

# 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.

Armageddon has come to Europe again. More ominously prophetic than ever, soon the words of Lord Grey, Premier of Britain, spoken on that fateful night in 1914 when the start of the first World War was but a few brief hours away: "The lights are going out one by one over Europe. They will not be lit again in our lifetime." And, uppermost in the minds of every American is the role that our nation can and should play in world affairs in this time of disaster abroad.

The President has appealed by radio to the people to maintain neutrality. He has officially proclaimed a state of neutrality, and has, as required by law, declared effective the general arms embargo imposed by the neutrality act. Going by all available evidence, the American people, sympathetic as the bulk of them are with the bulk of them with the cause of Britain and France, are vigorously determined to remain neutral in fact if not in thought. The disillusioning lessons learned from our participation in the last war have not been forgotten. Press polls of members of Congress indicate practically unanimous opposition to a gain sending AEF to other lands. So do the editorial expressions of leading newspapers.

It is thought certain that the President will soon call a special session of Congress to re-examine our neutrality legislation. The Administration firmly believes that we should sell arms and anything else to warring powers on a cash and carry basis, to be transported in their own ships. The principal conflict between White House and Congress last session was caused by this. The isolations won and the tote embargo was retained. Up to the very moment when Europe went to war, isolationist feeling was apparently on the increase. But in these tragic and stirring times change in sentiment can and does come with lightning-like rapidity. Late information indicates that a number of Senators and Representatives who opposed the Roosevelt-Hull plan have now changed their position. The vote was extremely close when the bill came to the floor last session, and it is possible the cash-and-carry plan now has a majority.

Theoretically, the cash-and-carry system is a neutral one—any nation can come to our shores get what it wants and takes it home. In actual fact, as everyone knows, it would be of immense aid to the democracies. England absolutely dominates the seas and the trade lanes. In the first few days of the war England captured several German merchantmen, and forced others to seek haven in neutral harbors where they must remain indefinitely. British warships, in the view of military experts, will make it possible for the allies to carry on trade with this country on a near normal basis. And German ship seeking to make a run here and back would face almost certain destruction or capture.

There is no less favorable phase of the cash-and-carry plan so far as the British and French are concerned—and that lies in the belief held by a number of qualified men that we will be able to give the democracies relatively few military supplies—that our own re-armament program will swallow practically all the arms and munitions and planes we can produce. That remains to be seen.

Looking at the war generally, there is one note of hope—the opinion that it cannot last a very long time, because of Germany's great economic weakness, and the clear desire of the masses of her people for peace. One of the best experts says that Germany might last two years if the French fight a defensive war, and not more than one year if the French take the offensive. First reports indicate the French have chosen the latter course, and are carry-

ing the way to the enemy on the Western Front.

The United States News observes, "One certainty in an uncertain world now is this: Prospect of any return to 'normalcy' at home or abroad is gone."

Thus the hazards of forecasting become even more acute. One thing seems to be true. We will continue to re-arm on a gigantic scale and that is naturally a strongly favorable temporary factor. Building up the military establishment means more business

for practically every industry and trade.

We are better prepared for trouble abroad than in 1914. Plans have been made for imposing controls on the stock exchanges to prevent disastrous rises or falls in security quotations. Other plans have been made to help stabilize industry.

But economic factor is that a lengthy war would undoubtedly result in a British blockade of Central Europe, thus cutting off our trade here.

## 4 O'CLOCK in the MORNING On N. 24th St.

By Richard Stanley

### Special Notice—

This column is not a scandal monger. I don't intend to make it such. Just good clean fun and its got to be clean. Lots of people have repeatedly asked me to write about old so and so. Now if you have a good joke on old so and so, lets you and I get our nozzles to-

### MEET AGAIN AFTER 23 YEARS ABSENCE

Tuesday, Sept. 12, Mr. Pulford Johnson of Los Angeles, formerly of Shreveport, La., dropped in to the little city of Omaha to visit some of his old friends from home and what a reunion. Bernard Thomas (Dutch) Smitty and the old reporter, we got together and nothing could separate the old gang. Just imagine 23 years ago we were all in dear old Peabody High school, together trying to obtain some knowledge. Well it looks like Dutch, Smitty and Pulford succeeded—here I am. Last year about Sept. 15, Pulford, Mother and two sisters paid the old reporter a visit. They also reside in Los Angeles. There is one more of the old Alma Maters in Los Angeles by the name of George Harper. In fact, the Calif. City is filled up with Peabody graduates—some school.

