



CRACKING THE BALKAN BASTION—Millions of years ago, when the earth was cooling, it wrinkled pretty badly in that part of its surface which is now the Balkans. Greece and the Aegean Sea were the wrinkles formed mountain chains. When the sea rushed in it surrounded some of the peaks in the South and left them sticking above the surface. Today they are islands—Crete, the Dodecanese Islands, many others.

The rest of the mountains remained as chains on the mainland. Together with the islands they formed a stout wall for Hitler's Balkan conquests. Starting with the Alps southwest of Vienna, the wall ran south along the coast of Yugoslavia, through Albania, down through Greece and its neighboring islands, then across through Crete and back north through a chain of Aegean islands to the mainland. It ran north through Bulgaria to the pass just inside Romania called the Iron Gate, then swooped eastward and back to Vienna. Protective mountain spurs ran out from both sides of the Vienna gateway.

The fortress wall had one serious fault. It did not surround the priceless oil fields of Romania. To overcome this, the Germans set in strong defensive positions running from the Carpathian-Transylvanian Alp elbow to the Black Sea—first along the Dniestr River, then along the Prut, then falling back still farther south along the Danube east of Odessa and running into the mountains.

One by one, the Russians smashed these defenses and pushed on into lower Romania. Before they had reached Ploesti, center of the oil fields, the Romanians sued for peace and turned to fighting the Germans. At the same time the Russians began pushing through the mountain passes in Northeastern Romania. Before them lay the broad Hungarian plain and the Danube Valley road to Austria.

As the Balkan political structure collapsed, the Nazis' "fortress" became more and more a trap in which they were caught.

—Herman R. Allen.

Broughton To See Dam

ANNISTON, Ala. (AP)—Governor Broughton and a party of about 20 men, including the state highway and public works commission, arrived at a point on the Tennessee river just below the dam site today to inspect the dam site. The governor held a three-hour session here yesterday for the purpose of inspecting the dam site. The governor and his party were taken to the dam site by a motor launch. After the launch, the governor and his party were taken to the dam site by a motor launch. The governor and his party were taken to the dam site by a motor launch.

Campaign Myths

By Samuel Crafton

NEW YORK—Political campaigns are here to stay in this country on the basis of the points made by the candidates in their full-dress electioneering. The set speeches are a necessary and traditional part of the campaign process, but they are the forerunners of the heated and often bitter political struggle that follows.

The myth speaks of the campaign as a certain intellectual contest, that represents the competition of the two candidates, each armed with his own set of ideas, and each seeking to win the support of the voters. This is the myth of the campaign as a contest of ideas, and it is a myth that has been around for a long time.

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Duke Trial Near Jury

DURHAM, N.C.—The trial of Herman Lee Council, Duke Power Co. bus driver, charged with murder in connection with the death of a Camp Butler Negro soldier, opened the jury today.

The arguments of attorneys and the charge of Judge Luther Hamilton remained to be completed after yesterday's session of Superior Court.

Council contended he shot the soldier in self-defense after the latter advanced upon him when told to sit in the rear of the bus.

REA Finishes Convention

WAYNESVILLE, N.C.—The North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority Managers' Association ended a two-day conference here yesterday. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Rich Point in November simultaneously with the meeting of the National Grange in Winston-Salem.

John W. Asher Jr., special assistant and liaison officer of the REA office in Washington, and David Baker, state field engineer of the REA in charge of design and construction, spoke at yesterday's session.

Both speakers urged that REA units in North Carolina take advantage of a recent ruling permitting the extension of REA lines under certain conditions.

Butter Will Be Short For Rest Of This Year

WASHINGTON—Butter supplies will not improve before the end of this year and see butter may be available before Thanksgiving, say some War Food Administration authorities.

Butter production during the first seven months of this year, WFA reports show, was about 10 per cent below the same period last year. Estimated production for 1944 has been set by WFA at 1,800,000,000 pounds compared with 2,000,000,000 last year.

Production now is at a seasonal low ebb. An upswing in milk supply is expected to start in November, but it will take some weeks thereafter to get the butter into trade channels.

"A fish has no facial expression because it has no facial muscles," mind while listening to and reading major speeches.

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