



Washington, D. C.

**SUBCONTRACTOR PROBLEM**

Every train to Washington brings a group of small business men with rumpled collars and bulging brief cases. They've heard high officials declare that the defense boom should be evenly distributed. They've read about a subcontracting program for the smaller firms. So they come to town loaded with blue-prints and inventories of machine tools.

The visitors wait patiently in defense offices to ask the same question: "When do we get contracts or subcontracts?" Then they go home empty-handed, cursing the "bureaucrats running the defense program."

What they don't know is that the issue of subcontracting is being fought over daily, and with increasing bitterness, at the inner conference tables of the Office of Production Management. The question is whether OPM should crack down on the big primary contractors and force them to farm out their piled-up orders.

The powerful big industry clique says "No." It argues that forced subcontracting would be costly and unreliable. Bob Mehornay, a liberal small business man in charge of subcontracting, hotly denies this and is battling to overrule them.

The cold facts are that although 200,000 firms are available for defense contracts, 90 per cent of the orders awarded during the last half of 1940 went to 600 large concerns. And 114 of them got 95 per cent of all contracts over \$100,000, amounting to \$6,668,800,000.

**ARMY MORALS**

Genial Mark McCloskey, the Federal Security agency's recreation expert, has the soldier's moral lapse figured down to one crucial hour. This hour is the one during which he waits for a bus or train to take him back to camp.

McCloskey, whose job it is to worry about such things and work with the army and navy, has doped out that if time drags heavily during that hour of waiting the soldier may make for honky-tonks—and who's to blame him?

"The smart thing to do," McCloskey says, "is to brighten up the terminals. Give the boys a place to shoot pool, get some good chow at low prices, and read new magazines. Some pretty waitresses for the boys to kid won't hurt any either."

He doesn't think a tour through the museum of art or a brisk walk do much to combat temptation. Instead he'd like to see every town near a camp organize an honest-to-goodness information bureau for the men.

"If the boys want to go to a dance, get a date, visit with some patriotic family, or see a ball game, the community ought to arrange it for them," contends McCloskey.

He beams when he mentions the 200 girls at the Tom Huston peanut factory at Columbus, Ga., who volunteered to act as hostesses for soldiers at dances and social events.

**ACTION ON HOUSING**

Housing for civilian defense workers, one of the most muddled phases of the defense program, now looks as if it is going somewhere—thanks to the quiet intervention of Mrs. Roosevelt and Frederic A. Delano, uncle of the President and chairman of the national resources planning board.

Both exerted their influence through FDR, himself. The First Lady told him of shocking housing conditions among defense workers which she had seen in several cities, and warned that there would be serious consequences unless something was done quickly. Delano urged Roosevelt to get behind the C. I. O.'s plan for prefabricated homes.

**WILLKIE CAN WEAR SHOES**

Much water has gone over the dam since Secretary of the Interior Ickes labeled Wendell Willkie a "barefoot Wall Street lawyer." All is sweetness and light now between Willkie and the New Deal—which includes Mr. Ickes—since Wendell's outspoken support of the lend-lease bill.

However, one inquisitive reporter at a recent Ickes press conference wanted to be absolutely sure. "In view of recent developments," he queried, "do you still think Wendell Willkie is a Wall Street barefoot boy?"

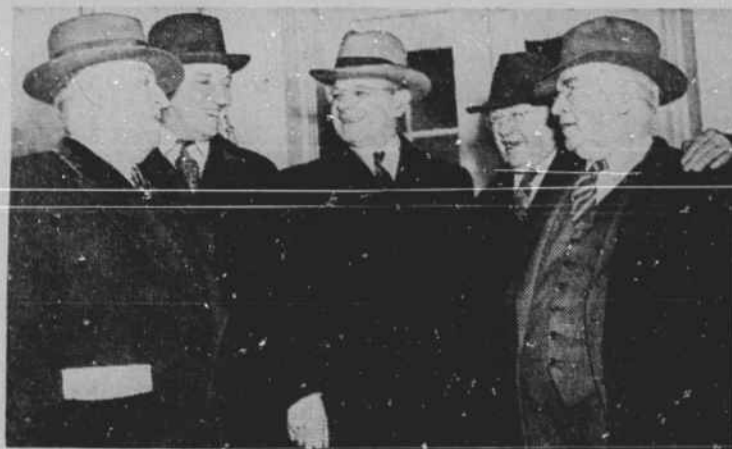
Replied Ickes: "I think anybody has a right to wear shoes in Wall Street in this kind of weather."

**WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS**

By Edward C. Wayne

**U. S. Would Speed 'All Out' British Aid With Appropriation of Seven Billions; Landing of British Troops in Greece Adds Confusion to Balkan Situation**

(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.)



With the labor situation in the defense industries much in the news these prominent labor leaders called at the White House to discuss with the President the formation of a national mediation board for settling all disputes in defense production. Photo shows: (Left to right) H. C. Bates, president Brickmasons and Plasterers union; O. W. Tracy, assistant secretary of labor; Sidney Hillman, defense commission; Allen S. Haywood, C. I. O. official, and A. Johnson, locomotive engineers official, as the group left the White House.

