

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

Hatch Bill, Lend-Spend Defeat Doom 3rd Term Possibilities; Congress Permanently 'Rebel'

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)
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GLOATING, JUBILANT REPUBLICANS (SEE CONGRESS)
Michigan's Mapes, Massachusetts' Martin, Michigan's Wolcott.

CONGRESS:

Rout

In one day the senate ground out 229 bills. The house turned out 244 in six hours. One of these provided \$2,500 for an oil portrait of ex-President Hoover, a Republican who fell into disrepute when Franklin Roosevelt came to power. In a way this was symbolic, for it was Republicanism's day to howl and Franklin Roosevelt's hour of gloom. Passed by the senate, his emaciated lend-lease bill had limped from the hostile house banking committee, finally reaching the floor where a motion was made to consider it. Grouched the rules committee's Carl R. Mapes (Rep. Mich.): "I can see no justification for this legislation." Chimed in the banking committee's fellow Michigander, Jesse Wolcott: "This bill's purpose . . . is to circumvent the national debt limit." While the rules committee's Chairman Adolph J. Sabath of Illinois pleaded desperately, Republican Minority Leader Joseph Martin of Massachusetts smiled contentedly. The motion lost, 193 to 166, and Joe Martin's Republican-Democratic coalition had won.

Next day came two more defeats. Adolph Sabath reported his unmanageable rules committee could not reach an agreement on the bill to increase federal housing subsidies by \$900,000,000. (Later, when the administration forced a house vote, the President was again rebuffed 190 to 170.) A few hours later the house slashed Mr. Roosevelt's third and final deficiency bill from \$215,891,168 to a paltry \$53,190,059. Later, in the senate, this bill hit a filibuster snag when efforts were made to attach a rider restoring WPA wage cuts.

Heaped atop his earlier neutrality defeat and the house-voted labor board investigation, the President's lending, housing and deficiency setbacks spelled but one thing to observers: Congress is permanently anti-White House, and the historic 1934-39 era of pump priming is over. Calm in defeat, Mr. Roosevelt donned a seer's robes to tell reporters an economic slump can be expected now that lending-spending legislation is dead. Next two days the stock market rose.

(Meanwhile a survey indicated that even minus pump-priming, government agencies have some \$1,600,000,000 available for loans like those outlined, compared with \$1,950,000,000 which the lend-lease bill would have spread over three years. Available: Reconstruction Finance Corporation's \$1,360,000,000; Export-Import Bank's \$44,000,000; Rural Electrification Administration's \$40,000,000; Farm Security Administration's \$199,000,000.)

The President signed the Hatch bill to remove all but top-bracket federal officials (i. e., senate-confirmed appointees) from political work. This, too, was a setback, for the President thereby slashed the throat of his huge nationwide organization which might help re-elect him in 1940. But sign he must, for obvious reasons, and with his signature went a message urging thoroughgoing (and thoroughly practical) amendments next year to clarify the measure and extend its sway to state and local employees.

But the week's biggest result was this: Franklin Roosevelt's congress went permanently obstreperous. And even though he might win a third term, the President knew he could do nothing against such opposition. This called for thought . . .

Also in congress:
Apparently killed for this session, controversial amendments to the wage-hour act, which would eliminate 2,000,000 processors of agricul-

tural products. The White House objects.
Also deadlocked, amendments to liberalize and extend benefits of social security, pigeonholed after senate-house conferees failed to reach a compromise.

Summer Sessions

By custom, each pre-election year brings its quota of congressional investigations. While most weary senators and representatives were heading back home, a larger-than-usual group of seekers-after-the-truth remained in Washington for post-graduate work. Among them: (1) a house committee to study the national labor relations board; (2) a house committee to study proposed changes in the tax structure; (3) Rep. Martin Dies far-famed committee on un-American activities; (4) Sen. Joseph O'Mahoney's monopoly committee; (5) a house merchant marine committee investigating Alaskan fishing conditions. Up for last-minute consideration were many others, including a new appropriation for the LaFollette civil liberties committee, a committee to investigate the status of aliens, another to survey the condition of American Indians.

