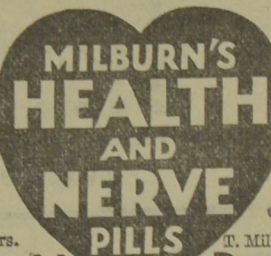


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## MEMEL FOR AGES IN DISPUTE, SEIZED FIRST BY GERMANY

NEW YORK.—The germ of the dispute between Germany and Lithuania, which threatens to spread another epidemic of war over Europe, has been lurking in the bogs and forests of the Baltic coast since the early middle ages. Again and again, it has stirred nationalistic passions into bloody conflict.

From time immemorial, half savage tribes calling themselves Letts, Finns and Lithians inhabited the southern fringe of the Baltic. Early in the thirteenth century the band of German traders and fighters known as the Teutonic Knights pushed along the coast, driving the tribes into the interior. It was then that the Knights founded the little port of Memel, the infinitesimal spot on today's map of Europe on which all the chancelleries are focusing their alarmed attention. It was then that the German colony, now a minority in Lith territory and therefore a constant menace to peace was established.

The invasion of the Teutonic Knights around the Lith, welding them into something resembling a nation. They began a series of conquests—although they never succeeded in ousting the Knights—that in a little more than a hundred years ex-

imately 30,000 square miles to more than 250,000.

In 1386 the Lithuanian Grand Duke Jakiello married the Polish Queen Jadwiga, and from then until the end of the eighteenth century the two countries were joined, most of the time under a single government.

### Two Countries Partitioned

Both Lithuania and Poland ceased to exist as nations when Russia, Austria and Prussia, in the three partitions of 1772, 1792 and 1795, divided their territories among themselves. Lithuania proper fell to the share of Russia, but that part of the country containing the ancient support of Memel was awarded to Prussia.

The Lithians, like the Poles, never ceased agitating for a return of their independence, and when the world war and its chaotic aftermath gave them their opportunity they broke away from Russia and set up a government in Vilna, the ancient capital. Independence was formally proclaimed in February, 1918.

The following year, however, the newly reestablished Poland, disappointed at the action of the great Powers at Versailles in refusing to grant her free and clear title to the

port of Danzig, marched into Vilna and seized that city and the surrounding territory. One of the frantic compromises which later were to cause so much trouble was made by the powers. They recognized the Polish claim to Vilna, with the usual Wilsonian stipulations regarding the rights of minorities.

The Lithuanians, cut off from the sea by the Polish coup de main, staged one of their own. They marched into Memel and seized the little city and approximately 1,500 square miles surrounding it, which until then had been part of East Prussia, that portion of the German empire separated from the rest by the so-called Polish Corridor, stretching from Poland proper to the Baltic.

### Award Made in 1923

The Powers, after negotiations, finally awarded Memel to Lithuania in 1923. There were various conditions to the award, however, and it is these which are directly responsible for the present crisis. Although Lithuania was given sovereignty over the Memel district, it was stipulated that the Memelers might maintain an autonomous internal government.

The little city itself, whose inhabitants number 40,000 is almost entirely German. The rural districts are predominantly Lith. The total population of the territory is about 150,000.

Conflicts between the Lith and German elements have been constant, and the Lithuanian Government in its effort to nationalize the district, has been compelled to use more and more stringent methods. The German element of the population, still looking to Berlin for aid, has kept the problem almost constantly to the fore in European politics.

The rise of the Nazis in Germany brought new hope to the German Memelers of being rejoined to the fatherland and added to the fears of the Lithuanians. Nazi agents became active in the tiny strip of territory.

Matters were brought to a head when, in February, 1932, the Lithuanian Governor Merkys, representative of the National Government in the territory, arrested Otto Boettcher, the German president of the Memel Diet, on a charge of treason. Herr Boettcher was accused of going to Berlin and conferring with German officials.

### Followed by Outburst

His arrest was the signal for an outburst of demands from German Memelers and from the German Government that a plebiscite, similar to that in the Saar recently, be held to determine the future status of Memel. Lithuania answered the threat by placing the district under what amounted to martial law.

Nazi propagandists invaded the country, and tales of persecution of Germans began to be spread over Europe. The Lithuanian Government denied them. Meanwhile, the German elements in the territory, openly aided by recruits from Germany, began organizing for active opposition to Lithuania.

The Lithuanian authorities responded to this move by wholesale arrests of Nazis and other German sympathizers. One hundred and twenty-two of the accused were brought to trial in Memel on charges of high treason.

The trial dragged on for months, while feeling in Germany and in Lithuania ran higher and higher. Greater crises, such as the Austro-German situation, the Saar plebiscite and the Balkan and Ethiopian troubles, arose to distract the attention of the rest of the world.

### Hitler Demand Made

Then a few days ago came the startling demand by Reichsfuehrer Hitler that the Treaty of Versailles be, in effect, scrapped. Germany, he asserted, wanted and would take the right to rearm herself to pre-war strength, and furthermore she would move to

regain the territories torn from her by the victorious Allies. Memel was one of these territories.

