

# This Week IN WASHINGTON

Washington, Feb. 19—It would be going too far to say that events are bringing the United States closer to participation in the European War, but it is no exaggeration to say that the international situation, in one phase or another, is occupying the attention of official Washington more than any other one subject.

Probably no head of a government has ever expressed himself so vigorously concerning another government with which it is at peace as President Roosevelt expressed himself concerning the Russian Government, in his address to the American Youth Congress. The President's denunciation of Russia as a dictatorship and an aggressor against Po-

land and Finland was coupled with a warning to the young people in his audience not to be led astray by Communist propaganda emanating from Russia. Short of breaking off diplomatic relations with the Soviet Government he could hardly have gone farther.

**Drastic Step**

The President's remarks have given impetus to the demand that the United States should break off relations with Russia by recalling the American Ambassador. The Administration is not prepared to take such a drastic step, especially in view of the large volume of trade between the United States and Russia. Russia's imports from the United States have been steadily increasing for the past year and now run to more than \$25,000,000 a year. This trade is not lightly to be abandoned, nor do the President and his advisers contemplate a step which might precipitate the United States into the European conflict.

But by the use of all possible "measures short of war" as the President phrased it, the determination to do everything possible to hamper Russia and to aid Finland seems to be shaping into a definite Governmental policy. There is little question now that ways will be found, without violating the letter of the Neutrality Act, to provide financial assistance to Finland to enable that little nation to strengthen its defenses against the Russian invader. Finland's greatest military needs are fighting airplanes and anti-aircraft guns. The United States is in a position to furnish these and there is a feeling in Washington, growing almost to a conviction, that this Government should disregard legal technicalities and come to the rescue of the Finns.

The question as to how we can do that without becoming participants in war is a touchy one to which nobody yet has a clear answer. Both the White House and the Capitol are warily mindful of what officials regard as the people's mandate that we must not get into Europe's war.

**Looking for Peace Plan**

The Government is quite definitely taking a hand in European affairs, however, looking toward the end of hostilities. No definite peace plan has been offered, but all the neutral nations have been sounded out to see if a basis can be found for peace proposals which might be acceptable to all the belligerents.

In pursuit of this objective, another unprecedented step has been taken by the President. Besides sending Myron C. Taylor as his personal representative to the Vatican, in the interests of peace, Mr. Roosevelt has sent Sumner N. Welles, Under-Secretary of State, to visit the heads of the principal warring nations and sound them out as to terms and conditions under which they might be willing to lay down their arms.

Mr. Welles is considered, with practical unanimity, as the ablest diplomat in the service of the United States. He has been the Government's principal "trouble-shooter" for almost a quarter of a century, going wherever the services are needed of a man who knows all the ins and outs of international affairs. He has served as Ambassador, Minister or First Secretary in most of the capitals of Europe, Latin America and the Far East. He knows, personally, more of the key men in foreign governments than does any other American. He speaks French, Italian and German as well as English, and can

keep silence in every language. **No One Better Equipped**

No one is better equipped than Mr. Welles to bring back a clear and complete report of just what each of the nations in the war regards as the objectives for which it is fighting, and to appraise the possibility of a common basis of understanding upon which they might be induced to agree.

Outside of international affairs, Washington is more interested right now in the peace moves in the Labor war than in anything else. Both wings of Organized Labor recognize that their positions have been weakened by the split between the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. President Green of the Federation intimidated his willingness to talk about peace. Chairman John Lewis of the C. I. O. countered with the proposal that the two organizations hold simultaneous conventions in the same hall and see whether they can't get together again. Anything or nothing may come of this, but one of the chief obstacles which has kept them apart has disappeared with the cutting of the tie between the C. I. O. and the New Deal.

When the Chairman of the Democratic National Committee lets his name be put forward for the Presidential nomination it may mean that he is not for a third-term for Mr. Roosevelt. That is what Postmaster-General Farley has done in Massachusetts.

In their presence. It is the young people who should be made to understand just precisely what drinking will do to them if they don't handle it properly, AND IT SHOULD BE PART OF THEIR SCHOOL EDUCATION.

How very, very few of our children who sop up cocktails with the best of them, have the foggiest idea what is happening to their mental carburetors. How few of them have been told that after three years of youthful ignorant over-drinking they won't be able to think quite so clearly; that after five years, they won't play such good tennis; that after ten years not one out of twenty of them will have the physical brain power to stop guzzling no matter what the results may be.