MEXICO:

Guffey and Oil

Simultaneously in late July appeared two articles, one a newspaper story by Marquis Childs, the second a Saturday Evening Post account by Ruth Sheldon. Subject of both: Mexico's expropriation of British-American oil lands. One heavily veiled allegation of both: That Pennsylvania's oil-operating Sen. Joseph Guffey, a Pittsburgh politician named Walter A. Jones and W. R. Davis, an American promoter, have had a hand in handling the expropriated oil.

Unimportant in themselves, the articles had important repercussions. In the senate West Virginia's Matthew M. Neely and New Hampshire's H. Styles Bridges both arose to ask an inquiry. Answered Joe Guffey: "I want to assure my colleagues . . . that I have nothing



JOE GUFFEY
"I have nothing to conceal."
to conceal." At the same time he blasted Writers Childs and Sheldon. Whatever the cause, Mexican oil suddenly became so hot that Ambassador Francisco Castillo Najera rushed back from conferences with his boss, President Lazaro Cardenas, with new proposals for Donald R. Richberg, counsel for oil companies. Minus official announcement, proposals were said to provide a 51-49 division of stock between Mexico and oil companies, respectively, U. S. technicians being rehired at their previous salaries. Damages would be paid.

News Quiz

Answer all these questions and your score is 100; four, 80; three, 60; two or one, don't tell anyone!



1. Map points to Croatia, part of Yugoslavia. It made news because: (a) a volcano erupted there, (b) the province threatened to secede, (c) quintuplets were born there.
2. Pan-American airways have applied for a new airline from the U. S. to: (a) New Zealand, (b) Moscow, (c) Upper Silesia.
3. Riots occurred the other day in Bombay because: (a) Mahatma Gandhi lost his sheet, (b) a C. I. O. union was formed, (c) prohibition took effect.
4. James Lawrence Fly, former TVA solicitor, was appointed: (a) member of the federal communications commission, (b) ambassador to Argentina, (c) one of President Roosevelt's six "assistant presidents."
5. True or False: The U. S. is building additional cribs to hold surplus corn taken as collateral for loans to farmers.

(Answers at bottom of column.)

BRITAIN:

Fancy's Flight

"If we could halt the war of words . . . if some action could be taken which would tend to restore the confidence of people of peaceful intentions of all states of Europe . . . if only that could be done . . . then I still feel I know of no question that could not and should not be solved by peaceful discussion."

Periodically, idealistic Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain goes on such flights of fancy. This one



WINSTON CHURCHILL
He smelled appeasement again.

came when he was trying to make commons adjoined.
It sounded to commons as if its prime minister were going hunting with his umbrella again, bound for more appeasement. Up rose fiery Winston Churchill, whom Adolf Hitler's propaganda bureau has branded a "war monger." Said he: "Germany is massing troops at the Polish frontier and preparing for a speedy advance . . . We trust the prime minister's faith, but there might be differences of judgment." Next day commons adjoined.

GERMANY:

Bond Issue

Last March 7 the German government filed registration statement for a proposed \$75,000,000 issue of bonds in this country, to meet interest payments due American investors. About \$35,000,000 in bonds were to be issued at once, the remainder during the next four years. Always mysterious, Germany's economic status was immediately probed by the securities and exchange commission as provided under the securities act. When the Reich refused to supplement its statement and thus eliminate "deficiencies of data," SEC moved for a hearing.

News Quiz Answers

1. (B) is correct. Croatia threatened to secede unless granted home rule. Negotiations were started.
2. (A) is correct. Pan-American wants to establish a four-day service covering 2,000 miles to New Zealand.
3. (C) is correct. Bombay's 5,500 hats and paper shops were closed.
4. (A) is correct. Fly succeeded Frank R. McSwain.
5. True. Beds were opened on 26,000 cribs for 50,000,000 babies.

Bruckart's Washington Digest

Lewis' Violent Blast at Garner Wrecks Influence as Labor Leader

Resentment Spreads Quickly and Things Begin to Happen; Reaction in House Labor Committee Is Immediate; Strengthens Political Position of Vice President.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART

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WASHINGTON.—There have been so many instances in history where one act or one expression, or one omission, has changed the course of events that it is necessary here to make mention only that such things happen. Everyone has seen them. In only a few instances, however, have those on the scene been able to make a guess as to the far-reaching consequences. On the other hand, a number can be recalled which obviously were going to raise Cain from the start. It is one of the latter type about which I write now.