Clayborn Smith one of Los Angeles' ace detectives, an old product of Louisiana takes all the Shreveport boys and gals from Los Angeles. Poor Los Angeles. I've been on my way there for 22 years, so here I am—can't move another peg.

Some of the boys from home, in fact, most of the boys have nick names. For instance, my nick name was 'Rosmore'. What a moniker they hung on me. Well, Pulford's nick name was 'Koochie'. Don't laugh, not his fault. His sister's name was 'Titter'. Her real name, Alma. We have real names in La., just like you do in Omaha, so don't start calling me 'Rosmore'.

Well, Pulford, is on his way back to Los Angeles about the 26th of December. If some of the home towners wish to drop him a card, the address is 910 East 47th St., Los Angeles, Cal. Bill collectors need not write. All the family is well. But mother has a little eye trouble. Rulford announced he was sorry he missed Mr. and Mrs. Middleton, called but no one home and his time was very short.

### Dreamland to Ban Jitterbugging

According to Jimmie Jewell, manager of the Dreamland, all leading ballrooms are banning the Jitterbug dances. So James decided to fall in line. He has had numerous complaints from hundreds of dance fans. Jimmie wants everybody to enjoy themselves, but somehow the Jitterbug is a bit annoying. For instance, there is rarely a dance that 3 to 5 couples aren't bumped or knocked out of step. Only a very few who do like to Jitterbug so there is no sense of wrecking the enjoyment of hundreds of dancers for a se-

few. In Cleveland, Ohio and Detroit, Mich., and a host of other cities they have special places roped off for those who want to Jitterbug, so there will be no interference with the other dancers. So James decided to ban the Jitterbug in the Dreamland.

### COUNT BASIE AND HIS BAND, SEPT. 19

Out of the welter of colored bands has risen one that stands out like a house afire. It is Count Basie who will open at the Dreamland on Sept. 29. The orchestra comprises piano, played by Count himself, four saxophones, three trumpets, two trombones, two guitars, bass and drums. The band is built around a matchless rhythm section, bass guitar, piano, and drums which have a coordination not to be found in any other band including a 17 year old youngster who is said to be the logical successor to Louis Armstrong. The Count also has two of the best vocalists in the business, Helen Humes, and James. Rushing. The Count, on his way west couldn't even think of passing up his old pal Jimmy, so we can hear and enjoy this swingster once more.

### On the Dance Front—

The Negro Welfare Club, located on 24th and Parker St., is going to give another dance this month. What a club. They do things quick and fact. The club is young, but already this in their second big dance with big bands to furnish the music. Come on dance public. Give the club a great big attendance. They deserve your patronage. Ask about joining when you see one of the members. Ask the principal of the club. I am sure you will become a member. Extra! Extra! Jim Allen goin' to do the old fashion Cake Walk. No extra charge to you.

### Dreamland Hall

Well, Don Albert furnished the cats in these parts some real sweet music Friday night before a nice crowd and a delightfully cooled dance hall. The old town was filled up with musicians Friday. Nat Towles boys were in town and the Sweethearts of Rhythm stopped over to say 'Hello' to Jimmy on their way to Carroll, Iowa. As you know, that swell girls' band will play at the Dreamland on Monday, Oct. 9, with Omaha's own Ray Lee Jones directing. So prepare yourself for a real treat. Watch for dance information on all the big bands that will appear at the Dreamland for the fall season of dancing.

### Blue Room Notes

For the past week the Blue Room has been packing 'em in. Standing even hard to find. What the people want is good snappy and peppy entertainment and the Blue Room has accomplished that sole purpose. With that versatile fiery Georgia Watkins, teamed up with Winoni who everybody knows, will furnish some very

## SATURDAY NIGHT BACK HOME



McGill has hit the old nail on good fun and songs. Look like the head. Well, speaking of McGill, I want to congratulate Mac and you will too when you read this. About two weeks ago Travis Dixon was hunting vainly for some good smartin to indorse him \$113 dollars. One hundred and thirteen dollars to place a colored soccer ball team in the city league as you know that money is hard to find, especially as a gift. So I sent him to talk to McGill. About a half hours talking and convincing by the well known Travis, and he emerged 'victorious'. Smiles all over his face. So now your kids and mine will play soccer ball this fall.

