

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

U. S. Reacts to European War As Shipments Crowd Wharves; Ickes Warns Against 'Raiding'

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.) Released by Western Newspaper Union.

DOMESTIC: U. S. & the War

Major fear of congressmen who opposed the neutrality act last October was that its practical effect was to favor Britain and France, who control the seas, meanwhile shutting off U. S. munitions supplies to Germany.



PLANE FOR BRITAIN Trench diggers, too.

diggers, corned beef and miscellaneous war exports valued at \$18,500,000, all awaiting empty allied freighters to carry them across the submarine-infested Atlantic.

Items: 60 fast Lockheed reconnaissance bombers, their bodies painted a dark brown and camouflaged with wide stripings; 1,500 Studebaker trucks and 1,000 White trucks, the vanguard of 6,000 to be sent to the war zone within the next two months.

At Washington, the annual report of Interior Secretary Harold Ickes focused attention on America's need for conserving her natural resources which he said were threatened by efforts to break down conservation programs in an attempt to reap quick war profits.

ESPIONAGE: Dies to Murphy

Much maligned during the two years his committee has investigated un-Americanism, Congressman Martin Dies of Texas has nevertheless managed to stir up trouble for Communist Earl Browder, Nazi Fritz Kuhn, Alien Harry Bridges, and many a lesser figure.

This month Attorney General Frank Murphy begins co-operating so completely that Martin Dies is shoved to the background.

FORECAST:

New Job:

Once U. S. ambassador to Italy, and an official of the state department since Woodrow Wilson's administration, Breckenridge Long is considered the best bet to succeed Joseph E. Davies as ambassador to Belgium.



LONG To Brussels?

Going Trouble:

The London Daily Herald reports on good authority that Adolf Hitler's No. 1 aid, Field Marshal Hermann Goering, has fallen in disfavor and is living at his shooting chalet at Schorfheide, planning a comeback campaign "on his own terms."

Neutrality

Observers expect wholesale attempts to transfer U. S.-owned passenger and freight ships to registry of European neutrals, following the maritime commission's approval of a deal whereby eight U. S. Lines ships are sold to a Norwegian company for operation between New

dence" of planned sabotage by representatives of foreign governments in U. S. auto, airplane and munitions factories. At the same time Frank Murphy began probing anti-Semitic activities, using the income tax, passport and foreign agent laws as his weapons.

THE WARS: In the West

Where Christmas left off, a violent blizzard began to stop all operations on the western front. Sidelines: Britain, expecting "real war" in the spring, ordered 2,000,000 more men prepared for army service.

In Paris Le Petit Parisien published a report from Italy that Adolf Hitler was ready to quit as chancellor and purge his more radical Nazis to "convince the allies to make peace."

Only sea activity was the decision of Germany's freighter Tacoma to accept internment at Montevideo harbor rather than face capture by British ships waiting outside the harbor.

In the North

Attack-and-repulsé tactics continued featuring the war between Finland and Russia, the Soviet suffering bitter losses on all fronts from Petsamo to the Karelian isthmus. Main reason, as usual, was cold weather, an ally of the skillful Finns. Most gruesome story:

Near Suomussalmi it was learned the outnumbered Finns had surrounded Russia's entire 163rd division, waited three weeks in bitter cold while the Soviet supply lines broke down, then attacked to find the Russians so weak and frozen they could hardly move.

Far from an optimist, Finland's President Kyosti Kallio knew such luck couldn't hold out. As new waves of Red troops were rushed to the front he appealed for foreign volunteers. Already on the way were 50,000 Scandinavians, with more to come.

WHITE HOUSE: Appointments

As congress opened, President Roosevelt asked confirmation of his two most recent appointees:

Charles Edison, assistant secretary of the navy since January, 1937, and acting head of the department since last summer, chosen for full secretaryship.

Daniel W. Bell, former acting budget director, named undersecretary of the treasury to succeed John Hanes, resigned.

TREND: Suppression

Freedom of speech and press suffered three times in two days:

At Cambridge, Mass., the city council voted to ban the words Lenin and Leningrad from all printed matter in the city, but the mayor refused to sign the measure.

At Chicago, President James C. Petrillo of the local federation of musicians demanded that two stage productions (George White's Scandals and The Man Who Came to Dinner) delete references to John L. Lewis, head of A. F. of L.'s arch foe, the C. I. O.

