



# The Devil's River News

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## Fall of Paris Is Indication Of Hitler's Plans

The surrender of Paris, which was followed almost at once by the collapse of French military resistance, was more than a disaster for the French Republic, more than a great victory for Hitler's incredible war machine. It was a symbol of the cataclysmic changes that are taking place at a bewildering speed in the world we live in. For Paris, with London, has long been associated in men's minds with freedom—with all that democracy means. And democracy is what Hitler, as he said and wrote time and again, is out to destroy. Paris is—or used to be—a living example of all that Nazism abhors.

Little by little we are coming to realize that this is not a war in the traditional sense. It is, instead, a revolution with the most far-reaching purposes imaginable. There have always been victors and vanquished in war. But, once the peace treaties were drawn, the world went on much as it did before. The victorious powers did not attempt to force a government, a philosophy of life of their own choosing, on the conquered. Few

are able to believe that if Hitler wins he will be satisfied with such rewards as financial reparations, the restoration of the pre-war German colonies and similar material gains. For Hitler, as Mein Kampf vividly indicates, is consumed by two ambitions. One is to make the German race master of all Europe and perhaps, in the fullness of time, the world. The other is to destroy the capitalistic system, liberalism in government, and the democratic process. We have many an object lesson in the countries he has so far taken. In every instance, freedom of press and speech and all rights of protest, have been abrogated 100 per cent. While the forms of local government are permitted to exist, all important decisions and policies are made in Berlin. Revolt of any kind against Nazi orders is punished with the utmost severity. And racial minorities, especially the Jews, are ruthlessly oppressed.

Men who have had contact with high German circles have lately been describing what they believe a Hitler victory would mean to Europe, and to the balance of the world. They say that the Fuehrer envisions a Germanic Europe in which only the German, the master race, would be permitted to bear

arms. A European customs union, completely German controlled, would be established. The smaller nations would disappear, or would exist as mere geographical entities, without power or real meaning. All currencies would be dominated by Germany, and Germany would establish the terms on which trade between peoples could be carried on. The gold standard, of course, would cease to exist. It would be replaced by some sort of a barter system. The "superior" peoples of Europe—the British, the French, the Scandinavians, etc.—would command a high standard of living, while the "inferior" peoples, such as the Slavs, would be much in the position of slaves, performing the hard labor and receiving in return just enough food and clothing and lodging and medical attention to keep them alive and able to work.

So far as this hemisphere is concerned, there are two theories. One is that, after Hitler had consolidated Europe, he would attack the Americans with military force. The other is that he has no such plans—which is what he said in his recent interview with an American news correspondent. The second theory has many authoritative adherents. Hitler, they say, feels that the Americans would have to come to terms with him whether they wished to or not, in order to dispose of their surplus commodities and manufacture abroad. The Americas, he reasons, must have foreign trade—and that necessity would drive them to join in whatever system of commerce he establishes. Our gold—and at the moment we have some 60 per cent of all the world's monetary gold—would be useful only for filling teeth and manufacturing jewelry.

One note of optimism is occasionally sounded. Even if Hitler wins an overwhelming victory in Europe, some hopefuls say, he will not be able to put his plans into effect. This is based on the fact that all the empires won by conquest in the past have invariably collapsed sooner or later of their own weight. Conquered people are not cooperative—a tremendous part of the conquerer's energies and resources

and man power must be given to policing them. And in time, the conqueror grows rich and soft.

So much for speculation. This seems sure—tomorrow's world, no matter who wins this war, will be a vastly different place than the world of today. There will, say the authorities, be famines, depression, constant social and economic upheavals. The future for all nations is far from bright.

## Cockroaches, Bane Of Housewife, May Be Destroyed

Sodium fluoride, either pure or mixed with equal parts of flour, is the ticket for killing cockroaches.

Roaches will tackle almost any kind of food and usually pollute several times more than they actually eat. The pests hang out in the kitchen or pantry or other places where food is kept.

For control, dust sodium fluoride in the places frequented by the roaches, especially along the edges of the rooms. The best results will be obtained by use of a dust gun which forces the dust into cracks and crevices.

The insecticide is most effective when applied in the evening, since roaches do not move around much in the day time.

"Sodium fluoride is toxic to man and animals and should not be used where children may get at it," warns Cameron Siddall, entomologist of the Texas A. and M. Extension Service.

"It can be swept out each morning, but I recommend ground pyrethrum in homes where there are small children." Pyrethrum is not poisonous to humans.

The entomologist says commercial sprays are not effective unless the insects are actually hit by the spray.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT . . . ?

