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**Behind the Scenes in Washington**

**Editor's Note:** The opinions expressed in this article are those of Mr. Dutcher, NEA-Reporter-Telegram Washington correspondent, and are not to be construed as expressing the editorial policy of The Reporter-Telegram.

WASHINGTON, March 29. — By common consent, it has long been held in the best-informed circles that one of the screwiest things an outsider can do is to get into a game where the cards are marked, where the dice are loaded or where some of the players have a secret signal system.

The game of international power politics is such a game and the United States doesn't know which cards are marked, which dice loaded or which nations are playing

footie and with whom. Stakes and tensions are rising in Europe. But the State Department, which loves the game, can hardly dare make the point that "it's the only game in town."

Simplification of the European situation is riskier than it is simple. It would be much easier if one could accept the current official diplomatic view in Washington that the "Rome-Berlin axis" has been busted by Hitler's annexation of Austria. The plain fact, however, is that no one can tell from this distance how tight is the bond between Hitler and Mussolini or how bright are England's chances of severing that bond. The net effect is fairly certain to strengthen the position of those Americans who want to keep their noses out of European affairs.

**Hitler Surprised II Duce.**  
THIS government has confidential advisers — which it believes — that active Nazi penetration of Austria which began when Hitler summoned Chancellor Schuschnigg to a conference in February, was a surprise to Mussolini and that the Duce knew nothing of the conference until he read about it in the newspapers.

Officials believe that Mussolini fears Hitler — now that German troops are at the Brenner Pass — that the interests of Hitler and Mussolini conflict, that Italy wants and needs a Mediterranean agreement with England more than anything else and that Mussolini regards prospective German penetration into Czechoslovakia and

**Every Silver Lining Has Its Dark Cloud**



**SIDE GLANCES** By George Clark



both ends against the middle was at least temporarily interrupted when Hitler and Mussolini decided that they could and would put England herself in the middle.

This arrangement blossomed into an "anti-Communist" pact with Japan which caused Britain simultaneously to worry about German air raids, control of the Mediterranean and her "life line" to India and her interests in the Far East. It blossomed into a climax at least according to certain likely grapevine reports, when Germany and Italy both refused to enter into any "appeasement" negotiations with England until Sir Anthony Eden resigned as foreign minister.

Not everyone in the State Department is so naive as to believe that Italy will now decide to part company with Nazi Germany and cast in her lot with England in return for certain not too vital concessions. There are those who believe that Hitler and Mussolini long ago agreed that Germany should have Austria and that Italy should have Spain—and, in each case, goodness knows how much more territory.

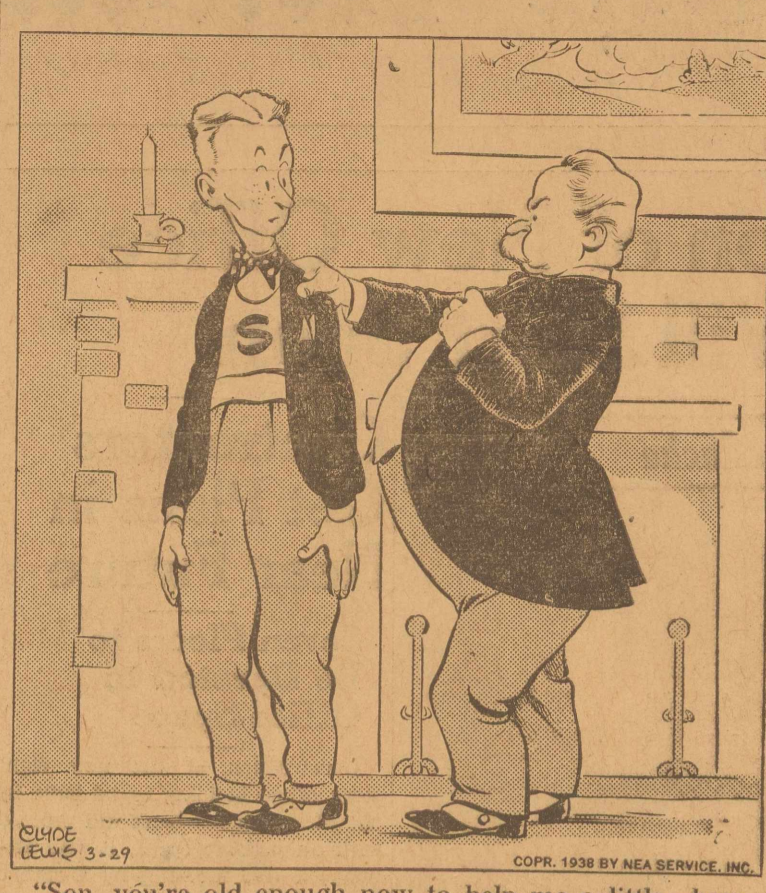
Nothing is proved except the fact that the United States, with few if any chips on the table as yet, just doesn't know what's happening or what's about to happen in Europe and presumably should act accordingly.