**SPEECHES: Two Leaders**

In an address that was carried by radio to all parts of the world, President Roosevelt called for an American "total effort" to provide nations resisting aggression with the war implements they need. Speaking before a gathering of the White House newspaper correspondents, the President declared in effect that the aim of the United States is "total victory" over the dictators. He said that this cannot be achieved without some very definite sacrifices on the part of the American people.

He called for a maximum output of war materials by the United States and stressed the high importance of national unity. He expressed the thought that the British people and their Grecian allies needed ships, planes, food, tanks, guns, ammunition and supplies of all kinds. He followed this with the statement that America would provide them with all these things.

Day later Adolf Hitler spoke to his countrymen and told them that no amount of outside help would permit the British to defeat the Axis powers. He did not refer directly to President Roosevelt's speech.

Germany, according to Hitler, has been preparing throughout the past winter for a final drive to victory in 1941. He predicted that this final victory would come "on land, sea, or air or in any part of the earth."

**BRITISH: First Again**

The British, who have been trying their utmost to get the jump on their Nazi and Fascist opponents since Germany made hash out of French and British armies on the West Wall, apparently had beaten the Germans to the punch on the northern Greek front.

The story came, not from British sources, but from the Nazi officials in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. The move had two important objects, apparently, one to attempt the hopeless task of keeping Yugoslavia in line as a possible Nazi opponent in a drive on Greece, the other to put troops into position for a swift and powerful defense against a Nazi invasion from Bulgaria.

The story was that 100,000 soldiers, including shiploads of munitions, tanks and other mechanized equipment, sufficient for five full divisions, had been landed and were taking up positions on Greek soil opposite to the estimated 500,000 Nazis in Bulgaria.

The original informant said that official denials could be expected both from the Greeks and the British.

However, entirely unofficially, British authorities told correspondents in London that the reports of the landing of the British forces in Greece "probably were well founded."

Germany immediately denied any knowledge of the movement, and as the Greeks were not letting newspaper men into that territory, but indeed were evacuating everyone in expectation that it would be a battleground, the entire story was impossible of positive confirmation.

The same report said that Germany was wheeling her mechanized forces and her planes into position for immediate attack.

According to reports brought to Belgrade by neutral diplomats, five ships a day have been coming into southern ports in Greece, and have moved forward to take positions in the central part of the country, readily accessible to the northern frontier.

**Die Is Cast**

The move by the British meant that they had cast the die, that they were going to move in full force to the aid of Greece, and hence that if Germany wants to force a separate peace with Greece it will have to be a real military victory, and not merely diplomatic pressure.

This move, together with the landing at Salonika, was not without a powerful effect on Turkey, which, unlike Yugoslavia, seemed to have some ability to stand out against the Nazi inroads, and to hold herself in alliance with Greece and Britain, in accordance with the wishes of the government majority.

While Berlin refused to confirm the reports, and refused to comment on them in any way, it was considered ominous that the statement should be made in a Nazi communique that "the moment had now come for a decisive act in German-Greek relations."

**ENVOY: 'Means Business'**

W. A. Harriman marched up to newspaper men on the Bristol, England, airport as a special representative of President Roosevelt and said these words:

"Believe me, the United States means business in this war."

They were cheering words to the English, and at the same time in this country President Roosevelt's lease-lend plan went zooming ahead, with congressional approval of the \$7,000,000,000 implementation of the law a certainty.

It was within the same week of the passage of the British aid act that the house subcommittee swept into instant action and approved the amount.

President Roosevelt already had "sold" senate and house leaders that the amount was no figment of the imagination, thought up hurriedly, but was, rather, the carefully considered amount which would take care of a sizeable aid to Britain program for the life of the bill—July, 1943.

The newspapers printed careful breakdowns of the 7 billion amount, showed how this and that had been divided out, and how safeguards had been thought out as to the question of moving funds from one category to another.

It was all placed before the public succinctly and with his usual compelling power of oratory by President Roosevelt himself in an address to the nation. Without telling any secrets, or tipping off adverse powers, the President took the people into his confidence, and just on the eve of the consideration of the measure, too.

That clinched the situation, in view of congressional leaders, who figured that in three days, at most, it would be all over, and the administration would have, practically intact except for some dozen amendments, his fully implemented aid-to-Britain plan.



MIAMI BEACH.—The keen combination of two Dodger mandarins, Larry MacPhail and Leo Durocher, nominates two stars for an exceptional season. They are Ducky Medwick and Peewee Reese.

MacPhail believes that young Reese will be the star infielder of the National circuit and that Medwick will be the star outfielder for 1941. This may be peering into the future with rose-rimmed glasses, but that happens to be the way MacPhail and Durocher feel about it as the training season gets well under way.

"I've never seen a fellow train harder than Medwick has trained this spring," MacPhail said. "He is not only in great physical shape, but he will show you more spirit than you've seen in a long time. There'll be no tightening up as there was last summer. He is still in his prime, ready to move at top speed."

