MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

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MAXIMS OF A MERE MAN

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IMPORTANT MOVES IN MIDDLE EAST IN OFFING?

Hanson Denounces Federal Aircraft Production Failure

Releases statement to press after it had been ruled out of order in Commons.

OTTAWA, Feb. 20—(CP)—Opposition Leader Hanson, in a statement handed to the press late today, said he understood that a report from executives of six airplane manufacturing firms to the acting Minister of Munitions and Supply, (Hon. Angus L. Macdonald) early in January recommended that Federal Aircraft Limited, a crown company, be dissolved.

This was the statement which Mr. Hanson tried to read in the House of Commons this afternoon but which Speaker Glen ruled out of order.

Mr. Hanson's statement:—

"I rise for the purpose of requesting from the Minister of Munitions and Supply a public statement with respect to a matter of vital public importance, namely, the present unsatisfactory state of aircraft production in Canada, and particularly with respect to the alleged failure of the wholly government-owned corporation, Federal Aircraft Limited, to function.

"A COMPLETE FAILURE"

"I make this request at this stage and in this manner rather than in the form of a motion for the adjournment of the House to discuss this definite matter of urgent public importance on the ground that we have no wish in the world to embarrass the Government's delay in the production of aircraft, that it is quite apparent that the Government's announced program, made on several occasions and as long ago as nine months, has been a complete failure.

"Federal Aircraft Limited was set up by the Minister as a Government-owned corporation to coordinate the construction of Avro-Anson planes, and it assumed certain important functions with respect to procurement and later the manufacture of certain essential parts, involving an expenditure of $50,000,000; but for some reason or other unknown to the public, the efforts of this corporation have not produced results.

Chaotic Condition

"I am advised that around the end of the year, the acting Minister of Munitions and Supply requested an opportunity to discuss airplane production problems with manufacturers interested in Anson bombers and met representatives of leading firms and learned at first hand of the chaotic plight of the Avro-Anson program; and requested the manufacturers to give him their specific suggestions as to how this situation, which was the responsibility of Federal Aircraft Limited, might be remedied.

"At the request of the Minister, on or about the 7th of January the manufacturers submitted to the acting minister a unanimous recommendation as to what should be done. I have not been able to get a copy of this report, but I understand that it urged:

"1. That Federal Aircraft Limited be dissolved;

"2. That the Havilland Aircraft of Canada be asked to manage or administer, for the Department of Munitions and Supply, the Avro-Anson project, taking over the per-

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Speaker's ruling Blocks talks

OTTAWA, Feb. 20 —(CP) —An effort by Opposition Leader Hanson to launch a discussion on Federal Aircraft Limited and aircraft production generally, in the House of Commons today was blocked by rules of procedure, but Munitions Minister Howe promised to give a "full and complete" statement at an early date.

Mr. Hanson had prepared a lengthy statement which he proposed to read as a preliminary to asking for a statement from Mr. Howe. He said there was evidence that the government's aircraft program was a "complete failure."

Mr. Howe called to the attention of the speaker what he thought was a breach of the rules, claiming that Mr. Hanson was making a speech instead of asking a question.

Speaker Glen ruled that the question was only to obtain a statement on the aircraft production, and needed no elaboration.

Mr. Hanson then said he would ask for unanimous consent to read his statement, "and if I don't get it I will give it to the press," he added.

Prime Minister Mackenzie King said he believed Mr. Speaker had given a proper ruling and added that while Mr. Hanson was free to give anything to the press there would be plenty of opportunity to discuss this question in the House.

"If we have to have this exhibition of steam roller, all right," Mr. Hanson exclaimed, while Liberal members jeered.

"And I am not to be intimidated by back benchers," said Mr. Hanson.

The Opposition leader then made the formal motion to adjourn the House for discussion of "a matter of urgent public importance," a method provided in parliamentary procedure for initiating unscheduled debates.

Speaker Glen examined Mr. Hanson's proposed statement and ruled that it was a question that could be dealt with in the regular order, and would not accept the motion.

The subject was then dropped.

