

# ECONOMIC HI-LIGHTS

### Happenings That Affect the Dinner Pails, Dividend Checks and Tax Bills of Every Individual.

### National and International Problems Inseparable From Local Welfare.

Newspaper readers have received big money's worth during the last two or three weeks. Headline news has been dramatic, colorful, important. High spots: The burning of a great passenger liner with rumors of sabotage and criminal negligence; the textile strike, which now affects 400,000 workers and is bringing about major political repercussions; the Senate investigation of the armament manufacturers.

So far as the long view is concerned, the last of these is easily the most vital. Nothing costs the world so much, measured either in dollars or lives, as does a great war. The economic cost of the World War is estimated at about \$400,000,000,000. In every nation the cost of wars represents the largest item in the tax bill. In the United States, army and navy maintenance, charges on war bonds, pensions and war incidentals are over 60 per cent of the federal government's operating budget.

Last spring, the magazine Fortune ran an article entitled "Arms and the Men." Heavily condemned, the article charged that the motto of the armament dealers is to keep a war going once it is started, to attempt to start new ones in time of peace. The article did not confine itself to generalities but made specific charges against famous firms, and mentioned names, dates, places, incidents. It was republished in pamphlet form by a large eastern publishing firm, and hundreds of thousands of copies were sold at ten cents each. Then, a few months later, two long books appeared, dealing in greater detail with the same subject. The present Senate investigation was the direct result of all this.

The executives of a United States submarine company have produced the most dramatic testimony—letters from their files show that the arms companies constitute a tremendous international combine which takes no sides, knows no boundaries. As Fortune said, it is the only business where a concern likes to see its competitors make sales, because it knows that these sales must inevitably lead to increased business for all concerned. Here's how it works, to use a mythical illustration: The Republic of Sylvania buys a brace of destroyers from the A Armament Company. The

neighboring Republic of Arcady becomes frightened, wonders if Sylvania is planning an invasion. A representative of the B Armament Company, Limited, shows up, presents his sales talk, "contacts" high officials—and Arcady buys three destroyers. Sylvania retaliates by purchasing two more—and so it goes, with each country trying to outplay the other.

Honored names have been involved in the investigation. Example: One letter said that King George had personally interceded in an effort to bring certain buyers to the English arms market. Other letters said frankly, when talking of possible South American business, that graft was essential.

There is growing sentiment in favor of nationalization of the arms industry—but those who aren't easily swayed by emotion feel that would avail little. American manufacturers are small frogs in a very large puddle—foreign concerns such as Skoda, Vickers-Armstrong and Krupp are the really big shots. If the government took over every American armament and munitions maker it would affect the international situation to only a minute degree.

The textile strike started slowly—where union leaders expected to practically bring the industry to a standstill in a single day, less than half the workers responded to the strike call immediately. At this writing, however, most mills have finally closed, and it looks as if half a million men will be out within the near future.

The strike has been marked by violence, misunderstandings, bitter hatred. A number have been killed, scores injured. The government arbitration board has failed—neither side seemed willing to submit to a decision it might make.

General Johnson, in a radio address, said the strike was a breach of faith on the part of labor—and the instant response was a demand by labor leaders that the General either resign or be fired.

There is a growing belief that only one man in the country has a chance to affect an agreement—the President. He has almost unlimited power. He has said little as yet, except that he would send federal troops to beleaguered sectors if state legislatures passed the enabling acts. The President does not want to act directly—it would be a great blow to his prestige if he failed to achieve results, and there is always the danger that he will be accused of favoring one faction or the other. However, he may be forced into it before long—every day the strike continues to cost the country a million or so dollars in purchasing power, and enhances the chance of strikes occurring in other industries.

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### National and International Problems Inseparable From Local Welfare.

For the last hundred years or so voters have gone to the polls and found two lists of candidates on their ballots. One bore the name Republican, the other Democrat. Today both major parties are torn and battered, mainly because of internal dissension. Authoritative observers are forecasting that we are on the verge of a political realignment that will mean the death of the old parties, the birth of new ones.

If that realignment comes, it will have the support of logic and reason. In the old days a political party stood for definite things and every candidate who ran on its ticket gave them his allegiance. At the present, neither party has a program that a majority of its members honestly support; neither can consistently obtain the allegiance that is essential to party discipline. In the Republican party, for example, are such diametrically opposed men as Senator Reed of Pennsylvania & Senator Norris of Nebraska; it would be hard to think of a single issue on which they agree, yet each carries the same party label. In the Democratic party, a conservative such as Senator Glass of Virginia is faced with a radical such as Senator Bone of Washington—while the head of the party, President Roosevelt, maintains a middle ground between these opposing attitudes. The titular leader of the Republicans is former resident Hoover—yet close to half of the party's members in the Senate oppose his principles, and many of them, such as Johnson, Norris, La Follette, and Borah refused to support him when he ran for reelection in 1932.