Troupe Starts 68th Season.

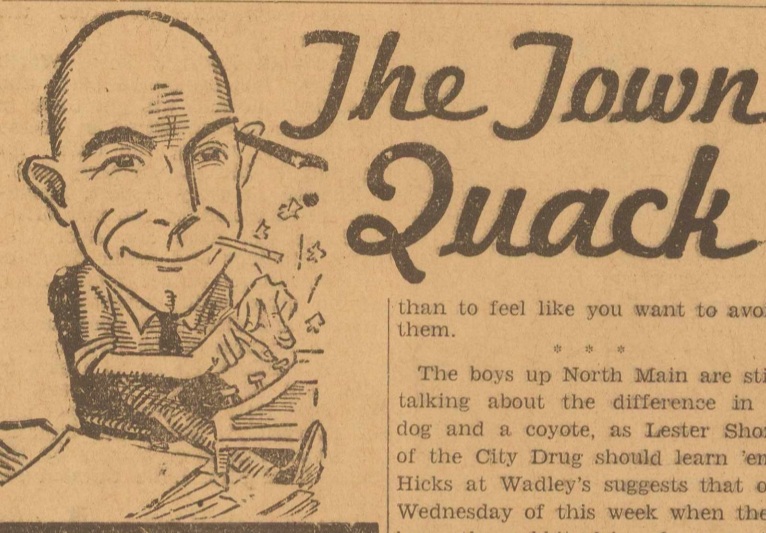
ASHLEY, Ind. (UP)—Rehearsals for the opening of the 68th season of the Ginnivan Stock Company, rated the oldest tent stock company in the United States, are scheduled to start April 18. Frank Ginnivan, manager, said that the troupe would open May 2—the 29th opening here.

Panama disease has caused great loss to the banana industry in the past few years, but now a new type of banana, immune to this blight, has been developed.

**Hold Everything!**



CHUCK LEWIS 3-29



A lot of times the big news is known by everyone before it is published in the paper, but often that just seems to be necessary. The new office building was one of those cases. It had been talked around town for weeks, but the builders were wise enough to withhold official announcement until all details were taken care of and the building was assured. We are proud to see them ready to build this handsome edifice, and can even swallow the fact that we were scooped in our enthusiasm over seeing the job get started.

Here's a tip to those most interested in the school board election, although I don't expect many to take the tip: Don't say anything or do anything through spite which you will regret a few days after the election. You are going to continue to be living right here among these same folks, and when you meet them on the street you might as well be free to grin at them rather

than to feel like you want to avoid them.

The boys up North Main are still talking about the difference in a dog and a coyote, as Lester Short of the City Drug should learn 'em. Hicks at Wadley's suggests that on Wednesday of this week when they have the rabbit drive down south of town, everybody but Jim Harrison should keep up their dogs, to be safe. Hicks says that even Lester Short could tell Jim's "Rigo" from a coyote.

