

# Britain Shuns Entanglements in Troubled Year and Rushes 7 1/2 Billion Rearming Program

## London Seeks Closer Alignment with U. S. and France to Form a United Front of Western Democracies.

By JOSEPH W. GRIGG, JR.  
United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON (UP)—With warfare in Spain and the Far East threatening to engulf her in another world conflict, Great Britain's foreign policy in 1937 was guided by determination to shun embroilment abroad while she raced ahead with a vast \$7,500,000,000 rearmament program to make the British Empire more powerful than ever in history.

Simultaneously, Great Britain sought to align herself more closely with the United States and France than at any time since the World war, to form an undeclared but effective United Front of the Western democracies.

In its efforts to avoid foreign embroilment the British government was compelled to continue a strategic "withdrawal" in some parts of the globe before the restless, dynamic march of the Fascist powers—Germany and Italy—in Europe and France in the Far East. That policy involved watching Italy increase her power and prestige in the Mediterranean, seeing both Italy and Germany dominate in Nationalist Spain and standing aside while Japan's armed forces swept across North China and up the Yangtze Valley where the bulk of Britain's vast Far Eastern investments are centered.

Becomes More Powerful

This policy was denounced in some quarters as surrender to the "Have Nots." It was justified by the British government on the ground that while the empire steered clear of war, its essential power remained intact and was increasing constantly as rearmament progressed.

At the same time, Britain gained a certain strategic advantage by tentative moves during the year to reach an understanding with each of the Fascist powers. The effect more than once was to throw a severe strain on the much-vaunted Rome-Berlin Axis by the time-honored British practice of "keeping the world guessing" on which end of the axis she would come down. It needed Premier Benito Mussolini's visit to Puchner Adolf Hitler in September to convince the two dictators that neither was preparing to strike a private bargain with a powerful, rearming Britain to the detriment of the other.

Five Points of Foreign Policy

With these tactical considerations always in mind, Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, who succeeded Stanley Baldwin on May 28, developed his foreign policy along five broad lines:

As close a rapprochement as possible with the United States and France.

A friendly understanding with Germany to halt the steady deterioration of Anglo-German relations in the past two years.

An understanding with Italy, cutting short friction in the Mediterranean, Africa and Near East, which has grown progressively more serious since the sanctions crisis of 1935.

Conclusion of a Western European Security Pact to take the place of the defunct Locarno agreement and guarantee Europe a respite from the recurrent crises which more than once in the last few years threaten to cause war. Such a pact would underline Britain's belief in organizing a system of collective security rather than mere bilateral agreements.

An agreement with Japan to stabilize affairs in the Far East and insure the security of Britain's \$1,500,000,000 investments in China.

Crisis Cause Check

Across this foreign policy the Spanish and Far Eastern conflicts cut great gashes. Tension over Spain and crises about the withdrawal of foreign volunteers prevented Great Britain and Italy sinking their differences. Disagreement of Spain also acted as a check on moves for an Anglo-German rapprochement. The undeclared Sino-Japanese war forestalled the Anglo-Japanese talks scheduled to begin last August.

The outstanding development in Britain's foreign policy during the year was the increasing desire for rapprochement with the United States. Superficially, Anglo-United States talks were directed toward a trade pact between the two countries. In practice, however, the British government regarded the trade advantages as far transcended by the psychological rapprochement which it hopes will accrue from such an agreement.

The outbreak of the Sino-Japanese

conflict convinced the British government that a closer understanding with the United States should form an essential part of the British foreign policy. Strong representations, it was understood, were made to the Dominions governments to modify their opposition to an Anglo-United States pact. As a result, announcements were made in Washington and London on Nov. 18 that a stage had been reached where formal negotiations for a trade agreement could be begun. The British government hopes that the agreement will be concluded by the spring of 1938.

## LOCALS

From Thursday's Daily—  
Miss Virginia Trively went to Omaha yesterday to spend a few days with Miss Kay Armstrong there.

Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Christianson and son Ronald formerly of Plattsmouth, are now located at Ames, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. James Allbee went to Glenwood yesterday where they will spend a few days visiting with relatives there.

There will be a watch party for the Epworth League of the Methodist church at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Wescott Friday evening at 9 o'clock.