U. S. Air Arm In Pacific to Be strengthened

By J. C. STARK
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—(AP)—Swift steps will be taken to strengthen United States air power in the Pacific, it was reported here today, while Shanghai accounts told of new Japanese military movements southward.

Both army and navy fighting planes of the latest type are to be dispatched to the Pacific fleet, Gen. George C. Marshall, United States Chief of Staff, was said to have disclosed to the Senate Military Affairs committee at a secret session.

Some committee members said he described the Far Eastern situation as "serious" and also said army and navy chiefs had no intention of stripping American defences to speed up war equipment deliveries to the British.

Reinforcement of air fighting units in the Pacific and legislation just passed by the House for building up defence outposts at far-away Guam and Samoa were regarded in some circles as parallel to recent British moves to strengthen defences at the Singapore naval base and in the northern Malayan Peninsula. As uncertainty over Japanese intentions kept Far Eastern tension high, Ambassador Kichisaburo Nomura was reported to be holding back definite proposals for improving Japanese relations with the United States until a more favorable opportunity arose.

In diplomatic circles, it was reported he had a set of specific issues to discuss with State Department officials in the hope that removal of some points of friction might lead to a better understanding on questions of general policy.

Among these were believed to be numerous relatively minor problems arising from the Sino-Japanese war, including claims for damage to American property and interests; exclusion of non-Japanese shipping from the Yangtse River, and a dispute over policing the international settlement in Shanghai.

The United States government, while apparently welcoming any Japanese move toward more favorable treatment of American interests in the Far East, has made it clear that far greater problems now exist in American-Japanese relations.

NO MORE SECRETS

OSLO —(CP) —Jonas Lie Norwegian minister of justice under German occupation, has "in the interests of state" cancelled the oath of secrecy taken by priests, solicitors, doctors and civil officials.

It was at a meeting of A.R.P. workers in Glasgow that Harry Hopkins, President Roosevelt's special representative in Britain, declared: "I know that the vast majority of my countrymen carry for you in their hearts and prayers the confidence and the assurance of ultimate victory over your enemy". Mr. Hopkins is at the RIGHT, with square-cut Mr. Churchill in the CENTRE, and a British naval officer at the LEFT.

Rumania Calls Reservists Up

Urgency seen behind move since peasants are to be taken from fields.

By ROBERT ST. JOHN
Associated Press Staff Writer

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Feb. 20.—(AP)—Rumania has called nearly 1,000,000 army reservists to active service, effective March 15, diplomats both here and in Bulgaria were informed today, presumably to relieve the large German forces now standing at her frontier with Russia.

Two possible explanations were offered here.

The first was that the Nazis, while fearing no Soviet thrust, are assigning the Rumanians to occupy that flank, while the Germans hit to the south at Greece to reach the Mediterranean.

The second, and more generally accepted, was that the Germans are getting ready to give away more of Rumania's territory to the Soviet and figure that it would be easier to do that with Rumanian soldiers on the frontier than in the presence along that frontier of Nazi troops who have been formally pledged to defend it.

That the cali-up held a certain urgency, was illustrated by the fact that most of those summoned are peasants who ordinarily ought to be in their fields.

Discussion of the new Turkish-Bulgarian non-aggression agreement continued during the day, the Turkish press declaring that it would impede rather than aid any German scheme of getting at Greece.

The Germans were said still to be carrying on their campaign to end the Italian-Greek war and were understood to be seeking the Greek government's terms. The Nazis, or so ran the available accounts here, were telling the Greeks that not even with British help could they hope to hold the front before Salonika against the big German forces massed at the Rumanian-Bulgarian border.

German sources also alleged that there was in Greece a strong minority opinion that favored mediation if Greece's frontiers were guaranteed.

Reds Planning Grab?

Speculations that the Soviet was about to take another grab at Rumania—probably the province of Moldavia — were based upon the widely-held supposition that Stalin had helped get Turkey to come to terms with Bulgaria and that this job had a price.

The pact, said the newspaper Vakit, in fact was insurance against

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International At A Glance

CAIRO — Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Imperial General Staff Chief, Sir John Dill, arrive in Egypt on mission believed connected with uncertain Middle East situation; British troops cross Juba River in Italian Somaliland.