At Mexico City, the chamber of deputies voted to exclude all religion and religious instruction from schools.

Rumors Behind World Headlines

York and Liverpool. Purpose of transfer: To escape ban imposed by U. S. neutrality law.

Quints:

Resignation of Dr. Alan Roy Daffoe as a guardian of the famous Dionne quintuplets may pave the way for their return to the home of the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oliva Dionne.

Strategy:

Both Republicans and Democrats (the latter in self-defense) will probably concentrate their major 1940 presidential campaign in the mid-western states, normally a G. O. P. stronghold. For this reason leaders of both parties are urging Chicago as convention city.

Tragedy:

University of Nebraska's Dr. J. E. Weaver predicts that the most ruinous drought in history will strike the middle-western "dust bowl" next year. Already dry, the dust bowl received only temporary relief from light snows.

Protest:

Agricultural business interests are planning a campaign to demand that the Farm Credit administration be removed from the hands of Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace, on charges that his recently expropriated control over FCA will result in loosened credit restrictions, thus endangering the investments of FCA stockholders.

NEWS QUIZ

Know your news! Perfect score is 100; deduct 20 points for each question you miss. Score of 80 is excellent; 60, average; 40, poor; 20, don't tell anyone!

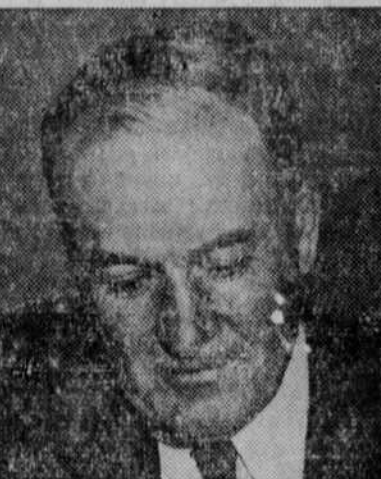


- 1. Arrow points to section of Turkey very much in the news recently. Why? 2. The former Ethel duPont and her husband were injured in a Virginia auto crash. What's her married name? 3. Ex-President Herbert Hoover heads a relief agency which has sent more than \$300,000 to aid the citizens of what country? 4. Choice: Pope Pius XII set a modern precedent by visiting: (a) the Western front; (b) his birthplace; (c) the Italian king. 5. Name the former U. S. ambassador to Belgium who has just been named "special assistant" in the state department at Washington. (Answers at bottom of column.)

CONGRESS: News Quiz

Two months ago only a few Americans realized that Cordell Hull's reciprocal trade act comes up for congressional renewal this year. Today that issue ranks No. 1 on the agenda, threatening to inject itself into 1940's presidential campaign.

At least three opponents of the Hull idea (two of them Democrats) spoke their minds as congress unlocked its oratorical floodgates. New York's G. O. P. Rep. Daniel Reed charged Joseph Davies had been brought back from his Brussels ambassadorial post to serve as "super-lobbyist" for Cordell Hull.



NEBRASKA'S BURKE A realistic view.

senate should ratify each treaty. Most realistic attitude was that of Nebraska's Sen. Edward R. Burke: He favored the "long-range view" that taking down tariff walls would eventually benefit all countries, but declared agriculture in some states is so depressed it would "require at least a few years to get it back on its feet."

What most senators want is a chance for some old-fashioned log-rolling, hence observers thought the trade act would be renewed only if congressional ratification is included.

Other issues: Pensions. Unexpectedly injected was a campaign (sponsored by "poorer" states) to make the U. S. take a bigger share of pension costs. Under law the U. S. matches states dollar for dollar up to \$20 per month.

Agriculture. Henry Wallace polished off his "certificate plan" to syphon \$300,000,000 annually from consumers to finance the farm program. Farmers would get income certificates valued at the differential between market price and "parity price," these to be purchased by processors.

Taxes. Henry Morgenthau not only opposed the certificate plan as a consumer tax in disguise, but pointed out the consumer already pays 61 per cent of the taxes. A bigger issue: Whether to raise taxes or hike the national debt limit, which reaches its ceiling next year.

Defense. While the President planned an enlarged defense program, two Republicans (Ohio's Sen. Robert A. Taft and Idaho's William Borah) warned against it.