A patient across the hall is responsible for this outburst against old George Alcohol. This patient started out fifteen years ago to show the world that he was one guy who could lick the old boy. He is still fighting bravely even in the face of an army of pink elephants and lavender boa constrictors, but the sounds which emanate from his room across the way would indicate that George has him down at last.

## LONGTOWN

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Bell and son, Tony, of Arlington, visited friends and relatives Sunday.

Mrs. Geana Key was a visitor of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Key Saturday.

We are sorry to have on the sick list this week, little Miss Peggy and Ronald Reinhardt, Little Lowell Gray Hanes, and little Garry Long.

Mrs. Mamie Seagraves, of Winston-Salem, spent the day Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Myrtle Shore.

Mrs. Charlie Reinhardt, Mrs. Gladys Messick and children were visitors of Mrs. Dan Reinhardt Thursday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Risdon Long and children, of Winston-Salem, spent the week-end visiting relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hall announce the birth of a fine baby boy.

Mr. and Mrs. Ranson Long, Mr. and Mrs. Risdon Long and children, of Winston-Salem, Mr. and Mrs. Gaither Key and daughter, Jewel, were the Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ora Harris.

Mr. Doc Royal and his bodyguard, Bill Adams, came down Friday night and took his hound

dogs, rated to be the best in Yadkin county, and had a big fox chase at Mr. Charlie Helton's. Among those enjoying the chase were Mr. Beecher Shore, Paul Shore, Thad Shore, Herbert Shore, Parks Shore, Gladys Messick and Sam Brown.

Mr. Nathan Long visited his grandson, little Garry Long, who is ill, Monday.

## CYCLE

Rev. E. K. Wooten filled his regular appointment at Oak Grove Baptist church Saturday.

Miss Beulah Bell has been ill with flu the past week-end. Her friends wish for her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles West of Winston-Salem, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Riley Ashburn Sunday.

Mrs. B. B. Castevens is improving, her friends will be glad to learn.

## Paint Portrait

Fair Caller: I'd like you to paint a portrait of my late uncle. Artist Schram—Bring him in.

Fair Caller—I said my late uncle. Artist Schram—That's all right; bring him in when he gets here.

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## TWO SIDES To Every Question

By LITTLE HULL

**OLD KING ALCOHOL**

"Languishing" is a three dollar and fifty cent word but that is what the writer of this column has been doing in a hospital for the past two weeks and during his painful sojourn he has naturally discussed with various hospital authorities every known illness which a morbid mind could dig up. Among the many man-made maladies whose ugly heads have poked their noses into these discourses has been an old bar-rom favorite — delirium tremens (D T's to you).

Now this writer is neither prohibitionist nor moralist nor is he "languishing" because of overindulgence in the juice of the grape; he is just one of those casual drinkers with a thorough knowledge of the results of "ignorant drinking" and a mighty admiration and respect for the punching power of that Conqueror of Conquerors—old King Alcohol. He believes half the world's drunkenness would be eliminated if young people were informed scientifically of the devastating effects of steady drinking upon those cells of which the best part of the brain is composed.

Too many grown-ups think they can make teetotalers of their children by teaching them that drinking is immoral. Most kids, when they reach the cocktail age, are smart enough to realize that there is no more sin involved in pouring a quart of ninety proof hooch down their necks than in drinking a bottle of Coca-Cola; and if it were sinful it would simply make the act more tempting. Not enough grown-ups are sufficiently educated on the scientific effects of alcohol and narcotics to be able to tell their children anything of value on these subjects.

The average child is told that if he drinks he will become a drunkard and have stomach ulcers, locomotor ataxia, and a red nose; but he is not told why he will become a drunkard—and so he goes gainly on his way believing that he can always stop whenever he makes up his mind that the habit is becoming dangerous. Poor ignorant kid! That's just the time he CAN'T stop, because the mind he was going to make up hasn't got the same machinery it used to have.

Leaving out all the other injuries which alcohol causes to the various organs of the body, let us concentrate for a moment upon its actual physical action on the brain. A certain portion of the brain has been identified as the part which differentiates man from animal. It is with this part we are able to "reason" and it is unfortunately the cells in this portion which are broken down by the action of the poisons contained in alcohol and narcotic drugs. As these cells are slowly destroyed, the "strength of mind," "will power," or whatever one wishes to call it, is proportionately weakened until finally all capacity for resistance ceases to exist.

How often one hears the remark "why doesn't that man give up drinking?" The answer is the simplest in the world: he hasn't the will power left, in the semi-destroyed portion of the brain, to be able to stop.

We are discussing now the cases of heavy drinkers who have fought old man Alcohol for years and years. These cases are of course hopeless and it is a shame to even talk about water-wagons

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