

SIDELINES

By H. M. Ross

ON THE DAY AFTER the German declaration of war against Belgium, England declared war on Germany for the violation of Belgium's neutrality, and the greatest holocaust of history was in progress. The little nation's neutrality had been guaranteed by Russia, Austria, Prussia, France, Great Britain, and the Netherlands in 1839; the invading Germans brushed aside the agreement as a "scrap of paper." After the war, with the permission of the powers at Versailles, Belgium dropped its neutral role and turned for security to collective agreements and a military alliance with France.

LAST MONTH THE news came from Brussels that Belgium, still seeking security, would abandon her post-war position and return to the old policy of neutrality. There will be a difference in that return. Whereas guaranteed neutrality had been imposed on the nation by the powers as a check on one another's territorial ambitions in the low countries, the new neutrality will spring from Belgium alone. It will mean the end of the Franco-Belgian alliance; it will withdraw Belgium from collective action and any new Locarno pact that may be concluded.

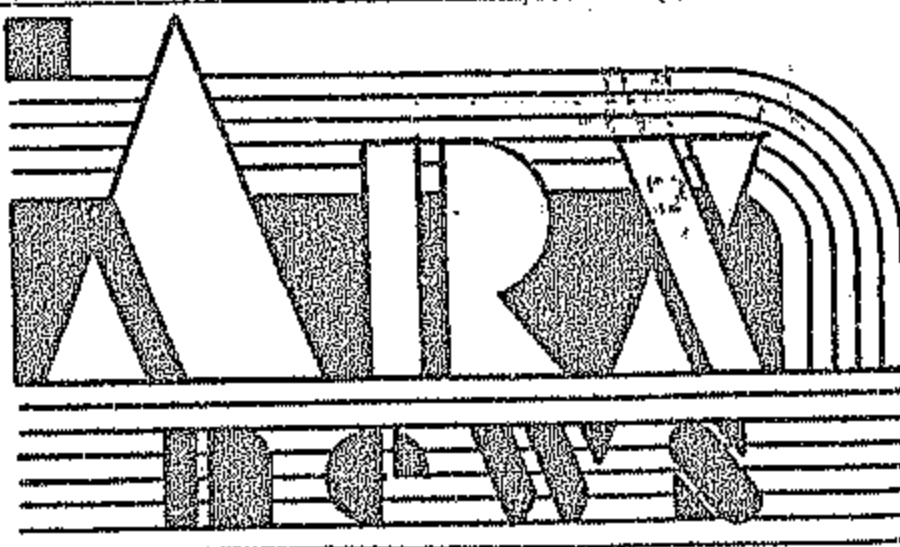
KING LEOPOLD announced the new policy. He cited the rapid militarization of Europe, the rivalries of different governmental systems, the reoccupation of the Rhineland by German troops, which put his country back in her pre-war situation with foreign armies on all borders, and

what he deemed the ineffectiveness of the League of Nations.

"ALLIANCES, EVEN defensive ones," the King said, "would not serve us because, prompt as it may be, aid could not reach us before the first shock of the invader, which might be overpowering and against which we must be prepared to fight alone. We must henceforth pursue an exclusively Belgian policy directed resolutely toward withdrawing our nation from the quarrels of our neighbors. It can be sustained by reasonable military and financial effort."

PARIS WAS DEEPLY stirred, though not unprepared for the Belgian move; it requested a clarification from Brussels. What, it was asked, was the Belgian position in regard to the present Locarno pact, denounced by Germany in remilitarizing the Rhineland, but still recognized by Belgium and other powers? What role would Belgium play in the future of the League and in proposed international peace moves? To such queries, it was understood, Brussels replied that she contemplated no break in her international diplomatic obligations.

FRENCH OBSERVERS regarded the new policy as a result of internal and external pressure. For the one thing, the Belgian population, divided pretty evenly between French-speaking Walloons and Flemings who have a Germanic dialect, was in disagreement over the dependence on France. By breaking the military tie, it was pointed out, Belgium might demonstrate her independence to Germany; at the same time she could depend on England and France to resist any violator of her neutrality. Belgium as a buffer state between the English Channel and the great Continental powers has been the traditional concern of Britain.



ARX NEWS

Now that the Arx Dance and the charettes are out of the way, the Arx are all as far back to normal as they ever will be. TOM CUNNINGHAM, WALLY LITWIN, and the junior class are to be congratulated for the really swell dance they ran. It will set a standard for all of Armour's future affairs and the fellows who will manage next year's Arx Dance will have to go some to surpass this one. The present Soph class will burn that bridge when they come to it. Apparently indefatigable, the juniors are industriously at work on the plans for a banquet to be given on December 4. Every Arx is expected to attend and the faculty will be there en masse. Invitations to speak are being sent out to several of the more recent alumni with the idea of finding out from them some of the things that one will have to know after graduation that one didn't learn in school.