O. B. Holt wanted me to take back what I said about his spending \$2,000 to catch a fish. I told him I was quoting Frank Waters,

so O. B. said to unquote him.

A couple of men from Lamea walked in the Scharbauer lobby yesterday and wanted to know what convention was in session.

Russell Conkling said this trick photography is getting to where anything looks possible, in a picture. He said if he hadn't seen some of those jack-rabbit and grass hopper pictures, he would have believed the picture we published of O. B. Holt standing beside the fish he had caught on the coast of Mexico.

H. E. Lewellen said: "What I say goes a long way—with myself."

**Rain's "Dry" in Oregon.**  
SALEM, Ore. (UP)—Oregon rain is dry rain. That is how a CCC enrollee from Georgia described it in a letter to his family. When the youth gave the letter to the camp educational instructor for correction, he was asked what he meant by "dry rain." He replied, "In Georgia rain pours down, but in Oregon it rains a lot drier."

A life insurance policy based on the life of a man in Delaware is regarded as the largest in the world. He is insured for \$5,000,000.

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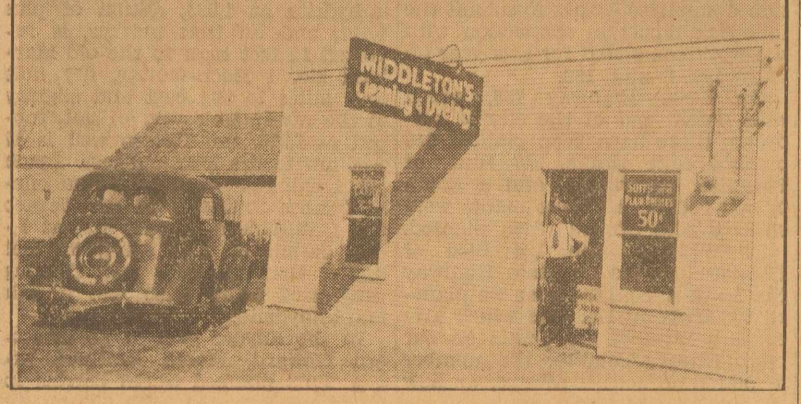
**Polish General Rushes to Vilna**



Marshal Rydz-Smigley, above, inspector general of the Polish army and the nation's virtual dictator, hurried to Vilna as popular excitement followed the Polish demands on Lithuania. Rydz-Smigley is heir to the popular adoration accorded to the late Marshal Pilsudski as father of the re-birth of Polish nationalism.

On an average, it takes a London taxicab driver 10 years to pay for his cab.

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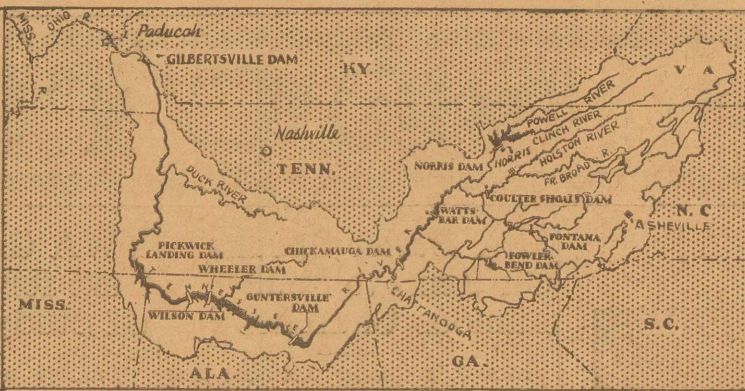
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# STORM OVER



# THE TVA

This is the fourth of series of six articles discussing the Tennessee Valley Authority.

BY WILLIS THORNTON.

NEA Service Staff Correspondent. DAYTON, Tenn., March 29.—TVA is more than teeming headquarters buildings in Knoxville, more than spectacular dams holding back great rivers, more than thick volumes of reports on research.

It is also power lines crossing fields that never saw their like before, and electric bulbs replacing oil lamps in farm homesteads.