Miss Marie Speck departed today for Sioux City, Iowa, where she will visit over the week end as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Speck and family, the former an uncle.

Charles Anthes will leave today for Clay Center where he will visit relatives. He will be joined there Saturday by Mrs. Anthes and their two daughters, Irene and Catherine.

Mrs. W. G. Kieck and children have returned from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where they were guests of Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Kieck over the Christmas holiday. They were accompanied by Mrs. William Kieck of Springfield, mother of Dr. Kieck, who has also been visiting in the Iowa city.

From Friday's Daily—  
Norman Capsey of Lincoln is here visiting with Junior Devoe.

Carl Tefft of Avoca was a business visitor in Plattsmouth yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Kocian and family will be guests tonight at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Trotter of Nebraska City.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Davis of Murray were in the city today to attend to some matters of business and visiting with friends.

Edward Donat, Jr., who is now making his home in Omaha, was in the city Thursday for a few hours attending to some matters of business and visiting with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Merrit Kerr and Mrs. Edna Evans went to Red Oak, Iowa today to see the old year out at the home of Mr. W. E. Wells. They will also visit Mrs. Roy Breese, there.

Mr. and Mrs. William Kocian entertained last night at dinner. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. I. L. Kocian and children, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Horskak and children, and Joe Horskak of Omaha.

Mrs. Fred H. Sharpnack and son, Jerry, returned home Thursday afternoon from Lincoln where they have been visiting with the parents of Mr. Sharpnack, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Sharpnack.

Mr. and Mrs. Merrit Kerr entertained at two tables of pinocle last night. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Larson, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Manners, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Capps, Mrs. Edna Evans. Refreshments were served.

From Saturday's Daily—  
Miss Billie Goss of Omaha is here visiting with Miss Gertrude Valley.

Miss Dora Fricke is spending New Year's day with her sister, Mrs. Harris, in Omaha.

Mrs. Edward Jackson of Omaha is spending New Year's day with Miss Verna Leonard.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Brown of Papillion are spending New Year's day with Mrs. John Donelan.

Miss Ada Jayne Kinsel went to Omaha today to spend the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Kinsel.

Cass county has no bonded indebtedness, as, like the state, we have paid cash for our hard surfaced roads and other improvements as we went.

## PINOCLE RESULTS

From Thursday's Daily—  
The following are the results of the pinocle games last evening at the recreation center:

A. J. Koubek	5710
W. H. Pulls	5450
Mrs. F. Rohal	5320
Joseph Kvapil	5220
Frank Koufrst	4940
Fay McClintock	4920
Lee Phillips	4870
Clyde Jackson	4790
Frank Kvapil	4670
Gus Kopp	4640
Tommy Mendenhall	4560
Betty Bergmann	4510
Madge Keck	4370
Donald Wall	4280
Mrs. Rose Kopp	4270
Bhea Edgerton	4270
Joe Wooster	4210
Joe Phillips	4140
Mary Kvapil	4080
Glen Carburg	4040
Mrs. J. F. Kvapil	4010
Mrs. Lee Phillips	3950
Jerry Koufrst	3590

## Transport Law is Held Up by a Court Order

Truckers of Gasoline Claim Law Passed by Last Legislature Is Unconstitutional.

The gasoline transport law passed by the last legislature was held up from enforcement Friday by a court order issued by Judge J. L. Polk in the Lancaster county district court.

The transport operators securing the restraining order against state officials enforcing the law, based their objections on the ground that the law was a violation of the state and federal constitutions. The hearing on making the order permanent will be on January 13 before Judge Polk.

Under the provisions of the act, each transporter is required to obtain a \$10 permit, in addition to the regular truck fees assessed upon other trucks, and the law requires insurance for \$10,000 for property damage and \$10,000 for injury or death of one person and \$20,000 to cover injury or death to more than one person.

It is claimed by the transporters who brought the suit that it will require a payment of \$32 per year per vehicle for the insurance in addition to the \$10 permit fee. The law requires that transport drivers must be between 21 and 60 and that they may not work more than 12 hours a day.

