

# Editorial — Comment — Bulletin

## Behind the News

By Olson and Ordal.

### Ethiopia and Iraq

Overshadowed in the news by the more startling events of the Balkan campaign and the flight of Rudolf Hess, the British forces in East Africa have been steadily and successfully carrying out the job to which they were assigned.

That job was driving the Italians out of Ethiopia and restoring to Haile Selassie the ancient kingdom snatched from him by Mussolini in 1935. With the capitulation of the Italian Duke of Aosta and 35,000 troops Monday, the British marked the successful completion of their task.

The British, however, will have little time to rejoice over their East African victory, for events in the middle east, particularly Syria, continue daily to grow more ominous.

The nazis for several days have been transporting war materials across Syria and into Iraq, ostensibly preparing for an assault on the oil fields there.

The British, in an effort to stop the nazi infiltration, have been bombing Syrian airdromes and bazi supplies in Syria.

Aside from the activity of the Germans the situation now is complicated by the attitude of the enslaved French government which is calling upon the Syrians to resist what it called "criminal aggression" by the British. The French proclamation came from General Henri Dentz, French high commissioner for mandated Syria.

In spite of the fact that the attitude of the French is making it difficult for the British in the middle east, the French probably will not be able to do much in the way of actual fighting should they be forced by Hitler to open hostilities with their traditional ally.

The French force in Syria probably does not contain more than 30,000 men, and in view of Free French agitation, and the Frenchman's general dislike for being under the heel of the Nazi boot, their morale is highly questionable.

Further complicating the situation is the position of Turkey. Franz von Papen has been wooing the Turks again, and it is highly possible that with the help of the Russians Hitler may be able to persuade the Turks that their best interests will be served by permitting the passage of nazi supplies.

In view of the tense situation the collapse of the Italians in Ethiopia is most opportune. General Wavell is reported to have some 500,000 men in North Africa, and now to this force can be added the excellent South African and Indian troops from Ethiopia.

Add to this the British fleet and the eastern air force, and they should be able to put up a good fight against the nazis in the Middle East.

## Commentorials

... from our readers

### Not isolation or intervention rather war or intervention

DEAR EDITOR:

My name, among those of other faculty members, was on the petition sent to Washington for action "not necessarily short of war." I suspect that my reasons for signing were somewhat different from those of other signatories. Believing that those reasons are overlooked in current discussions of war and peace and that they have come to be the most significant phase of the problem, I venture to submit them.

May I say, first of all, that I have been an isolationist and that I still subscribe to the doctrines of isolationism. I deny that this is a war for ideals, that one side is good and the other bad, and that invasion of the United States is imminent. It is my opinion that involvement in this war will bring us a huge debt and economic tribulations such as America has never known, and that the consequent poverty and disillusionment will shake the foundations of our society.

In 1939 I believed that our best chance to avert a national calamity was adherence to the neutrality act then in force, arms embargo and all. The act had been passed in the sober days of peace, when our thinking was relatively free from emotion. But our government has long since departed from the isolation which that act would have given us. We have been intervening in the war almost since its beginning. Isolation has been dead for many months. If there had been any doubt of this before, the Lend-Lease law must have dispelled it. In an economic sense we are now at war—and it is in its economic aspect that modern war

has become most devastating. Also we are at war psychologically with hatred and intolerance everywhere. Only in a military sense are we at peace, and even here we have used our navy to patrol for England's cause. The isolationist should realize that his policy has already been rejected.

The issue today is not between isolation and intervention, but between intervention and war. Shall we continue half-way measures or become fully belligerent? My decision for war is based upon the belief that by our present policy of intervention we are exposing ourselves to most of the ills of belligerency without placing ourselves in a position to realize the possible benefits. Our economic system is already so devoted to war production that the unsolved depression of the past decade will return with much deeper implication for the future of democracy. We have gained the ill-will of nearly the whole world, including the nations which now appear likely to dominate Europe, Asia and Africa.

By going to war we shall sustain only one more important loss—the slaughter and injury of men. I do not underestimate the human suffering caused by bullets and bombs, but I believe that a modern war causes much greater anguish by its economic dislocations than by the murder of men. The economic effects of the first World War were still to be seen in unemployment, mal-nutrition, and general disillusionment, in September of 1939. In fact, they had been chief among the causes of dictatorship in Europe and of the present war. As compared to the first World War, this war has been kind to human life. In any case, why should we ask the British to do all of the dying?

There are several possible benefits of full belligerency. Most important is the opportunity to shorten the war and thereby relieve the strain on our economy. By war we should strengthen the will of Turkey, Spain, and other wavering countries to resist. As an ally of England we should have a stronger claim to the British fleet if their islands are invaded. As a belligerent we might assure ourselves of a seat at the peace conference.