"Life" began with a M. C. for Litwin and Mentions for Davidson, Iwasa, Kliphardt, Pelz, Skubic and Woolsey. Seven out of a class of twelve! Yes, "Life" is good. There was a Sophomore Judgment last Wednesday and—hotly doodle! Rea received a First Mention, Richardson, Huboi and "Mike" Mentions Commended and ten others received Mentions. The jury treated the Beauty Salon very kindly.

A little tale: One fine afternoon when all was peaceful and quiet, one of last year's effervescent characters popped in to lend a note of cheer. After the usual insulting salutations

Krathwohl Attends Junior College Meet

Prof. W. C. Krathwohl represented Armour at the mathematics section of the Northern Illinois Junior College Conference last Saturday. The presence of Prof. Krathwohl at this conference is in accordance with Armour's program of keeping close contact with secondary educational movements.

The principal speaker at the mathematics section will be Dr. J. S. Georges of Wright Junior College, who will speak on "Mathematics in the Junior College."

we all rolled our trousers to the knees and really started in. Well, we know when we are licked. We learned: 1. That by comparison to his, our Beauty Salons were just plain Lousy 2. That our aforementioned visitor did not return to Armour this year because he was already too smart to need a college education. And he meant it! Dear, dear Larry Cuneo, may he not disturb our equanimity for months to come. He's gone, boys stow the oars.

Intimate disclosures: After the Arx Dance, Mike gave a superb demonstration of terpsichorean skill by doing a lightning fast, complicated Polish polka, solo, in one of Chicago's night clubs. The patrons seemed to enjoy the performance immensely. I has been satisfactorily proven that he was not under the influence of any beverage.

If any one of you should accidentally meet with Mitz Daniels don't think that he has transferred to Yale. That awful haircut might deceive you.

Lastly, there was a new volunteer model for the Life class. The only objection is that he should have taken off his socks seeing how he was paid for the job. How about it, Tom?

And so farewell to you and a hearty curse for the proof reader.

ART GUM.

FULGHUM—

(Continued from page one)
Children's Hour to Chicago.

Galsworthy has fared better with his problem plays because he deliberately refrains from "taking sides." He has only scorn for the conformist playwright who novel-like flatters the mob by presenting popular and accepted ideas. But he recognizes the value of the individualistic dramatist who sets forth his own ideas on controversial issues, believing that those ideas are the most effective that most seriously challenge conventional thinking. Galsworthy's *Strife* presents the strike problem in an impartial manner, but *Waiting For Lefty* deals with it in a decidedly partisan manner.

Clifford Odets is one of America's most brilliant young playwrights, a former actor with the Theater Guild, but now a member of the Group Theater, an organization devoted to producing significant modern social drama. Odets' chief ambition, he frankly says, is to write a great revolutionary play. There are clues of this radicalism in his successful movie, *The General Died at Dawn*, but they are too subtle to affect the average movie-mind or to disturb box-office receipts.

The Armour Players present *Waiting For Lefty* Wednesday, not because of its quasi-radicalism, or because they subscribe to all of its ideas, but because it is a play of genuine dramatic merit, and because it is a powerful challenge to thinking students who will soon have to face the very serious problems involved in the modern struggle between capital and labor.

Alumni of New York Form Advisory Group

Besides officiating at the Army-Notre Dame game, which was held in the Yankee Stadium November 24, Professor J. J. Schommer, president of the Armour alumni association, spoke before the New York branch of the association on football and the changes in the Institute.

A committee was formed to take care of the details of this work. They are: Fred Moskovics, a graduate of one of the first Armour classes, chairman; F. E. Barrows, '10; P. K. Brown, '13; F. Clake, '07; L. T. Wilson, '14; and R. I. Wishnick.

McCormack Attends Baltimore Convention

Professor Harry McCormack returned recently from Baltimore, where the national convention of the A.I.Ch.E. was held. At this meeting an important part was played by the large number of members of student chapters from all the eastern colleges. An unusually large amount of time was devoted to the subject of sales engineering as a field for chemical engineers.

An invitation is being extended by Prof. H. McCormack to prominent chemical engineers to attend the joint meeting to be held by the Armour chapter of the A.I.Ch.E. and the Chicago professional chapter on December 16. A meeting of the Armour chapter is planned for Friday, November 27, but the speaker has not yet been announced.

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