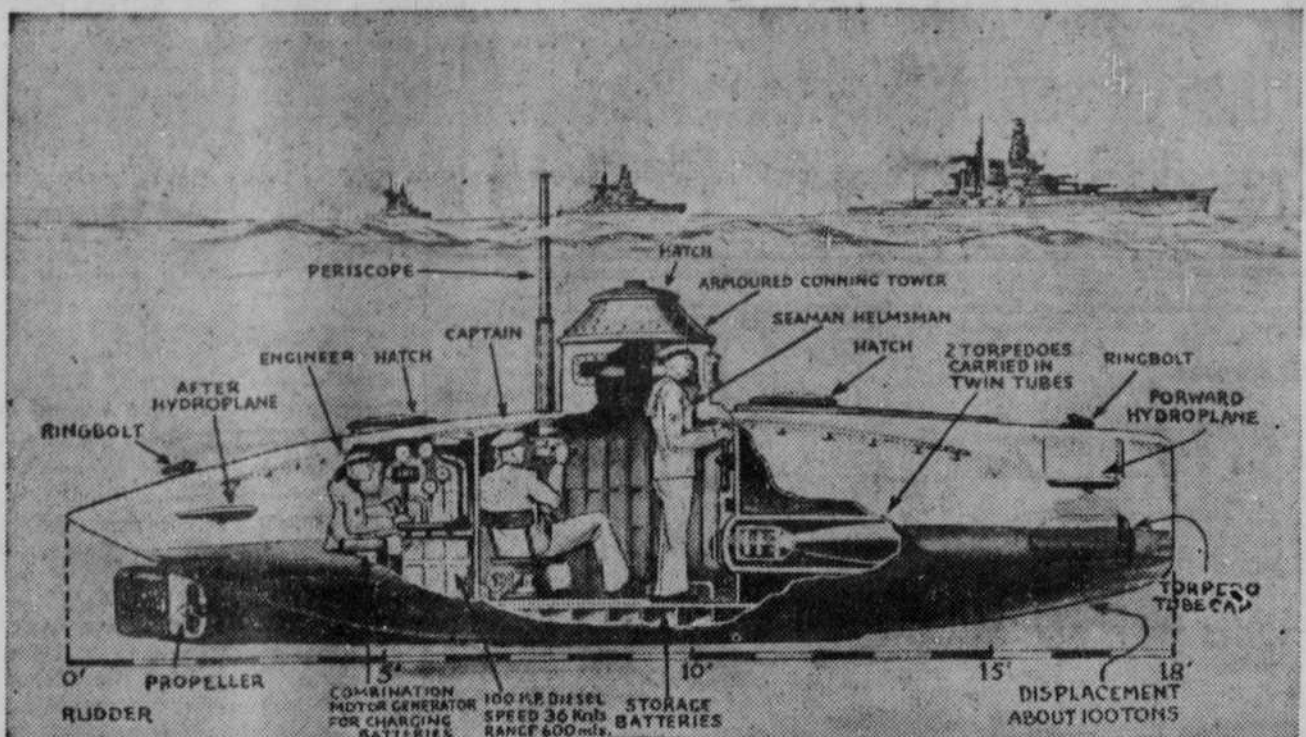
PEOPLE: No Communist

At Washington, Harvard law school's Dean James M. Landis reported he had found Harry Bridges, west coast C. I. O. leader, is not a Communist, thus closing the deportation hearing at which Dean Landis officiated.