New parties, when and if they appear, will be definitely opposed in principle as well as name. One will consist of conservatives, the other of liberals and radicals. It is a noteworthy fact, as the always astute Frank Kent of Baltimore Sun recently pointed out, — **A BABY FOR YOU?**

If you are denied the blessing of a baby of your own and yearn for one, baby's arms and a baby's smile do not give up hope. Just write a confidence to Mrs. Mildred Owens, 2509 Coates House, Kansas City, Mo., and she will tell you about a simple home method that helped her after being denied 15 yrs. Many others say this helped bless their lives. Write now and try for this wonderful happiness. —Adv.

that President Roosevelt did not once mention the name "Democrat" during the speeches he made on his tour of the United States and territories. Many persons close to Washington affairs think that the President is seeking to effect the realignment now, that he wants to do away with the Democratic party and start a new one made up of people who believe as he does when it comes to national policies.

A more concrete illustration of the current trend is afforded by the California primaries. In that state, Republican Senator Johnson filed for both nominations, carried them both by heavy majorities. And Upton Sinclair, a life-long Socialist, but a Democratic candidate, rode easily into the gubernatorial nomination over all "regular" Democratic candidates. In many states party lines have been destroyed in this manner.

There will be no new major party in 1936—but 1940 may tell a different story. By that time, President Roosevelt, if he is re-elected, will have come to the end of his presidential career, and will have to seek perpetuation of his policies through other men. There is no telling what the issues of that year will be—but it is forecast that within the next six years there will be a blow-up within the existing parties which will result in decisive change.

The textile strike has upset all the business barometers, and has clouded the outlook for fall improvement in general business.

Outside of textiles, little that is noteworthy has occurred in the business situation. Latest authoritative figures show that business has continued at the low summer level; that, of major industries, electric power has fared the best so far as sales are concerned. Carloadings recently dropped, though they were well above the comparable period in 1933. Steel output dropped to around 19 per cent of capacity—the lowest point since the bank holiday of March, 1933. Auto and coal production declined—the latter is heavily depressed, due to slackening in consumer industries. The commodity price index (cost of living) reached the highest point since 1930 recently, when it touched 78.5 (average for years 1923-25 equals 100). That however, is a mixed blessing—you can force prices up, but you can't make people buy.

Major business news lies in rumors of changes in the NRA set-up. Responsible reporters say that the President is now working on NRA reorganization. It is believed that price-fixing will be further reduced than the famous section 7-A, which has contributed largely to labor troubles, will be rewritten and clarified that consumers will get a better break. Abolishment of price-fixing, which has caused endless discussion and dissension, would again center NRA activity on its original purpose—control of wages, working hours and working conditions.

There will be few important political moves until November Congressional elections are over—the administration will find out then what the public thinks of its policies. The decision made at the polls will have an obvious effect on future activities.

## BERT MOORE'S COLUMN

(Continued From Page 1) the Lewis Funeral home. She was discharged in police court, at the preliminary hearing.

## HOT BY COMMON-LAW WIFE AND DIES IN HOSPITAL

Howard Rogers and his common-law wife, Ruth Rogers were eating supper when an argument started. During the argument Rogers called her some names and she shot him in the abdomen. It is alleged that five shots were fired. He was taken to Lord Lister hospital, after being shot, Rogers went to the home of H. Seurles of 2515 No. 26th St. then Seurles notified the police about 7:40 p. m. Rogers died at the hospital at 10:10 p. m. His body was removed to Meyers Funeral Home at the request of his family. Ruth Rogers was arrested and booked for investigation in connection with the shooting.

## MR. JOHN WHELEY PASSED AWAY

Mr. John Whitley, 72-years-old, a former employee of the Harper Coal Co. for a number of years, died at 10:35 Sunday night. Mr. Whitley leaves to mourn his loss four daughters, Ida, Mary, Ella, Katie; six sons, Jesse, Charles, Johnny Thomas, Nathaniel and Edward. He also leaves 13 grand children, and eight great grand children. Funeral services were held Saturday at 2 p. m. at Mt. Moriah Baptist church and buried at Forrest Lawn cemetery.