None of these benefits can come from our present policy of intervention. I believe that the isolationist should recognize these facts, abandon his campaign for a lost cause, and support the policy which seems second best. Our greatest need at this time is for national unity.

Norman Hill.

## Editorial—

(Continued from Page 1.)

to any further intervention, and many others not voting believing the whole memorial business a lot of foolishness.

The administration, believing that the primary job of the university is to educate and to carry on the functions of an educational institution, is not in favor of the circulation of petitions at all among the faculty irregardless of their content. The project did not have administrative sanction and therefore cannot be interpreted as an official petition of the university.

The opinion expressed in the memorials was not the sentiment being voiced in the classrooms. Tho there are a few rabid interventionists whose strong feeling on the subject prompt them to discuss it with their students, the large number of them urge freedom of expression and keep impartial in their lectures on international affairs.

And finally the opinion of the faculty is not typical of that held by the majority of students. Out of almost 2,000 students voting in the spring campus election, 1,180 endorsed a "short of war" policy, 523 favored more isolation, and only 123 felt the issues at stake in the war justified America's entrance.

## Quotable Quotes

"The ideals of democracy, of self-government, of fair play, of personal liberty can be preserved only if we organize ourselves to give practical expression to the fundamental human urge to work and create. We educators can do remarkable things with the educational machinery we have built up if we can set before the community the ideal of creation and release it from the stultifying fear of surpluses.

If democratic leaderships cannot say to youth under peacetime conditions as well as in wartime crises: "You are needed; prepare well; the way to the top is open," democracy cannot in my judgment survive the challenge of modern dictatorship. Genuine loyalty to the democratic ideal cannot ultimately be induced merely by indoctrinating youth with academic arguments in favor of the free society." John W. Studebaker, United States commissioner of education, expounds his views on teaching of democracy.

## Household equipment testing laboratory . . . does stove research

"What points shall I consider in purchasing a new gas stove?" "Would you say that gas or electricity is cheaper?" These and countless others like them are questions that Arnold E. Barager, who has been directing the university household equipment experimental laboratory for the past ten years, is expected to answer.

Many experiments.

Although the majority of uni-

versity students are not even aware that this laboratory exists, workers in this field have carried on numerous valuable experiments. So well known has their research become throughout the state that homemakers, especially in rural sections, are depending more and more on this department for reliable information concerning household equipment. Most of their questions can be answered by the bulletins published about the research; but some must be given personal attention. This service is done free of charge.

Bulletins published.

Some of the bulletins published by Mr. Barager are entitled "Selecting Your Gas Stove," "The Accuracy of Pressure Gauges Used on Household Steam Pressure Cookers," "Your Pressure Cooker," and "Selected Types of Domestic Gas Stoves."

Mr. Barager's most recently published bit of research deals with the gas stove. In this work, thirteen domestic gas stoves representing several types of surface burners and burner assemblies and various conditions of oven construction were studied to determine their performance, primarily from the point of view of a comprehensive set of technical tests. Finally, the performance as determined by the technical tests was compared with the performance obtained from a series of cooking tests.

The work of this department in the past few years has been of invaluable service to consumers throughout the state. Not only can they learn the important features to consider in purchasing equipment for their homes; but their increased knowledge also tends to make the manufacturers more careful in the construction of their products.

## Crack riflemen hold banquet

### Pershing unit announces new officers tomorrow

Annual banquet of Company A-2, Pershing Rifles will be held tomorrow night beginning at 6:30 p. m. in Parlors A and B of the Union, with the feature event of the evening the announcement of newly elected officers who will serve during the next school year.

Guests of the organization will be Col. Charles A. Thuis, professor of military science and tactics; Col. Warren B. Day, national commander of Pershing Rifles, and Major Fred Voigt, national adjutant.

Medals will be awarded to the best competitive drillers and to members of the crack squad, while members of the rifle team will be given service bars. Newly initiated members will be awarded certificates of membership at the banquet.

## Filings—

(Continued from page 1)

manager, one; assistant business managers, two.

On the Cornhusker the positions of editor, business manager, two assistant business managers, and two managing editors are to be filled.

Editor and business manager applications are the only filings required for the Awgwan Flash staff.

## Bulletin

### CORN COBS.

Corn Cob activities will hold a very important meeting today at 5 p. m. in room 516 of the Union.

### INTERHOUSE COUNCIL.

Barb Union Interhouse Council will meet at the barb office at 7:30 tonight. The director of the organization for next year will be elected.

Virginia Judd Anstead, jr., former Butler university student, once chosen as America's most beautiful model, is the mother of twin boys.

## The Daily Nebraskan

### FOURTIETH YEAR.

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