When John L. Lewis burst forth with angry violence and referred to Vice President Garner as "a labor-baiting, poker-playing, whiskey-drinking, old man," he wrote "finis" for his long career as a labor leader. Even with his ability to shake his bushy hair and wrinkle his beated eyebrows and evolve the most biting of all language into a description of his enemies, even with this capacity and a million or so workers paying him dues, John Lewis is through as a political influence in behalf of organized labor.

It is not meant here that Lewis will not continue to shout and tear his hair and accuse everyone of being unfair to organized labor; he still has his vicious tongue, and he is still president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations. As long as he has that title he can go places and make speeches and drive home threats and yell "bloody murder," and, of course, he will get newspapers to print his statements. What I am saying is, however, that Lewis has created such resentment around the capitol building as seldom has been seen, and instead of having weasel congressmen obey his dictates, their greetings to him hereafter are likely to be of the thumb-to-nose variety.

Reaction Comes Quickly

In House Labor Committee

As an illustration of how these things react, mention may be made that immediately after the Lewis eruption of political lava, the house labor committee decided to go forward with legislation amending the federal wages and hours law—amendments to which Lewis was violently opposed. True, there was no member of the committee had the guts to give Lewis a call-down in the hearing, but they did vote to send the legislation to the floor for debate and, in effect, tell Lewis to take his marbles and go home.

It was the second time that Lewis has pulled stupid boners, actions so dumb that they seem inexplicable when they come from a man who has had the build-up given Lewis as a labor leader and politician. It will be recalled how, a year ago, Lewis walked into the office of Speaker Bankhead of the house, and announced what the house must do about some labor legislation. Mr. Bankhead, a thoroughly level-headed Democrat from the deep South, fixed things right up for the labor leader—to make sure that Lewis would lose out. One would think that Lewis would have learned his lesson from the dictatorial arrogance he displayed on that occasion, but he came back for more.

Perhaps, the circumstances of the Lewis statement should be related to give a clear picture of the consequences that seem certain to flow from his personal attack on Mr. Garner. The house committee invited Lewis to appear as a witness to give the C. I. O. views on the amendments that were proposed. Lewis spent a few minutes in discussing the text of the amendments and then launched into a sourpuss tirade about the Democratic party. He asserted that the party, after having accepted labor's gifts—C. I. O. having supported President Roosevelt with money and men in both presidential campaigns—had now turned out as a traitor. He argued that he never had looked for help from most of the Republicans but had believed the Democrats would stick by him and his dues-paying workers.

But through the last year or more, however, Lewis found someone in the Democratic party who was "searching for the heart of labor" and that individual, he shouted in red-faced anger, is "a labor-baiting, poker-playing, whiskey-drinking, evil old man, named Garner." The vice

president was the "genesis" of a great campaign against labor, as Lewis declared.

News Travels Rapidly and Then Things Begin to Happen

Well, I have witnessed fast traveling of news around the halls of the capitol many times, but I never have known word to get from office to office and to the far corners of every building any faster than the Lewis statement. And things began to happen.

Before the afternoon was over, the Texas delegation had met and had taken a resolution condemning Lewis and expressing the "deep resentment and indignation" at his "bitter, personal attack" upon the vice president. There was talk around the house and senate later about a proposition to bar Lewis from any further appearance before congressional committee hearings but that faded away. Nevertheless, my guess at this stage is that if and when Lewis does appear before any congressional committee again, he will be subjected to a grilling that will tan him to a deep brown.

Now, thus far, this column has dealt only with Lewis. There is more.

Wherever politicians gathered around Washington during the week following the intemperate action by Lewis, one could not fail to hear conjecture as to its effect upon the movement to make the vice president the Democratic presidential nominee next year. The feeling was almost unanimous that "Cactus Jack" could have had no better break, politically.