SHANGHAI — Japanese troop transports reported en route from Formosa and Japan bases presumably for Hainan Island or French Indo-China.

WASHINGTON — United States reported planning to reinforce Pacific fleet immediately with new planes.

BELGRADE — Rumania calls nearly 1,000,000 reservists to army; move presumed to relieve large German force standing on Russian border.

LONDON — Germans raid South Wales coast for second consecutive night; London has night alarms.

Pledge for War Savings

"SALADA" TEA

Little activity In Albania

ATHENS, Feb. 20.—(AP)— Little activity was reported today from the Greek-Italian war front in Albania except for artillery duelling and consolidation of minor Greek gains in central sectors.

The Greeks organized new advance positions there, it was said, and mopped up nests of Italian resistance which remained after last week's offensive. But despite this thrust, the Albanian front has not changed materially for weeks.

One front line report said Greek artillery fire capsized boats in which Italian units were retiring across a river. Scores dumped from boats were drowned.

Berlin calls Halt to collect Cablegrams

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.— (CP) — Berlin tonight called "nuff!"

The Columbia Broadcasting System reported that the German wireless announced that a deadline, 1 a.m., AST, Sunday, Feb. 22, has been set for the end of its offer to pay for collect cablegrams from the United States.

For six days the messages, in an increasing volume, have been pouring into Berlin from the United States in response to a German offer last Friday that it would receive on a collect basis radiograms from Americans giving their preferences for radio programs. Americans by the thousands seized the opportunity to send insulting messages to Nazidland at German expense.

Tonight, C.B.S. said, the German wireless said it had been "showered" with messages and admitted "not all of them" were complimentary. The German announcer said the radiograms were sent "in a rather amazing mixture of good American slang," fairly bad German and excellent Yiddish."

"My! It was fun to read what Americans had to say!" the announcer was said to have exclaimed.

Claim Petain refuses Escape to Fascists

LONDON, Feb. 20 —(CP) —The British Broadcasting Corporation tonight quoted "reports circulating in Vichy" that chief of state Marshal Petain has refused a request by Mussolini that Italian troops in Libya should be allowed to use Tunisia "as a way of escape."

The BBC said the request was made through Gen. Francisco Franco of Spain at his recent meeting with Marshal Petain.

"In addition, Mussolini is said to have asked Gen. Franco to permit his troops in Libya to go through Spanish Morocco if the British push them out of Libya," the BBC said.

"Since this would mean that the Italians would have to pass through Tunisia, Mussolini's proposition was, according to the reports, put up to Petain. The Marshal is said to have refused on the grounds that under international law the defeated French would be obliged to disarm their conquerors."

See Visit Of Eden, Gen. Dill To Egypt Very Significant

Problems to be discussed are military ones is belief.

By DREW MIDDLETON
Associated Press Staff Writer

LONDON, Feb. 20—(AP)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Gen. Sir John Dill, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, were disclosed tonight to be in Egypt on a visit deemed highly significant in view of the uncertain attitude of Turkey and Greece toward the threat of Nazi invasion.

Although pledges made to Britain by her allies, the Greeks and Turks, have caused no expressions of concern by the British government, neutral diplomatic sources said there has been a feeling in London that a show of arms by the Germans in Bulgaria might force the Greeks into peace negotiations with Italy.

Such a move by the Germans, it was added, certainly would lead the Turks to believe that their national cause would best be served by "watchful waiting" on their defensive lines in Thrace.

It is to gather together the strings of British diplomacy in the Balkans and Middle East, it is felt here, that Mr. Eden has been sent to Cairo.

Gen. Dill, neutral sources say, probably will assure both the Turks and Greeks that Britain's military resources, far from being exhausted by the Libyan campaign, are strong enough to open and maintain a new front in the Balkans.

Every assurance is understood to have been given to Greece within the last two weeks that Britain is

(Continued on page 9, Col 3)

Jap Transports At sea; New Hostilities near?