## AMAZE A MINUTE

SCIENTIFACTS BY ARNOLD



WORLD'S GREATEST WAVES!  
THE CONSTANT WEST WIND BLOWING ON THE SHORELESS SEAS SOUTH OF CAPE HORN CREATES WAVES 1200 FEET LONG FROM CREST TO CREST.

LIGHT JAZZ—COLOR MUSIC HAS RECENTLY BEEN MADE DIRECTLY FROM SOUND OF INSTRUMENTS, AND FLASHED ON A SCREEN IN TIME WITH THE ORCHESTRA.



NEW CITIES—1700 NEW CITIES HAVE COME INTO EXISTENCE IN THE U.S. IN THE LAST FORTY YEARS.

## ASSULTED AND CUT ON LIP AND HEAD

Mrs. Mary Erwin, 1413 No. 24th St. and Mrs. A. Neil of the same address, got into an argument. Mrs. Neil struck Mrs. Erwin over the head, bruising her head and face. Mrs. Erwin called the police when she saw blood. They were charged in police court of being drunk and disturbing the peace. Mrs. Erwin stated that she called the police thinking that she had been badly hurt, but after she had washed her head, she cuts were so small and there wasn't anything to it, and that she didn't want the court to punish Mrs. Neil. Judge Almer made both women shake hands to try to get along, and the case was dismissed.

## IT PAYS TO BE CALLED GOOD-LOOKING

Jim Traman of 2224 Charles St., was arraigned in police court Thursday morning, on a charge of being drunk, was arrested on 19th and Farnam St. The officer testified that he saw Traman staggering about near the big plate glass windows and that he picked him up for his own good, to prevent him from falling into the large plate glass window. Traman testified that he met a friend who gave him a drink out of his flask and he must have taken too much. The judge asked him if he would cease drinking and he looked like a pretty good fellow, he would let him go back to his FERA job. The sentence was suspended.

## The police slogan for Sept. 27: Keep your brakes in good working order.

Here is the sixth line of the poetry puzzle:  
Night calls me home, I cannot stay.

## SWALLOWED IRE AND TAKEN TO HOSPITAL

Baby can Battle, 22 months old, 2527 Charles St., while playing in the house, swallowed a piece of wire, his hmother, Mrs. Myrtle Battle, immediately called the police station for medical aid. Cruiser officers McDonald and Stipe and Dr. Attwood took the baby to Lord Lister hospital, where it was successfully treated and then taken home.

## CUT OVER EYE IN DRUNKEN ARGUMENT

Goldie Moldie, Kings Court apt No. 8, had been drinking and got into an argument with her common-law husband, Al Jackson, who struck her with an unknown instrument, cutting her over the right eye, for which she was attended at the police by Dr. Attwood and charged with being drunk. Arrest was made by Officers Haze and Graham.

## ARRESTS DRIVER

Jack Tolson of 2228 Burdette St. was arrested and charged with running through a stop sign recklessly driving and speeding. He was tried in police court and fined \$7.50 and drivers license taken for two weeks.

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## WATCH OUT FOR PEDESTRIANS

Here is something that every automobile driver should keep constantly in mind: The pedestrian must always be given the right of way. He is, by comparison with the motorist, in a precarious position—when a crisis occurs, his only chance to escape unharmed often depend upon the driver of the car which is in danger of running him down. The pedestrian accident toll constitutes one of the worst phases of our disgraceful automobile accident record. In 1933, 37.14 per cent of all motor accidents involved pedestrians. These accounted for 30.83 per cent of all injuries, and 44.95 per cent of all deaths—showing that when a pedestrian is in an accident, the chance of his being killed is greater than in any other type of automobile mishap.

This year the automobile fatality record is rising over the 1933 level, and if the present trend continues the death toll will reach a new high. And, as usual, the pedestrian continues to get the worst of it. There is a legion of motorists who believe that as the "go" light flares they are entitled to dash across an intersection, whether or not people on foot are still in it. It is an interesting commentary on this that the courts have held that once a pedestrian has stepped into a street under traffic light protection, he is entitled to a safe passage across, whether or not the light changes. Every automobile driver should regard pedestrians as being his personal responsibility. You may save a fraction of a second by dashing across intersections thronged with pedestrians but it is worth it in view of the fact that "saving" may cost a life!

## DEPORTED FRO NAZI GERMANY

(Federated Pictures)

Because she wrote an unfavorable article on Adolf Hitler in 1933, Dorothy Thompson, American correspondent in Berlin, has been expelled from Germany. She is the first newspaper writer formally to be thrown out of Naziland.



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