It was a coincidence—perhaps the future will call it one of the most tragic in history—that the trial of the Memel plotters came to an end just at this time. The verdict decreed death for four Nazis and long prison terms for eighty-three others.

Germans, at a white heat of enthusiasm aroused by their leader's scare concealed defiance of her former conquerors and feeling themselves strong enough to back up such defiance demanded that the condemned Nazis be spared at any cost.

The peace of Europe may hinge on the fate of four obscure men in a tiny Baltic seaport.

## THE DAILY MAIL

Is on sale at the following places of business in the city—

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S. Keetch, grocer, Charlotte-York Sts.  
J. E. Saunders, 199 Northumberland Street  
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Crowley's Cigar Store, Queen St.  
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### TO OUR ADVERTISERS

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In order to be sure that your advertisement gets in The Daily Mail all changes should be handed into the business office of this paper at 9 a.m. Short transient notices will be taken up to 10.30 a.m. Advertisements requiring extra space and requiring to have mats cast for same should be handed in the day previous to publication. \*\*\*\*\*

## NOTICE OF SALE

To William E. Kirk, of the Parish of New Maryland, in the County of York and Province of New Brunswick, Farmer, and Nellie G. Kirk, his wife, and to all others whom it may in any wise concern:

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under and by virtue of the provisions of The Property Act, and of the power of sale contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the eighth day of January, A.D. 1929, made between William E. Kirk, of the Parish of New Maryland, in the County of York and Province of New Brunswick, Farmer, and Nellie G. Kirk, his wife, of the first part, and the undersigned, Lillian M. Merrithew, of the City of Fredericton, in the County and Province aforesaid, Widow, of the second part, and duly recorded in York County Records in Book 207, pages 18-20, under official number 81314, the ninth day of January, A.D. 1929, there will, for the purpose of securing payment of the moneys secured by the said Indenture, default having been made in the payment thereof be sold at Public Auction in front of the Post Office in the CITY OF FREDERICTON, in the County of York, on SATURDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF JUNE Next, at the Hour of TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON, the lands and premises mentioned and described in the said Indenture of Mortgage as follows:

"ALL that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate lying and being in the said City of Fredericton, and abutting and bounded as follows: Commencing on Victoria Lane (now Saunders Street) in the said City of Fredericton at the most easterly corner of a lot of land now in the possession of one Odour Sewell, thence running in a southerly direction along the southeasterly side line of the said Odour Sewell's lot a distance of one hundred and sixty-five feet more or less, to the northeasterly line of lands owned by the estate of the late William Robinson, thence at right angles in a southeasterly direction along the said line of the Robinson's property a distance of sixty-six feet, thence at right angles in a northeasterly direction one hundred and sixty-five feet more or less to the said Victoria Lane (now Saunders Street) and thence along the said Victoria Lane (now Saunders Street) in a northwesterly direction sixty-six feet to the place of beginning."

Together with the buildings and improvements thereon.

For terms of sale apply to the undersigned Solicitors.

Dated this Thirtieth day of April, 1935. (Sgd.) LILLIAN M. MERRITHEW (L.S.) Mortgagee.

Hanson, Dougherty & West, Solicitors.

### BETWEEN TWO FIRES

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 14—Who will President Roosevelt cheer for at the Navy-Harvard boat race this month? He is head of the United States Navy and normally his support would be for the Annapolis boys. But his own son, Franklin, Jr., is rowing in the Harvard crew this year.



ISSUE OF

\$60,000,000

## DOMINION OF CANADA BONDS

The Bank of Canada is Authorized by the Minister of Finance to Receive Subscriptions for the Following Bonds:

**EIGHT - YEAR 2½ PER CENT BONDS — DUE JUNE 1st, 1943.**

Issue Price: 99.50 and Accrued Interest, Yielding 2.57 Per Cent to Maturity

**TWENTY - YEAR 3 PER CENT BONDS — DUE JUNE 1st, 1955.**

Issue Price: 98.50 and Accrued Interest Yielding 3.10 Per Cent to Maturity.

Payment To Be Made in Full Against Delivery of Interim Certificate on or about June 1st.

Bonds will be Dated June 1st, 1935. Principal and Interest will be payable in Lawful Money of Canada. Interest will be payable June 1st, and December 1st, at any branch in Canada of any Chartered Bank.

DENOMINATIONS: EIGHT-YEAR BONDS .....\$1,000.  
TWENTY-YEAR BONDS .....\$500 and \$1,000.

Proceeds of the Issue will be used for the General purposes of the Government of Canada.

Application may be made to the Bank of Canada through any Chartered Bank or through Recognized Dealers, from whom copies of the Prospectus containing complete details of the Issue may be obtained. Subscriptions will be subject to allotment.

Subscription Lists will be open May 15th, 1935, and will close as to either maturity or both, with or without notice, at the discretion of the Minister of Finance.

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