The plaintiff in the suit in addition to Niederhaus are Jason W. House, C. J. Harzerod, Corner's Service, Inc., Blue Hill, Mabel C. Herman, the Pen Continent company of Lincoln, C. H. Kleinholz, Roy Howerter, Farmers Union Co-operative association, McCool Junction, Arthur Twarling and Walter Twarling. The suit runs against Gov. Cochran, Louis Buckholz, director of the department of agriculture and inspection; Atty. Gen. Hunter, C. Atty. Towle, Sheriff Hensel and State Sheriff Flake. The suit is brought on behalf of the plaintiffs named and others similarly situated.

G. M. Sutherland of Lincoln a member of the United Transporters of petroleum products, had previously announced that a friendly suit would be filed. Attorneys Hugh La-Master and R. E. Powell filed the action. It is contended that the law violates article I, sec. 8 of the U. S. constitution giving congress the power to regulate interstate commerce. The plaintiffs ask for a permanent injunction to prevent enforcement of the act.

## FARMERS FAN DISPUTE OVER OLDEST HORSE

PAINESVILLE, O. (UP)—Northern Ohio farmers are bidding for the title of "owner of the oldest useful horse."

It began with a published account here of 37-year-old Lottie, a white mare, owned by Ralph Williams, of nearby Chardon, O.

He believed the title his because at the advanced age Lottie still is strong and in excellent health.

"Lottie never had a sick day in her life," Williams said. "She has always been in the family. She was raised by my father. I took her when she was 8 and have used her for cultivating, moving and hauling since. I would rather have her than a young animal."

Williams' claim to the title went unchallenged for several days. Then Farmer Fred Colmorgan of nearby Leroy called the Painesville publisher.

"Williams hasn't any claim for the title," he told the editor. "Why, his Lottie is only a colt. My horse Jim is nearing his 40th birthday and he still can pull his share with any horse. He eats well and has strong teeth. Why, he'll probably live to be 60."

The Painesville editor wants to know if Colmorgan holds the title.

## EAGLE NEWS ITEMS

Mrs. Emma Judkins spent Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Horn.

Charles Trumble, Sr., came out from Lincoln and visited relatives on Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Dopp and family were guests on Christmas day of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hursh.

Fred Beach visited with his son, Melvin Beach and family at Elm Creek from Friday until Monday.

Miss Evelyn and Clarence Brown of Lincoln were in town last Friday evening and visited with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Helen Caddy called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Caddy and family on Monday of this week.

Floyd Hursh came from Grand Island and spent Saturday and Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Hursh.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Shumaker and son of West Point called at the George Trunkenholz home during the week end.

Miss Elinor Longman of Neligh is spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Longman and Vernon.

Mrs. Houston Welton of Red Cloud spent the first part of last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Price and family.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Palmer and family visited in Elmwood at the home of James Boyd and family last Saturday afternoon.

Misses Mary and Pearl Norris of Lincoln are spending their vacation with Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Norris and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Burk.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Busker of Akron, Iowa, are spending their holiday vacation with Mrs. Busker's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Adams.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Nelson attended a family gathering at the home of their daughter, Merle Miller and Mr. Miller on Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Sherman, Mrs. May Doran and Miss Della Doran of Lincoln visited Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williams last Saturday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Miller of Omaha and Harley Kletsch and Mrs. Anna Kletsch spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Guy Jones and Jack.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Seeman, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Root and family enjoyed their Christmas dinner with Mrs. Seeman and family near Palmyra.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Judkins and Donna Belle and Mrs. Emma L. Judkins spent last Sunday in Lincoln at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Anderson.

Miss Esther Horsch, who is attending the University of Nebraska, was an overnight guest of Mrs. Sarah Keil and Dorothea last Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius McCarthy of Burwell visited over the week end with Mrs. McCarthy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Burns and Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Burns.

Guests on Christmas day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Roekenbach, Sr. were Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Riehart of Louisville and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Retzlaff.

Miss Florence West of Meadow Grove and Richard and Sumner West of Lincoln are spending their vacation with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde West and Mrs. Irene McFall.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Oberle had as their guests at a holiday dinner on Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Oberle of Lincoln and Mr. and Mrs. George Oberle and sons.