Take the case of one average Tennessee Valley town as an example:

Dayton is the town made famous in 1925 by the "monkey trial" or Scopes case in which William Jennings Bryan and Clarence Darrow clashed over the teaching of evolution in the schools. What has TVA done to Dayton?

Evolution teaching is still barred in the Dayton schools, and the Bible is still prominently displayed on the waiting room table of Dr. G. V. Taylor, chairman of the city commission. But there are changes in Dayton, which was described 13 years ago as a typical backwoods "hillbilly" community.

Dayton Gets a Harbor.

TVA electricity has helped bring about the change. Power is sold wholesale to a distribution system already municipally owned before TVA arrived.

Dr. Taylor, the dentist who is "mayor" of the town, tells of a full-fashioned hosiery mill nearing completion to take advantage of the power, and of plans under way for construction of docks and warehouses, for Dayton will be a river port when Chickamauga Dam backs water up to its doorstep.

F. E. Robinson, the druggist in whose "country store" the Scopes argument began, and who still preserves among his new marble-topped equipment the old wood-

Electricity Comes to the Country . . . A Step Along the Road of Rural Progress, Paved by TVA.



Out with the Old, on with the New.

What TVA means out on the end of the line. Mrs. Gertrude Spruce, of near Griffin, Ga., at left, is blowing out her old oil lamp as she snaps on the switch that gives her electric light as a member of the Central Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, using TVA current. The picture at right shows installation of a power line in a rural home.

tributed through the Meigs County for power; in December, 1937, we sold 52,104 kilowatt hours to 723 customers. In that same month of August, 1936, we paid TVA \$50.19 Electric Membership Corporation, a co-operative. W. A. Shadow, who is also county farm agent, is secretary.

**Power Use Increases.**  
BUT the figures on growth of power use, compiled in the neat new municipal building beside the brisk new federal postoffice building, tell the story:

	Feb. 1935	Feb. 1938
Total KWH	42,402	143,475
Residential customers	451	665
Commercial customers	144	180
Industrial customers	6	5

The decline in industrial customers is explained by a recent change in classification. There are really nine now on the same basis as 1935, it is explained.

Take another, smaller community: Between Dayton and Athens lies the crossroads village of Decatur. Here the basis effects of TVA out in sheer farm territory are shown. TVA power is dis-

tributed through the Meigs County for power; in December, 1937, we sold 52,104 kilowatt hours to 723 customers. In that same month of August, 1936, we paid TVA \$50.19 Electric Membership Corporation, a co-operative. W. A. Shadow, who is also county farm agent, is secretary.

**Had No Live Wires.**  
IN his bare little office in the country courthouse, he tells this story:

"When TVA came along, there wasn't a live wire in Meigs county except a few people here in Decatur who had a gasoline plant making enough current for a few lights in their houses at 25 cents a kilowatt hour.

"That plant was junked when TVA entered the field here. In August of 1936 the TVA co-op sold 5019 kilowatt hours to 139 customers. In December, 1937, we paid TVA \$434.38.

"It has been a great thing in improving the way people live. Now we have in the county one completely electrically heated home,

five supplementary heaters, six electric motors for feed grinding, seven electric fence systems, 30 electric water pumps, 70 electric refrigerators, 300 radios, and six milk coolers, besides a lot of other electric apparatus, and of course light in the place of oil lamps.

**TVA Bringing Them Back.**  
"WE have connected no customer who was connected when we came in. We pleaded with the Tennessee Electric Power Co. to run wires out here, but they wanted \$22,000 for the line. With the load we have, we'd never pay that off. So we turned to TVA at the first chance."

Shadow is a native who has traveled considerably, but who came back to Tennessee because it is his home and because he thinks rural life is preferable to any other. "I know of six families who have come back to Meigs county since we got the TVA power," he says. "They are people who had gone away because there was nothing here. The people with brains and ability mostly did leave these parts in the old days because it was no way to live."

"We want to live as other Americans live. Now, with electricity, we can, and people drift back. That ought to help eliminate congestion in big cities.

