the footpath.

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L. J. JOHNSON
LOCAL AGENT

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Russia's Role In The War Growing In Importance

Future Of The Balkans SURRENDER OF WARSAW

Western Front Movements

LONDON, Wednes.

RUSSIA'S role in the war in Europe, despite her avowal of neutrality, is becoming increasingly more important.

Much speculation is now rife as to the reason of the visit of Herr von Ribbentrop, Germany's Foreign Minister, to Moscow. He is accompanied by a large contingent of attendants including the Nazi leader of Danzig, Herr Forster.

The Moscow correspondent of the Associated Press of America hints at the possibility of a military pact between Germany and Russia.

Private quarters, states the Bucharest correspondent of the United Press, have reported that Russia and Germany agreed to the division of zones of influence in Eastern Europe whereby Rumania and the Balkans will come within the Nazi sphere, while Russia dominates the Baltic States.

In a communique from the German High Command the surrender of Warsaw is announced after a 22 days' siege.

On the Western Front a heavy bombardment of the Siegfried Line by the French is reported.

The full import of Herr von Ribbentrop's visit to Moscow is necessarily a matter of speculation, but it is at least instructive to examine the coincidental events providing its background. These are:—

First, when the Russians this week entered Suwalki (Poland), after rounding the southernmost point of the Lithuanian border, they came for the first time within sight of the German frontier (in East Prussia)—a common frontier completely unprovoked for in Herr von Ribbentrop's loose general arrangement for a provisional line, which was liquidated in favor of what is already known in neighboring countries as "the Stalin line."

Secondly, the latest attitude of the German Press apparently foreshadowed a new "peace offensive," the inevitable failure of which is expected to be the signal for a real offensive, necessitated by Germany's incapacity to afford a war of waiting and inactivity.

Thirdly, the massing of troops on the Western Front is evidently being used as shock tactics in the peace offensive—whatever their ultimate purpose in a real offensive—for which reason neutral journalists have been invited to visit the Siegfried Line positions in the hope that their reports of preparedness will influence possible negotiations. It is noteworthy that the first despatches of their tour described troop trains travelling west.

The clue to link these events is provided by a special correspondent of "The Times," who is "on the Lithuanian border."

RUSSIAN DEMANDS ON GERMANY

After describing how the German withdrawal in favor of Russia had increased Russian and eliminated German influence between the Baltic and the Black Seas, he goes on: "It is believed that Germany must now concede whatever Russia demands in Eastern Europe—even the Balkans—unless she achieves a lightning victory in the West, thus freeing her hands to deal with her new and embarrassing 'friend.'"

Coincidental with the peace hints in German newspapers are evidently inspired rumors circulating in neutral circles in Berlin forecasting "extraordinarily important events in the next few days."

The "News-Chronicle" links peace hints with yesterday's meeting of the Nazi chiefs in Berlin on the eve of Herr von Ribbentrop's departure. It quotes Swiss sources which state that the German leaders discussed a peace move, which is reported to be favored by Field-Marshal Goering and the Ruhr Industrialists.

Private quarters in Rumania, according to the Bucharest correspondent of the United Press of America, declare that Russia and Germany have agreed to the division of zones of influence in Eastern Europe whereby Rumania and the Balkans will come within the German sphere, while Russia dominates the Baltic States.

Official circles in Bucharest categorically deny that there is a feeling of tension between Russia and Rumania.

BALKAN PEACE MOVE

There is no official confirmation in London of reports that negotiations may be entered into between Russia, Italy, and the Balkan States to help prevent war in South-eastern Europe. It is to Russia's interest, it is pointed out, to withstand German domination

in South-eastern Europe. Turkey, Rumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, and Greece might form a Balkan union, and Italy and Russia would guarantee the status quo in South-eastern Europe. Hungary, it is stated, would waive its territorial claims against Rumania in return for certain guarantees from its neighbor. Territorial disputes between Rumania and Bulgaria might be solved by a rectification of the common frontier. Rumania would ask Russia to renew her recognition of Bessarabia as part of Rumanian territory.

RUSSIA AND ESTONIA

"General anxiety is mounting in Estonia as the result of alarming rumors of an impending Russian diplomatic offensive in the Baltic region," says the correspondent of the "New York Times," at Tallinn (Revel), the Estonian capital.

"It is believed," he states, "that the return of the Estonian Foreign Minister, M. Selter, from Moscow to Tallinn was due to the Soviet authorities at the last moment making signature of a new trade pact, which was already regarded as having been completed, conditional on certain political concessions on Estonia's part."

A message from Kaunas states that a treaty between Russia and Estonia may be signed.

The Swedish paper, "Dagens Nyheter," discloses that two demands, behind the character of an ultimatum, are behind M. Selter's return to Tallinn.