SHANGHAI, Jan. 21.— (Friday — (AP) — Japanese troop transports were reported steaming southward today -from Formosa and Japan herself, headed presumbaly for Hainan Island —a likely way station in any drive that might be attempted against Singapore—or for northern French Indo-China.

The story was heard here without confirmation but, coming as it did so soon after the arrival of heavy Australian reinforcements in Singapore, it was accepted in some quarters as indicating a Japanese answer to the British action in strengthening that vital Pacific base.

Small contingents of Japanese troops in recent weeks have been steadily entering Indo-China which lies next to Thailand, a country which in turn dominates the land approach to the Malay Peninsula and Singapore.

(In London the British Broadcasting Corporation attributed to the Japanese news agency a report that representatives of the government and the Japanese high command had conferred over "the latest developments" in international relations).

In all, the uneasy Pacific area, the military and naval situation appeared extremely fluid.

Indo-China Pro-British

Bangkok, Thailand, reported that 15 units of the Japanese fleet were known to be in the Siamese Gulf. The Japanese themselves said pro-British sentiment is rising within Indo-China with some Indo-Chinese trying to start a boycott of Japanese commercial interests intended to

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London has Three raids

By GODFREY ANDERSON
Associated Press Staff Writer

LONDON, Feb. 21.— (Friday) — (AP)—German planes returned to London early today for the second time since midnight and the third attack of the night.

Anti-aircraft guns immediately went into action while the alarm sirens wailed, but early reports indicated the main effect of the bombing was to rob Londoners of their sleep.

This third alarm came shortly before 4.30 a.m. (11.30 p.m., A S T, Thursday).

The second alarm came shortly before 1.30 a.m. (8.30 p.m. A S T Thursday) and the all-clear was sounded about two hours later, with little action being reported.

Over the Channel, as on previous recent evening raids, night fighters swept into snow-filled skies to intercept the German planes en route to their attacks over British soil.

London had an earlier alarm, but it was over at 10 p.m. last night (5 p.m. AST).

Soon after nightfall, the raiders made a heavy attack on a town in South Wales (perhaps Swansea again), coming over in a steady stream and dropping a large number of incendiary bombs, followed by high explosives. They were met by intense anti-aircraft fire.

London heard the alarm several hours after blackout time and the clear signal shortly before 10 p.m.

The night raiders came after sporadic day attacks on four East England towns by lone aircraft, two of which were shot down. No damage was reported in the towns.

Nineteen dead and 52 wounded were removed from a large London municipal hospital, one wing of which was blown apart by a direct hit last night.

Patients were killed in their beds and others were found trapped in the wreckage. Some patients had to be removed from another wing in which a delayed-action bomb lodged.

A few persons were killed in other places in London and there were

(Continued on page 9, Col 4)

War—25 Years Ago Today

(By The Canadian Press)

FEB. 21, 1916—Germans launched heavy attacks in Verdun area and captured 800 yards of French first-line positions in Artois. Russian Zeppelin destroyed by French anti-aircraft fire near Revigny. Russian troops on the Eastern Front captured German trenches in Smorgen area.

Mass hysteria Causes 34 To collapse

DETROIT, Feb. 20.—(AP)—Fumigating gas—and "mass hysteria"—were said by Fire Marshal Otto G. Lindemeyer tonight to have caused the collapse this morning of 34 women employees of the Webster Eisenlohr, Ind., cigar factory here.

The gas, Lindemeyer said, apparently escaped from a basement chamber in which raw tobacco is fumigated. The women were given first aid treatment at a receiving hospital and all but one were released within a few hours.

At the hospital physicians said that laboratory tests indicated that not more than 10 of the group actually had inhaled the gas.

TORONTO, Feb. 20—(CP)—Minimum and maximum temperatures.

Dawson	22B	8B
Victoria	40	52
Edmonton	19B	3B
Regina	40B	15B
Winnipeg	25B	2B
Ottawa	1	20
Montreal	7	19
Quebec	8	10
Saint John	15	27
Halifax	19	28
Charlottetown	18	30

Gulf, Bay Chaleur and north shore: strong winds; mostly cloudy with light snowfalls or flurries; not much change in temperature.