Dale Henriksen left last Sunday for Norfolk, Virginia, after having spent several weeks with his mother, Mrs. Emma Henriksen and other relatives and friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Muenchan and sons and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Weyers and sons were among those who gathered at the home of Mr. Herman Wolken and August for Christmas.

Lloyd Trumble came from Mitchell, where he is stationed in a CCC camp, last Wednesday and visited until Sunday morning with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Trumble.

Mr. and Mrs. John Roekenbach, Jr. and sons entertained at dinner on Christmas day Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sexson of Ravenna, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Sexson.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Piersol and family, Mrs. Milford Axe and children and Mrs. Edward Porter of Lincoln called Sunday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Piersol.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kennedy and children of Omaha and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Duffield of Osawatimie, Kansas, were holiday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Smith and Laura.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Wall came from Arapahoe last Friday afternoon and spent the week end with relatives. They left for West Point Monday morning where they will

make final arrangements to locate. Harvey will begin his duties as music instructor in the public schools when school opens after the holiday recess.

Holiday guests of Rev. and Mrs. Donald Springer were Mrs. Springer and daughter, Leona of Wayne, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Nicholas of Elgin and Miss Katherine Nicholas of Lincoln.

Mrs. Frank Clements, Mrs. Ora Farabee and family and Mrs. Paris Morris of Imperial visited from Friday until Tuesday with Mrs. Clements' mother, Mrs. S. E. Allen and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Retzlaff and sons of Walton, Mr. and Mrs. John Roekenbach, Sr., of Eagle and Mr. and Mrs. Chris Sorensen and family of Palmyra were dinner guests Sunday evening of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Retzlaff.

Week end callers at the R. A. Oberle home from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Stewart and family of Fairmont, Mrs. Cora Vinson and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Vinson and daughter of Lincoln and Miss Rosa Pump from Venango.

Mrs. L. W. Piersol was one of those who fell during the time the walks were covered with ice last week. Mrs. Piersol broke her right arm on Christmas day while she and Mr. Piersol were walking to the home of their daughter to partake of a holiday dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. August Schwegman, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schwegman, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Gerhard and daughters and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Schwegman and son and Louis Schwegman attended a family gathering at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Burge near Walton on Christmas day.

Mrs. Frank Clements, Mrs. Ora Ferree and Donald, Donna Beth and Buddy and Mrs. Paris Norris of Imperial, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Allen and Jack, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Allen and family and Mrs. Diehl of Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. George Althouse and family and Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Morgan gathered at the home of Mrs. S. E. Allen for a family dinner on Christmas.

The following enjoyed a family gathering at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Trumble and Lloyd on Christmas day: Mr. and Mrs. John McMean and daughter, June, Mr. and Mrs. John Reitter and son, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dobeck and children of Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Spahnle of Hastings, Floyd Hursh of Grand Island, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Hursh and Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Peterson.

THE OLD YEAR OUT

The old year steps out and comes to a close, Leaving the old scenes of action tranquil and in repose, The new babe of the year ushered in as a stranger, May have to be nourished and housed in a manger.

We take an inventory at this season of the year, On life's rugged tree withered leaves flutter sensibly near Which reminds us of our mistakes all hoary with age, And with serious reflection we open a new page.

The sun in its orbit never slumbers nor sleeps, Never yields to the old decrepit year as he creeps, To his hiding place to be buried in the rubbish of the past For his usefulness is ended and his demise has come at last.

Inspired by the thought of what the new year will bring, We draw our tattered garments about us and a new carol we sing,

For the pessimist never gets to the first base when he strikes For a foul usually follows regardless of what he likes.

What shall we say of the mad rush to build, engines to destroy Life, food and property of others on the pretext they annoy, Tolerant should be the watchword to stand for the right, For the star of hope is twinkling every hour of the night.

The old year holds no brief for the ones who are willing to close, The soiled and blotted pages of the old book—and leave it in repose— For the new, with sheets all white and clean,

Which clothes the new born youngster of the coming New Year.

—J. R. Tremble.

VISITS IN CITY

Mrs. Helen Lemon of Ashland, was here Thursday in company with her mother, Mrs. H. C. Schroder of Murray, Iowa, who has been visiting at Ashland and is now returning to her home. The ladies were callers at the Journal office and where Mrs. Lemon renewed her subscription to the semi-weekly edition of the paper.