Russia, it states, is claiming the right to establish a naval base in Estonia, and to maintain control of Estonia's foreign trade.

The Tass News Agency at Moscow reports that destroyers have been dispatched to points near Luga Bay, in the Gulf of Finland, where Soviet patrol ships sighted two submarines.

The belief is expressed in Moscow that there exist secret submarine bases not far from Tallinn. The Soviet, it is stated, is not satisfied with Estonia's explanation of the disposition of refugee Polish submarines.

Therefore, it is added, Russia finds it necessary to take immediate steps to safeguard Soviet waters.

ATTACK ON SIEGFRIED LINE

The French are subjecting the Siegfried Line to a terrific onslaught, says the Paris correspondent of the Associated Press of America.

French artillery is reported to have blasted a hole in the Siegfried Line between Merzig and Saarbrücken.

This morning's despatches report that the French annihilated important positions in this area, where there are between 30 and 40 pillboxes to the square mile.

Despatches from the front say that heavy German counter-fire against the French advance positions in the Saar and Palatinate regions is designed to protect feverish attempts to rebuild shattered blockhouses behind the German lines.

A French official war bulletin says that French troops have reached the front lines of concrete pillboxes at a point where the Siegfried Line is closest to the French defences near Forbach. This is the most advanced position the French have reached.

Reports of German troops being massed on the Belgian frontier are denied by the Belgian Government. News correspondents, however, still say that German reinforcements are arriving from Poland, and assembling near



First picture of Hitler at the war front.—Well-hidden and protected, he watches the war operations through field-glasses.

LATEST NEWS

Surrender of Warsaw Announced

LONDON, Thurs.

According to a statement from the German High Command Warsaw has unconditionally surrendered after a siege lasting 22 days and the final handing over of the city is expected tomorrow.

The last broadcast from the Warsaw radio station stated that the terms of an honorable capitulation were being discussed, as there was no hope of help from the Allies being received in the near future. This would seem to confirm the German report of surrender.

Marital law, it is claimed, has been declared in Poland.

Harrowing stories of the conditions existing in the city are given. Warsaw is entirely in ruins. It is stated that every church and every monument within the city has been demolished.

In the final attack hundreds of incendiary bombs caused numerous fires. Nine hospitals, containing wounded soldiers and civilians are reported to have been completely destroyed by the German bombing.

"The Defence of Warsaw," a message says, "will go down as the most courageous and gallant in history while the destruction of it will forever stand as the most ruthless."

A Swedish cargo boat was sunk outside Norwegian territorial waters this morning. It is believed to have been torpedoed by a German submarine.

The Warsaw commander says he is still negotiating the terms of surrender.

An earlier message announced that 62 Russians from the Russian Embassy, consisting of Consular and trade representatives who had been held in cellars at the Embassy, left Warsaw under a special conduct to the German lines outside the city in the course of a three hours' truce.

Giving an idea of the carnage in Warsaw, it is stated that more than 3000 civilians were killed in one day during the German bombardment.

There is great diplomatic activity in Moscow from which Herr Ribbentrop, German Foreign Minister, departs tomorrow after conferences with Molotov. These talks were attended by the German Ambassador in Moscow and the Soviet Ambassador in Berlin, but conjecture surrounds the objects for which the German and Soviet representatives met.

The Turkish Foreign Minister has also arrived in Moscow, but here again the reasons for his visit can only be speculated upon, although it is probable that the visit has to do with the Balkan situation and the position of countries in the Eastern Mediterranean territory.

The position on the Western Front is unaltered, although French reconnoitring parties are active.

According to the Germans, they are busy continuing their attacks to try and reach the Meuse, since it opens the way to a gap in the Siegfried Line. The French attack is seriously threatening the enemy sectors at Saarbrücken and Zweibrücken, from which latter centre the German artillery fire has been concentrated during the last few days.

The Germans have extended their range of fire beyond the French lines, with the object, it is thought, of protecting their troops engaged in repairing damaged fortifications and in the erection of new lines of defence.

The United Kingdom has decided to establish a Government representative in Dublin, Sir John Massey being the first appointee.



A British plane accidentally dropped five bombs on the Danish town of Esbjerg during a raid on Germany. Britain apologized for the damage done.

Minimum Fine Of £30 Imposed

IN "SLY GROG" CASE DEFENDANT PLEADS GUILTY

Payment by Instalments

The case in the local Police Court on Tuesday, in which Thomas Clarke, aged 20, pleaded guilty to a charge of "sly grog" selling, resulted in the defendant being fined the minimum penalty of £30.

The defendant was charged that at Garena on the night of September 29 he did sell a bottle of beer without being the holder of a license under the Liquor Act.