News Quiz Answers

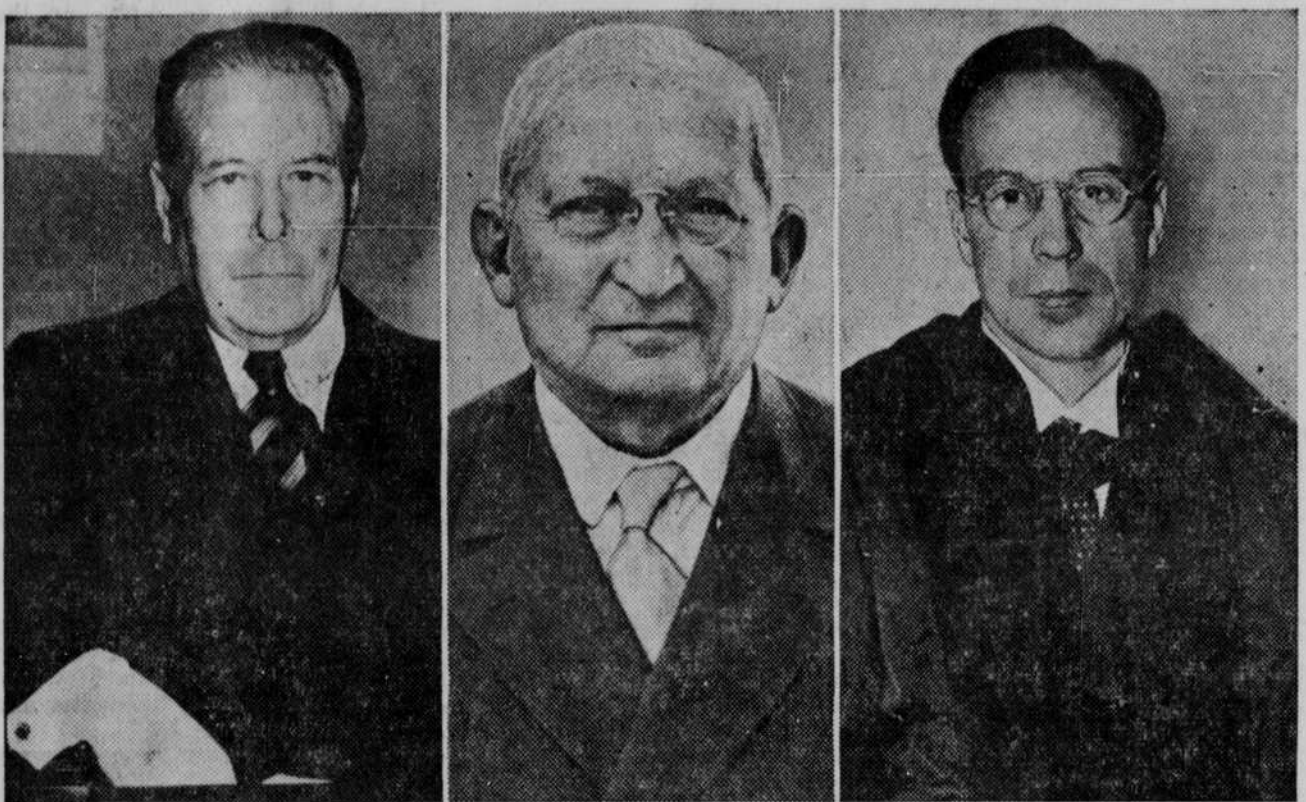
- 1. An earthquake, followed by a blizzard, killed at least 20,000 there. 2. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. 3. Finland. 4. (C) is correct. It was the first visit of a pope to a temporal prince in more than 70 years. 5. Joseph E. Davies.

Pocket Submarine May Be Powerful Jap Sea Threat



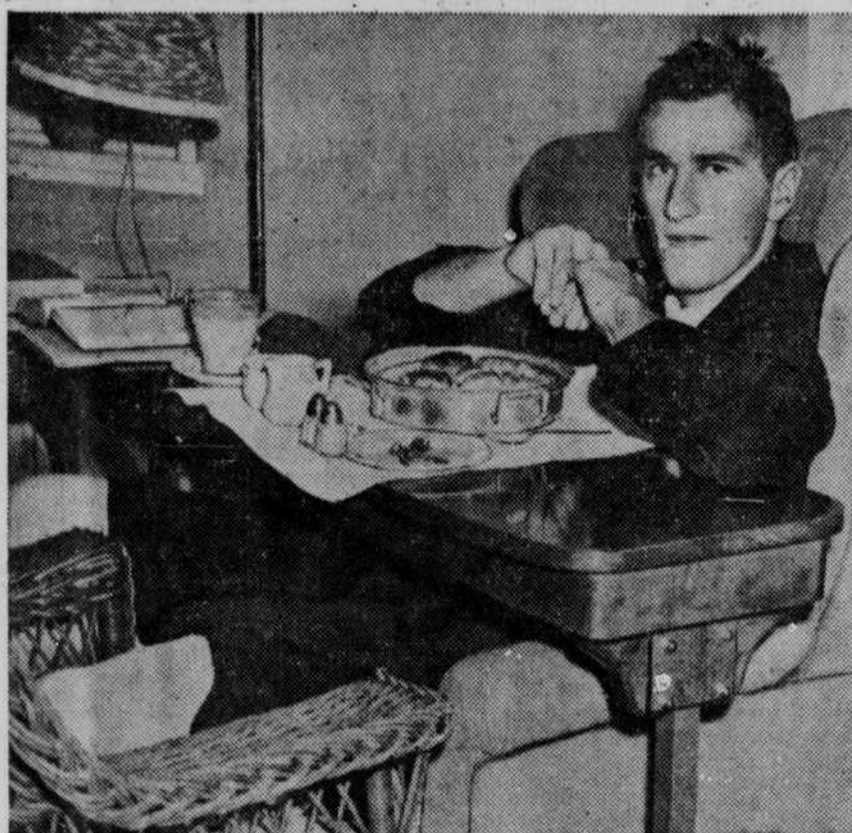
According to reports reaching London from Tokyo, the Japanese navy finally has put an oft-reported three-man submarine into mass production. Dispatches say the boats are being turned out in mass production at a cost of \$5,500 each.