Concord, N. H., town officials recently revived an old New England custom—a beer party for the workmen who built the new public library. The custom dates back to the Pilgrim Fathers, who used to tap a keg whenever a public building was finished. Several other cities have since followed Concord's lead.

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## Check Your Home For Needed Improvements

A leisurely trip through the home is the easiest and most efficient way to determine what improvements are desirable or necessary to improve the liveability of the house.

A wide range of home improvements may be made with funds obtainable under lending institution now available. A new roof may be put on or the old one repaired. Additional rooms may be added. It is easy to make a playroom in the attic or basement. A sun porch may be added.

New floors may be installed or the old one refinished. Posts and piers may be replaced, and the foundation strengthened where needed. Construction of built-in closets and cupboards is eligible under such loans, as well as the installation of modern plumbing fixtures, a new bathroom or an extra bathroom for guests.

There are many such improvements which can be noted in such an inspection trip, and we are qualified to estimate the cost of the improvements, furnish plans for the changes or additions, and supply the materials necessary to convert your old home into one with every modern convenience and appearance.

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### Fourth of July Is Day of Hazards To Excursionists

Looking ahead to the approaching observance of the Fourth of July, Dr. Geo. W. Cox, State Health Officer, warns against the irresponsible use of fireworks and other explosives. Dr. Cox pointed out that celebration of the Fourth of July has associated with it inevitable increase in hazards to life and limb: auto accidents increase in added

traffic congestion; an undue number of drownings occur, chiefly affecting non-swimmers in places lacking adequate safety supervision; and a great many injuries and not a few deaths are directly attributable to fireworks. The past several years have seen the introduction of municipal ordinances in certain cities designed to prevent the indiscriminate and intemperate use of fireworks, particularly the more dangerous types and this has to some degree reduced the hazard associated with their general use. However, it is not to be inferred

that risks to health and life from fireworks have been eliminated completely. Temporary stands inside city limits make explosives accessible to the Independence Day celebrators, while the large majority of Texas communities have as yet adopted no regulations barring them. Non-thinking parents still permit thousands of children to use this dangerous method of celebrating the Fourth, with the inevitable result that some of them find their way to the hospital, and others to an undertaker's establishment. Tetanus always is in the shadow where high explosives are being handled for amusement by amateurs. Any person receiving a powder burn or wound, however superficial, should see a physician immediately. Anti-tetanus serum, in the majority of instances, will be administered to prevent the possibility of lockjaw. To treat an injury of this type unconcernedly is to run an unjustifiable risk. Moreover, the post-Fourth's casualty items are augmented by the carelessly operated automobile. Statistics show that not only in Texas, but throughout the nation, the misoperated motor vehicle is a real Fourth of July hazard. Again, the list of drownings is definitely increased on that day. And finally, snake bites, polluted drinking water, sunburn, and poison ivy are always ready to meet the excursionist half-way. There is no desire to dampen any one's enthusiasm for fun and relaxation on the Fourth, but the wise person will appreciate that harmful possibilities to life, limbs and health do exist, and will govern himself accordingly.

gram is necessary before the farmer can earn soil-building payments. No figures are yet available on improvement work done under the Range Conservation Program for 1939.

### Present And Prospective Airport Requirements

Air-power has fulfilled all its promises in European war, but it cannot be measured in terms of planes, pilots, and aircraft industries alone. Landing-fields are equally important.

Airports must be numerous, well-scattered—so that a successful enemy raid on any one would not be disastrous—and properly equipped. Heavy bombers cannot operate without substantial, long, all-weather runways to carry their weight; and fighting planes—which have fast landing-speeds—also need abundant space. Furthermore, numerous airports also are essential as regards supply. Planes can carry only enough bombs and bullets for a few minutes' combat activity. If they must return over long distances for more ammunition and fuel, their effectiveness is reduced. At the same time they are in danger of attack while defenseless. Military airports also should be fully equipped for repair and overhaul work.

It is significant that control over major airports has been among the Nazis' first objectives in every country they have invaded. The British troops who withdrew from Norway blamed their untenable position upon the lack of supporting airplanes. The Royal Air Force was compelled to use improvised fields and frozen lakes, which were unsatisfactory and vulnerable to enemy action. The Netherlands air force was destroyed or rendered impotent when the German seized or wrecked its landing fields.

Germany has used 650 first-class airports in its Western Front operations. Of the United States' 1,824 landing-fields, the Civil Aeronautics Authority considers only 31 suitable for military operations. If this Nation is to build a great defensive air force it obviously must construct and improve more airports.

Some States (including Texas) have prepared comprehensive plans to meet future airport needs. Present facilities are inadequate even for private and commercial flying. By building an adequate airport system as quickly as possible, America can promote a great industry's growth while strengthening the national defense.