River navigation will open up a new industrial field in the smaller Nebraska river towns.

## FINALLY GETS TICKET

CHICAGO, Dec. 30 (UP)—Writing a traffic ticket for Robert Zwikel is one thing but giving it to him is another, police learned.

When Zwikel made a U turn on Michigan avenue, Policeman Robert Fall decided he should have a ticket. But Zwikel had other ideas.

He locked the doors of his car and refused to open them. Policeman Fall waved the ticket and shouted to Zwikel that he was under arrest.

"That's what you think," shouted Zwikel, lowering the window as Fall summoned a patrol wagon. Still Zwikel refused to budge. Then a tow truck arrived, and Zwikel's sit-down fortress was pulled to the police station. There, Walter Storms, deputy chief of detectives, decided enough was too much, smashed a window with his gun butt, and collared Zwikel.

"You're going to make my wife sore," warned Zwikel, "I was supposed to meet her an hour ago."

Estimate 40,000 to Die in Auto Wrecks in 1938

National Safety Council Sees New High of Accidents in Year Just Commencing.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29 (UP)—At least 40,000 persons will die in traffic accidents during 1938, setting a new all-time high for the nation, the National Safety Council reported today.

The 1936 total was 37,800. For the first 11 months of this year it was \$5,610 and will mount to about 29,000 when reports are completed. Figures over a period of several years show that anything but an increase is out of the question for the new year, the council said.

On the basis of nearly complete reports the council's figures show that auto fatalities for 1937 increased six per cent over 1936. But motor vehicle travel increased proportionately, so that on a mileage basis there has been no actual increase in the traffic death rate.

November's traffic deaths numbered 3,560. It was the first month this year to show a decrease from the corresponding month of 1936.

Seventeen states showed decreases from last year, representing the saving of 539 lives. The states and their prospective decreases:

Nevada 18; Kansas 15; Maine 15; Washington 12; West Virginia 11; South Dakota 10; Oregon 9; Minnesota 8; Oklahoma 8; Arkansas 8; North Dakota 8; Virginia 5; Massachusetts 4; Tennessee 4; Georgia 2; New Mexico 2.

Everett, Wash., was the largest city to have no traffic deaths for the first 11 months of 1937.

Milwaukee kept its leadership in the largest population group—cities over 500,000. Its death rate was 10.4 for each 100,000. New York City was next with 12.1 and Boston third with 13.2. Other leaders:

Minneapolis, 12.6; Memphis, Tenn., 12.9; Rochester, N. Y., 13.4; (250,000 to 500,000).

Hoboken, N. J., 1.8; Bayonne, N. J., 2.4; Mt. Vernon, N. Y., 5.1. (50,000 to 100,000).

Everett, Wash. 0.9; Beverly, Mass., 0.0; Dubuque, Ia., 2.6. (25,000 to 50,000).

SOUTH AFRICA PREPARES BUSH COUNTRY DEFENSE

CAPE TOWN (UP)—The South African Defense Department is planning to make the bushveld—the tracts of land covered with low bushes typical of the greater part of the country—an ally instead of an enemy in case of invasion.

A special military unit capable of operating easily in the bushveld is being developed, the department announces, pointing out that should South Africa ever be involved in a war it would expect to do 90 per cent of its fighting in the bush country.

DIES AT MASONIC HOME

James Davies, 85, who has been making his home at the Nebraska Masonic Home, died suddenly Thursday afternoon as the result of a sudden heart attack. He had gone to the infirmary building to visit some friends and was engaged in talking when he was stricken and died suddenly.

Mr. Davies was born November 23, 1852, in Herfordshire, England, coming to the United States in 1867. He has made his home in Nebraska for the greater part of his life and was a member of Gladstone lodge 176 A. F. & A. M. of Ansley, Nebraska. He was admitted to the Home here on March 23, 1936.

He is survived by two sons, Charles A. Omaha and Hugh of California and one daughter, Mrs. Bernice Winqvist of California.

WE EXTEND BEST WISHES FOR A Most Prosperous and Happy New Year

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