Thanks to Eugene McGill for kindness and thoughtfulness of the young Negroes. I do hope the team will prove to all concerned that they are worthy of the consideration that was shown them (to the team). You can win even if you lose on points. Just play the game square and hard. Win or lose, smile. After you give your level best, nobody can do better. Remember, in all games, somebody loses. Just follow your manager's instructions and give yours all in the end you will emerge victorious, cleanly and squarely is the success to all games of sport. Here's hoping the next champion soccer team will be the Storz. Good luck and

God bless you all.

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### Cotton Club Notes

A new five piece orchestra known as the Cotton Club Syncopators. Also the beautiful Jean Powell, the shake-dancer. Jackie Rogers, another newcomer. Torch singer, Billy Williams, and Velma Morris. A whooping good floor show and new faces. The manager announces that from time to time, the floor show will be changed. Two shows nightly, 10 p.m. to 12 midnight.

### What I've Seen With My Blue Eyes

Mr. Cleo Mortimer, Mrs. Earncliffe Blackwell, Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barnett enjoying themselves to the height of perfection. Also Mr. John Smith and party of 6 including Mr. W. C. Williams, Master of Ceremony, Mr. James Cole and party of five with a well filled table, enjoying the night life. Mr. Willis Erwin entertaining the entertainer and host of others having a wonderful time.

### EDITORIAL OF THE WEEK

(From the Amsterdam News, N. Y. City, Sept. 9, 1939) Evading the Law

The setting up of a jim-crow mushroom law school in St. Louis as a part of Lincoln University of Missouri is a direct affront to the Negro race and the Supreme Court which ruled last year in the Gaines case that the State of Missouri would have to admit Negroes to the law school at the University of Missouri or provide a law school equal to it. The jim-crow school is, as a matter of fact, a violation of the constitution, since it will not when opened be anywhere near as good as the state university law school. The question is, will Missouri be permitted to get away with its avowed intention of violating the law of the land by setting up an inferior school for Negroes? Or will the Negroes in Missouri and elsewhere fight this brazen determination to keep Negro students from acquiring legal edu-

cations equal to those given at the University of Missouri?

If the state is permitted to get away with its plan to set up an inferior law school for Negroes it will immediately become a pattern to which every Southern state will conform. And thus the decision in the Gaines case will be emasculated on the altar of prejudice and discrimination.

It was seen as soon as the Gaines decision was rendered that the Southern states would fight to the end any attempt of Negro students to enter graduate schools provide inferior graduate schools wherever they were forced to for Negroes. Because of this, it is mandatory to fight the deal the State of Missouri is now pulling at the expense of the Negro citizens and in spite of the Supreme Court. A complete victory in the Gaines case will not be won until the Southern states are compelled to live up to the letter of the law. Any compromise is basically and legally wrong.

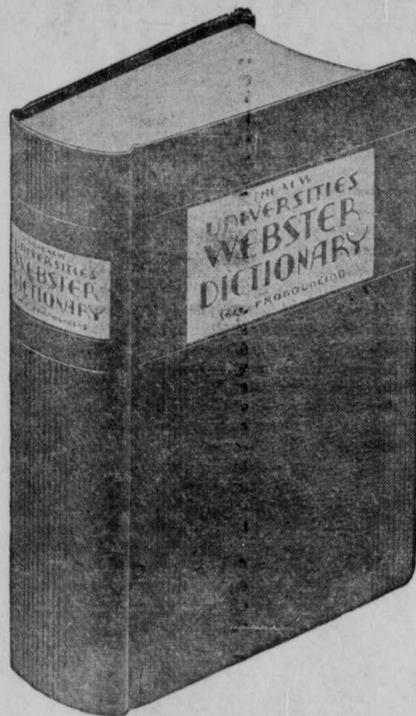
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