### Tried Gar Fishing Yet?

The State Department's campaign to get anglers fishing for gar continues to progress. Have you tried the sport yet? Gar fishing with a wire noose is proving one of the most thrilling of all sports to hundreds of Texas anglers. A request to the State Game Department at Austin for a leaflet describing the procedure and how to make the noose will bring you one free of charge.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT . . . ?

This year Vassar College is celebrating the 75th anniversary of its founding by Matthew Vassar, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., brewer, who established it as the first privately endowed college for women in America. Brewer Vassar's neighbors, who had long shaken their heads over his unconventional views on higher education for women, thought he had gone completely mad when he contributed \$100,000 to demonstrate his theories. Today more than 120 American colleges for women stand as proof of the wisdom of Matthew Vassar's judgment.

The first reported use of Texas oil was in 1543 by survivors of the De Soto expedition, who used a heavy coastal asphalt to repair their ships.

### Wildlife Valued At \$94,350,394

Texas continues to lead the nation in the value of its wildlife resources, according to figures assembled after surveys were made by the federal government and forwarded to the executive secretary of the State Game Commission. Not only does Texas lead the nation, but its wildlife resources are worth approximately three times as much as those of the second leading state.

Wildlife resources in Texas are valued at \$94,350,394 by federal experts. This takes into consideration the value of insectivorous birds to the farmer, of game and the amount of money spent by hunters it brings the land owner, hotel owners, stores and tourist camps; the value of the fur crop

in the state and a myriad of other ways in which game is of actual monetary value to the Lone Star State.

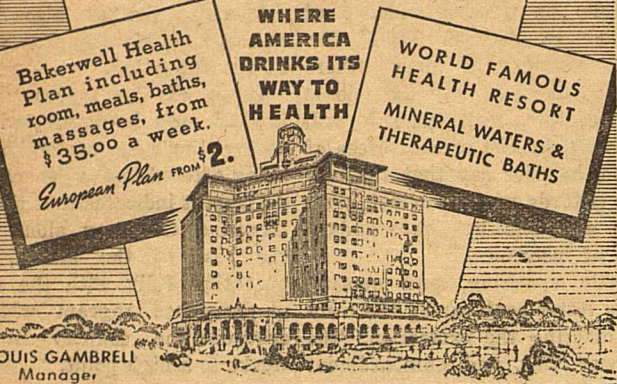
### DID YOU KNOW THAT . . . ?

Our modern word, "bridal," comes from the old English custom of holding bride-ales. These were wedding day festivals at which the bride served ale to the guests, and received presents in return. There were also give-ales, for charity; bid-ales, held in connection with public sales; and cuckoo-ales, which celebrated the arrival of the first cuckoo of the spring. In time the phrase "bride-ale," shortened to "bridal," became synonymous with the wedding ceremony.

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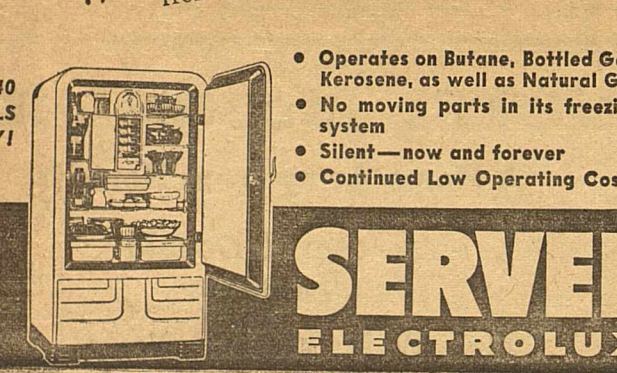
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### Compilation of Soil Building Practices Is In Final Stage

A final compilation of soil building practices completed under the 1939 AAA Program in Texas shows that on 18,297 farms, 20,231 miles of standard terraces were constructed; on 206,696 farms, 2,397,253 acres of green manure and cover crops were planted; on 77,487 farms, soil-depleting crops were interplanted with summer legumes on 852,290 acres; on 61,619 farms 4,909,232 acres of intertilled crops were farmed on the contour. Under the AAA program farmers can earn a specified amount of payments, varying according to the size of the farm, for adopting soil-building practices. The maximum payment available is computed on a basis of the acreage of cropland, commercial orchards and perennial vegetables, non-crop open pasture land, reforestation land, and acreage planted to forest trees. Payments earned for soil-building work are in addition to payments for planting within acreage allotments. George Slaughter, chairman of the state committee created out, but compliance with the other provisions of the pro-

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