Factions of Democratic

Party Split Further Asunder

The influence of the Lewis statement does not stop there, however, for there is a definite cleavage in the ranks of the majority party already. It is to be remembered in this connection that the backbone of the Democratic party has been the "solid South." The South, generally speaking, has clung to conservative ways and modes of living and has maintained traditions which have served its people well. That viewpoint is quite contrary to the New Deal and to the President's advisors of this month. Nor have the President's advisors enjoyed the knowledge that a lot of Mr. Garner's friends have been pushing him very hard for the party nomination in 1940. Naturally, these folks around the White House are the leaders in the plan to have President Roosevelt seek a precedent-breaking third term. They do not like to see a man become too popular or who might offer real resistance to a Roosevelt nomination.

From these facts, it becomes more or less obvious that the Lewis attack on Mr. Garner constitutes something of a bombshell in splitting the two factions of the Democratic party further asunder. With the Lewis record of support of everything new dealish, it can not fail to convince voters of the brand of Garner democracy.

There is still a further phase or sphere of influence to be mentioned. Mr. Garner has long been known as a conservative Democrat and he has long been powerful in the councils of his party. To enter upon an assumption, then, that he may be the Democratic nominee next year, where does that leave the Republicans? Republican leadership has been steering to the right, to the conservative side, as far as they have shown their hand. The question to be asked after that statement is, where does that leave the New Dealers?

Lewis Does More Harm to Labor Than Any Other Man

One could follow these questions on down into the state political situations and a merry time would be had by all. I have no guess as to which way the thing will come out. Probably Mr. Garner will not be the Democratic nominee at all. But these conjectures I have been making have been thrown more as proof of the assertion that Lewis demonstrated his lack of political ability than for any other reason. And in making that statement, I still entertain a belief that Lewis has done more harm to organized labor's cause than any other one man in America.

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

Speaking of Sports

Jimmy Dykes, Miracle Man, Revamps Sox

By ROBERT McSHANE

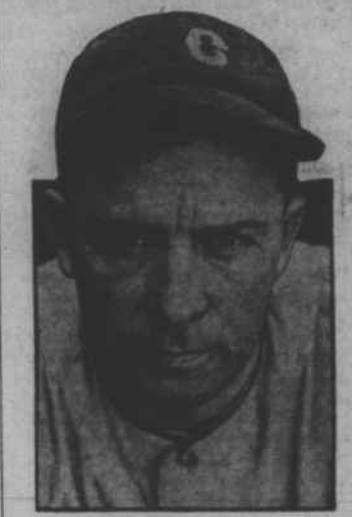
ONE of baseball's present minor miracles is the way in which the White Sox have managed to keep well up in the first division of the American league pennant race.

The Yankees, of course, are right at home in top position. First place is automatically theirs by virtue of DiMaggio, Dickey, Gordon, Kelle and Selkirk—not to mention the strongest pitching staff in either league.

Number two position is held down, logically enough, by the Red Sox. They reached that status through the aid of Foxx, Cronin, Grove, Williams and a few more of like caliber.

But it's not in the book for the Chicago White Sox to be in their present position. With the exception of Luke Appling, there are no big names in the Sox line-up. And, incidentally, Appling isn't having his best year by any means.

There are additional reasons why the Sox should relinquish their first division spot. The services of Monty Stratton, their best hurler, were lost to them through a hunting accident. They have been minus the services of their regular second baseman most of the season, and Hank Steinbacher, rookie hitting



JIMMY DYKES

sensation of last year, is batting less than .300. Their catching staff is as green as it is ambitious.

Regardless of logic, the Sox refused to be downed. And there's one outstanding reason for their present position in the American league scheme of things—that's the trading genius behind their success—Manager James J. Dykes.

Four men are largely responsible for the surprising showing of the White Sox. They are Gerald Walker, Eric McNair, Joe Kubel and Mike Tresh. Each of the four was added to the roster through the trading enterprise of Manager Dykes.

The Chicago swapping king got Walker and Tresh, along with Marvin Owen, from Detroit in a deal for Dixie Walker, Tony Piet and Vernon Kennedy. Walker has driven in enough runs this season to take third place in the league, behind Ted Williams of Boston and Hank Greenberg of Detroit.

McNair From Boston

Detroit, on the other hand, retains none of the original three men they drew in the six-man swap.