To Assist President in World Peace Problems



Hopes for world peace on the part of President Roosevelt have resulted in two recent far-reaching moves. First was the President's appointment of Myron C. Taylor, left, former head of United States Steel, as this country's representative to the Vatican to work with Pope Pius for peace.

Princeton's Grid Hero Goes Home



Don Herring, young Princeton football hero who lost his left leg as the result of an injury in the Harvard game this fall, is shown in a Princeton, N. J., hospital just before going home to his family.

Hawaii's Official Greeter at Work



A royal Hawaiian welcome is given Jack Dempsey by Duke P. Kahanamoku, famous swimmer and official greeter, and a bevy of Island belles as the former heavyweight champion disembarks at Honolulu.

Battles Machine



State Sen. James A. Noe of Louisiana, close friend and aide to the late Huey Long, and now a candidate for governor, has promised to break up the political machine founded by the "Kingfish."

Sky Beauty



Mona Friedlander, beautiful 25-year-old London girl, was selected among the eight British women pilots who will ferry new army planes from factories to airdromes.

Star Dust

Fan Mail From Far Brought London Here It's an Illness—

By Virginia Vale

MADELEINE CARROLL has the grandest bunch of fan mail in all Hollywood. It comes from France, from a group of French children who are living in her chateau in the country, secluded from the danger of Paris' air raids and gas attacks.



MADELEINE CARROLL

write to Miss Carroll, who reads their letters as she rests between scenes of "My Son, My Son!"

The famous Brighton Belle pulled out of Hollywood the other day for scenes in that same picture. The station, however, was a replica of the famous Victoria station, the train was a replica of the Brighton Belle, which covers the 62 miles between London and Brighton in 40 minutes.

But to many who watched, the atmosphere was the same as it would have been in the original setting. Producer Edward Small could not shoot the scene in London because of the present war, but in portraying a scene that dates back to the last one he brought to California, for a moment, all the feeling that fills the railway stations of Europe in these times, as trains filled with soldiers leave for the front.

A case of appendicitis was responsible for the March of Time's exclusive film of the island of Guam. Victor Jurgens, the 26-year-old camera man who last year filmed the March of Time's memorable motion picture story on Japan, was stricken with appendicitis while on his way to Guam; he was operated on at sea by navy surgeons, recuperated at Guam, and spent his time filming all aspects of civil and military life on the important little island.

"Four Wives" proves that it's possible for a sequel to live up to the reputation established by a popular film. People liked "Four Daughters" so much that it seemed unlikely that the picture carrying the story along could be anything but a disappointment.

Kay Francis will appear in "It's a Date" as Deanna Durbin's mother—a very glamorous mother, an actress. Norma Shearer may have a mother role, too, in the film version of the popular novel, "Escape."

By a strange coincidence, Patsy Montana, "cowgirl sweetheart" of radio station WLS, Chicago, goes on the air every morning at exactly the same time as her brother does at station KSOO in Sioux Falls, S. D. It's rather hard on their proud mother—not only do they broadcast at the same hour, but it's 6:15 a. m.

Dave Elman will never have a seal on his "Hobby Lobby" program again if he can help it. The one he had recently cost him about \$35. It had to be fed pieces of fish, frequently. The supply of fish, which had seemed ample, disappeared in no time, and Elman had to keep sending out to restaurants near the Columbia playhouse for more.

ODDS AND ENDS—Walt Disney's "Pinocchio" will be released in February. Robert Montgomery is going to England again, to make pictures. One more change of title for "Send Another Coffin"—this time it's "Slightly Hilarious." (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)