**The Right Way to Train**

"I've discovered," Medwick told me, "that the best way to get in shape is to keep in shape. That's what I've done all winter. I was in shape before the bunch arrived. I



DUCKY MEDWICK

can honestly say I've never faced a season with the keenness I feel now."

"I'd like to bet somebody," MacPhail said, "that Brooklyn will show you the finest spirit in either league. Every man on the club knows we are all shooting for a pennant, and that we have a first-class chance to win."

"What about those Red pitchers?" I asked MacPhail. "Meaning Walters, Derringer and Thompson, to mention only a few?"

"They may not be as tough this season as they were the last two years," MacPhail said. "Paul Derringer is still a great pitcher, but he isn't any rookie."

"For that matter you are going to see much better pitching this season on the Brooklyn side of the fence. Much better. Higbe alone will make a big difference. I think he'll do better than 20 wins. He may even reach 25 with his share of the breaks. Hamlin will be more than useful. So will Wyatt. Out of the lot we'll get at least four good starting pitchers, with others who can help a lot."

"And don't forget what I told you about Reese. He means a lot to a ball club."

Brooklyn is still the "people's choice." No other club in baseball has so many far-flung hamlets working along Rooters' Row, pulling for Brooklyn to win.

The answer is that Brooklyn is baseball's daffiest baseball town, with the lone exception of Detroit.

Baseball to Brooklyn is something more than a pleasant way to kill off a summer afternoon. It is a big part of the soul of the old city, where the average fanatic begins practicing quick starts for the clubhouse early in March.

And now Brooklyn has a showman and a ball club that carry an even deeper appeal than usual. Both Reds and Cardinals will have to be stronger than they were last summer to keep these Dodgers from boiling over.

**Their Main Problem**

According to most of the master minds connected with the Dodgers, their main problem is center field.

"If we get this spot fixed up in the right way I don't think any club can beat us," one of them told me. "If we don't, the job will be a lot tougher. You know how important center field play is to any championship club. The line of winning strength runs through the middle-catcher - pitcher - second base and center. Both shortstop and second baseman are concerned with second-base play. I think we'll get this fixed up. But it is the only spot now that is giving us any worry."

**THE CHEERFUL CHERUB**  
When some one does a noble deed Or springs a thought that's true It makes me feel as proud myself As if I'd done it too.  
WNU Service.

**CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT**

**SALESMEN WANTED**

Salesman wanted: Candy, Drug, Tobacco. Sell original Candy Mint Laxative 10c in rolls. Your Jackpot! Mail 10c Samples, term. com. Erie Cathumint, 2514 Wayne, Erie, Pa.

**BABY CHICKS**

Blood-Tested Chicks. Popular breeds \$5.00 100 assorted for layers \$4.05. Cockerles \$2.35. Postage prepaid. RUSHTON LA-FOLLETTE, Box 445, Milltown, Ind.

**Man's Power**

It is impossible to imagine the height to which may be carried in a thousand years, the power of man over matter . . . O that moral science were in a fair way of improvement, that men would cease to be wolves to one another, and that human knowledge would at length learn what they now improperly call humanity!—Benjamin Franklin.

**FOR HEAD COLDS**

Just 2 drops Penetro Nose Drops will instantly start you on the "open nose" way out of colds' misery. Remember, free and easy breathing takes the kick out of head colds—helps cut down the time these colds hang on. So this winter—head off head colds' misery with genuine Penetro Nose Drops. Trial size, 10¢. Large regular size, only 25¢. . . . rush out clogging miseries—rush in vitalizing healing air.

**Need of Patience**

How poor are they that have not patience! What wound did ever heal but by degrees?—Shakespeare.

**DON'T BE BOSSED**

BY YOUR LAXATIVE—RELIEVE CONSTIPATION THIS MODERN WAY

• When you feel gassy, headachy, loopy due to clogged-up bowels, do as millions do—take Feen-A-Mint at bedtime. Next morning—through, comfortable relief, helping you start the day full of your normal energy and pep, feeling like a million! Feen-A-Mint doesn't disturb your night's rest or interfere with work the next day. Try Feen-A-Mint, the chewing gum laxative, yourself. It tastes good, it's handy and economical. . . . a family supply costs only

**FEEN-A-MINT 10¢**

**Happy State**

A sound Mind in a sound Body, is a short but full description of a happy-of State in this world.—Locke.

**FEMALE PAIN WITH WEAK, CRANKY NERVOUS FEELINGS—**

You women who suffer pain of irregular periods and are nervous, cranky due to monthly functional disturbances should find Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound simply marvelous to relieve such annoying symptoms. Pinkham's Compound is made especially for women to help relieve such distressing feelings and thus help them go smiling thru such "difficult days." Over 1,000,000 women have reported remarkable benefits. WORTH TRYING! Any drugstore.

**CREATING NEW WEALTH TO ORDER**

• Advertising creates new wealth by showing people new and better ways of living, and as it creates new wealth it contributes to the prosperity of everyone touched by the flow of money which is set up. In this way, don't you see, advertising is a social force which is working in the interest of every one of us every day of the year, bringing us new wealth to use and enjoy.