"The way it has been, the kids go away to school and college and they come back home and find the old-fashioned way of living isn't good enough. They are dissatisfied. Now they can stay and still live decently; we won't be losing all

## Concerns to Serve Oil Industry Lead In Charters Given

AUSTIN.—The building of additional oil refineries and the location in the state of concerns established to serve the oil industry account for the principal manufacturing activities in Texas during the month of February. Clara H. Lewis, editorial assistant in the University of Texas Bureau of Business Research, pointed out in her latest monthly survey of Texas manufacturing developments.

The Humble Oil and Refining Company has completed its new refinery at Bloomington, and the Amoco Refining Corporation has built an electrically operated plant at Corpus Christi.

"The new industries include: Bakoring, Inc., Houston, manufacturing piston rings; C. P. Ryan Tool Company, Houston, reconditioning oil field tools; and the Ralph Pierce Sheet Metal Company, Dallas," Mrs. Lewis said.

"Broadcast Recordings, Inc., Dallas, which began operation in February is the only concern in the state producing electrical transcriptions for radio broadcasting, according to our present information.

"Among other industries beginning operation during the past month are: Gilbert E. Olson Company, Houston, air conditioning equipment; Clyde E. Ponder, Dallas, commercial uniforms; Service Operating Company, Dallas, bakery; Morgan Brothers Planing Mill, Dallas, and the new plant of the Gulf

our best blood to the cities.

**It Takes Faith.**

"Of course it doesn't pay now. But it will all pay off some day. You have to take it all on faith."

"This faith in the future, expressed by an obscure county agent in the remote Tennessee hills, is the keynote to the whole TVA experiment, which is geared to 20 and 50 years in the future for its full fruition.

Very little TVA power is distributed directly. It is sold to 18 municipalities (17,782 customers), 16 co-operative associations formed to distribute it (18,136 customers), 1850 temporary direct customers, and 1516 customers on government reservations.

The Meigs county association and Dayton projects described above are not "TVA prize exhibits" — in fact, the publicity offices of the TVA regard them as among their less attractive accomplishments, preferring to describe such communities as that in Lauderdale county, Ala., where 1210 customers have bought almost a half million dollar's worth of appliances and house-wiring materials.

But they serve to demonstrate what TVA is doing in small, out-of-the-way communities in the great valley.

NEXT: "More power to you" might well be TVA's slogan, but "to whom?" and "at what cost?" and "how?" have become leading questions.

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## Accountants Firm Head Visits Here

C. W. Barkley, District Manager, International Accountants Society, Inc., is making a special tour of West Texas this week, in order to consult with any persons interested in getting authoritative information relative to accounting training as applied to modern business. He invites anyone interested to call him at the Scharbauer Hotel, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday for free consultation.

"Lack of higher education need no longer bar the ambitious man from attaining business success," says Barkley, "provided that man has a good public school education."

"The demand for accounting trained men has increased tremendously in the past quarter century. As business recovery becomes more pronounced, there will be more jobs for accounting trained men and women. Business has become more scientific. Business leaders have been forced to abandon slip shod methods and find efficient ones."

Barkley has had years of accounting experience in both public accounting and government service. He was formerly in the United States Revenue Department, Income Tax Division, and U. S. Engineers.

Read the Classifieds.

Portland Cement Company at Houston.

"A total of twenty canning plants in the lower Rio Grande valley reported the sum of \$172,000 spent for citrus fruit to be used in canning during February. An additional \$14,000 was spent for vegetables by this group of canneries, most of which was paid to producers of spinach.

"Besides the list of twelve new industries which began operation during February, others, including a new canning plant at Jacksonville and a packing house at Lufkin are reported under construction."

## Confers With Hitler Over Catholics' Fate



Worried about the fate of Catholics, who compose 90 per cent of Austria's population, Theodore Cardinal Inntzer conferred with Hitler when the latter arrived in Vienna after annexing Austria. Church bells were rung for Hitler.

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