Mr. Williams appeared for the defendant and asked that in view of the defendant's good character the provisions of Section 556a of the Crimes Act be applied, but this the P.M., Mr. Donaldson, refused to agree to.

POLICE STATEMENT

Detective-Constable O'Neill said that the defendant informed him that he had purchased eight dozen bottles of beer and took it to a dance at Garena, where he was retailing it at 2/- per bottle. The defendant, however, had about three dozen empty bottles in a bag under the car, which he had borrowed for the occasion, and between 6 and 7 dozen full bottles at the time that he seized it. The defendant had the car drawn up outside the dance hall and was selling the beer to a number of men who were standing around. He saw one man hand defendant a 10/- note, and he was able to gain possession of the money before defendant put the note in his pocket. The man in question said he had paid 2/- for the bottle of beer.

Answering the P.M., witness said defendant was a native of the town and bore an excellent character, apart from this lapse.

Replying to Mr. Williams, witness said that though there were complaints about "sly grog" selling at other country dances, so far as he

AT LAST

P.O. Improvements Sanctioned

In the correspondence read at last night's meeting of Forbes Municipal Council, was a communication from Mr. H. V. C. Thurbly, Federal member for the district, stating that the Postmaster General advised that approval had been given to proposals for alterations and necessary renovations to the Post Office at Forbes, and that the work will be carried out as soon as circumstances permit.

It was also stated that the request for an automatic telephone exchange cannot be accorded to at the present time.

SUCCESS ATTENDS RED CROSS BALL

Dancers' Healthy Response

Profit Over £50

Memories of the war years of 1914-18 were revived at the Town Hall on Tuesday night, when the Forbes branch of the Red Cross Society staged a ball—its first major effort in the drive for funds to enable it to carry out its splendid work of providing clothing and other articles for the comfort of soldiers.

As was the case 25 years ago, all classes and creeds worked and mingled, forgetting all but the one big object in view.

When the local society first decided to conduct the ball, it was tentatively arranged that it should be held about the 11th of October, and should, in addition to providing funds for the body, serve as an occasion on which to farewell the local militia who are about to go into camp. When it was announced that the local boys would leave on October 7, the date of the function was put forward two weeks to the only available date. Taking into consideration the extremely short time in which the organisers had to advertise and book the fixture, it was indeed a very creditable effort, and its success should prove an excellent paving stone to the many other functions that will, no doubt, be conducted in the months to come.

It was very gratifying, too, that quite a number of the local militia and light horse members appeared in uniform, lending a truly military atmosphere to the proceedings.

Music for the occasion which was 50/50 old time and jazz was gratuitously provided by Mr. Dud Smith and his orchestra, which performed in its usual excellent manner.

One of the outstanding features of the ball was the buffet supper provided in the upper room. Here three large tables were laden with a wide range of eatables, the quality and quantity of which were the subject of many complimentary remarks.

In the courtyard, several members of the society conducted a soft drinks stall and were accorded good patronage by the dancers.

It is calculated that about 350 dancers attended the ball, and the door-takings of over £40, apart from many tickets sold beforehand, was indeed a very pleasing response to the efforts of the society, with Mrs. E. Miller and Miss F. Bassett as secretaries.

SMALL DEBTS COURT

In the local Small Debts Court on Tuesday, before Mr. R. Donaldson, P.M., Thomas J. Webb, for whom Mr. R. O. Palmer appeared, proceeded against Robert Campbell for the recovery of £14/11/10, meat supplied and delivered. Defendant did not appear. After hearing plaintiff's evidence, the P.M. found a verdict for the amount claimed, with £1/19/- costs of court.

Lamb Born With Eight Legs And Two Tails

Visitors to the Quandialla Show

on Wednesday were intrigued by the display in the pavilion of the skin, bearing a normal amount of wool, of a freak lamb, born on "Edenmore," the property of Mr. W. Denson, adjoining the township of Quandialla.

The lamb, which lived for an hour, had eight legs and two tails, but only one head. It was in reality a twin lamb, with only one head.

The mother of the lamb gave birth to twin lambs at the same time, but the freak lamb was not born till some hours after the twins.

The twins and mother are still living, and a photo of them was exhibited along with the skin of the freak lamb.

Mr. Williams made an appeal for leniency on the grounds of the defendant's good character and the fact that this was a first offence, although he said he was aware that the minimum fine was one of £30. He pointed out that in addition to his wife, defendant assisted in the support of his aged parents, and was totally incapable of meeting a heavy fine.

The P.M. imposed the minimum fine of £30, allowing payments to be made at the rate of £1 per week on a surety in the amount of the fine being forthcoming.

The beer taken possession of was ordered to be confiscated.

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