FORECAST

Maritime Provinces: Strong winds or moderate gales; mostly cloudy and cold with light snowfalls or flurries.

High tide this morning at 7.02 and this afternoon at 6.25.

Sun sets this afternoon at 5.35 and rises tomorrow morning at 6.52.

New moon Feb. 25, 11.02 p.m.

Summerside tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown.

CAR FERRY SAILINGS

Leaves Borden 9.45 A.M. 1.00 P.M.
Leaves Tormentine 11.00 A.M. 3.15 P. M.

Coming Events

Rate for Notices in this column 3 cents per word.

**Kinkora Hall—Bingo and Dance postponed until Monday, February 24th.

**Playoff Graham's Road rink tonight, Clinton with Monarchs. Admission 15 cents. L-119.

**Hockey tonight at New Glasgow, Hope River vs. South Rustico. L-120.

**Fresh Frozen Strawberries. Phone your order. Daily delivery 1 o'clock except Saturday. Island Cold Storage. L-459-1-25-tf.

**P. E. I. Hospital Cake Sale Moore & McLeod, Saturday, February 22nd, by ladies of Saint James Church. L-98-2-21-21.

**Card Party in aid I. O. O. F. Spitfire Fund, Friday, February 21st, Oddfellows Hall. Tickets 50 cents. Refreshments. L-69-2-19-21.

**Loading live hogs Murray Harbor South Monday, February 24th. Murray River Wednesday 26th. Grandview Thursday for Davis & Fraser. W. E. Jenkins. L-84-2-21-22-24-25.

**Play and box social by Stanhope Women's Institute in Stanhope—Covehead Community Hall, Monday, February 24th at 7.30. If not fine Tuesday. Proceeds for Red Cross. L-107-2-21-21.

Serious dispute Between Japs, French reported

HANOI, French Indo-China, Feb. 20—(AP)— Reliable sources reported tonight that a serious dispute had arisen between the Japanese and French authorities over Japanese demands for $10,000,000 worth of United States and Chinese-owned goods stored in Haiphong warehouses.

These sources said Japanese military authorities demanded that the French requisition the goods and then hand them over to the Japanese, but that the French flatly refused to assist the Japanese "in any unfair way" and said that if the Japanese wanted the goods they must seize them forcibly and take the responsibility themselves.

The supplies include American trucks, tires and other materials which were en route to China when the Japanese cut off the Haiphong-Kunming route last September.

It was reported that the Japanese have strengthened their guards around the warehouses, preventing removal of any supplies, even those requisitioned by the French.

The Japanese, in making their demands, were said to have begun by stressing their right to direct Indo-China's economic affairs because this country is part of the "greater East Asia prosperity sphere."

Observers here said it was apparent that the Japanese were keeping a close grip on the disputed goods so they could seize them quickly in the event of war in the Pacific.

Demand end of Partisanship In war Gov't

OTTAWA, Feb. 20—(CP)—Demands for elimination of partisanship in wartime government were heard in the House of Commons today from three Conservative members as debate on the $1,300,000,000 war appropriation measure continued.

Howard Green (Con. Vancouver South) called for the creation of a "victory ministry" made up from all parties in the chamber, and declared the people had lost confidence in both Parliament and the administration.

T. L. Church (Con. Toronto-Broadview) and Gordon Graydon (Con. Peel) urged a change in the administration that would remove the party tinge and enable all groups in the House to aid and criticize the war effort.

John Blackmore, leader of the New Democracy group, criticized the Government's financial methods and forecast that the bulk of the money to be raised would be obtained by creation of new money.

He denied that the Social Credit theory involved inflation and declared it would be possible to finance maximum production without requiring undue sacrifices by the people.

Arthur Roebuck (Lib. Toronto-Trinity) was the only Liberal speaker during the afternoon sitting. He advised the House not to be too overcome by the size of the proposed war appropriation.

SHOT POLITICAL AGENT

QUETTA India —(CP) —Maj. H. A. Barnes, political agent of Zhob District, Baluchistan, was shot dead by a Jogazai who was arrested for trial.