Eric McNair came to the Sox from Boston in return for Boze Berger. McNair's hitting ability has been more than welcome by the Sox. Since joining the Red Sox, Berger has worked only as a substitute.

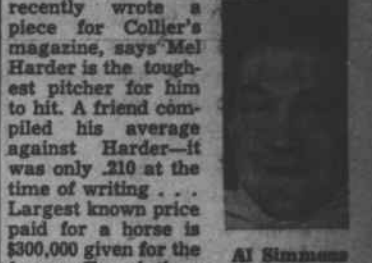
Dykes picked up Kubel in a trade which sent Zeke Bonura to Washington. Kubel had a poor season in 1938, but hit his stride this year. In the meanwhile Bonura was waived out of the American league.

The Sox have more than their share of supposedly nondescript, shop-worn players. Mike Kreevich, center fielder, was turned down by the Cubs; the Red Sox couldn't use Pitcher Johnny Marcum; the Athletics rejected Rip Radcliff, reserve outfielder; George Renna, second-string catcher, was first tried by Detroit, and many others were found wanting by other clubs.

But these shop-worn baseball artists have managed to win ball games, and in winning have had more fun than any other team in either league. They seem to get a tremendous kick out of playing ball—and set as though the pay check is a secondary proposition. No other team has the hustle and the spirit of the Sox. What they lack in mechanical playing ability is made up for in the old college try.

Sport Shorts

ONE of the longest baseball games on record was played at Eagle Pass, Texas, July 4, 1926. Two local teams started playing at 10 a. m. and played until 7 p. m., when the game was called at the end of the sixth inning with the score 129 to 119. One of the short-stops made 24 errors in one inning. . . . Ted Lyons, veteran Chicago White Sox pitcher, says the four toughest hitters he ever faced are Al Simmons, Charley Gehring, Jimmy Foxx and Bill Dickey. . . . Joe DiMaggio, who recently wrote a piece for Collier's magazine, says Mel Harder is the toughest pitcher for him to hit. A friend compiled his average against Harder—it was only .210 at the time of writing. . . . Largest known price paid for a horse is \$300,000 given for the famous French thoroughbred, Nearco. . . . Only 71 players have made a total of 2,000 or more hits during their careers, according to a survey of the 64 seasons during which batting statistics have been kept. . . . Baseballs cost big league clubs a dollar each, and an average of 25 are used each day. . . . The Washington Senators' home games will not be broadcast next season, according to Owner Clark Griffith. . . . The late J. Louis Comiskey, who owned the Chicago White Sox, hit safely in 25 consecutive games while in high school. . . . Tube Thompson of Augusta, who led Little Nineteen pitchers for three years while playing for Illinois Normal, is under contract to the White Sox.



Al Simmons

Lightweight Golf
JOHN Q. GOLFER can't expect his caddy to become very enthusiastic about an invention which will, if it becomes popular, probably relieve him of his job.
The new gadget is a golfing kit, and its inventors expect it to replace the conventional and cumbersome set of clubs and the heavy bag. The kit is so designed that it requires only one shaft to which is attached the head needed for each shot on the course. The outfit weighs some four pounds as compared to 14 pounds for the bag.
A Chicago golf pro experimented with the kit and found it practical. The club heads are all arranged in slots and a zipper compartment provides space for balls. The club heads all screw onto the single shaft, and the experimenting pro found that the heads provide a firm hitting surface. When the club head meets the ball the impact serves to tighten the head since the golfer is hitting against the groove of the screw.

The length of the shaft is not adjustable, but a compensating factor makes the putter properly short and the distance clubs suitably long. The hosel length controls the entire club length. The hosel on the putter is practically non-existent, that for the three iron and woods is extremely long.
That the kit will ever attain a high degree of popularity is doubtful. Most golfers will prefer the conventional set of clubs. For the traveler, however, it means freedom from a bulky bit of luggage. For the golfer who prefers to play without a caddy the new set eliminates a heavy, unwieldy bag.

Luckman Signs
SID LUCKMAN, Columbia University's triple-threat half back, has finally decided to play professional football with the Chicago Bears.
With the signing of Luckman, the Bears have two of the three outstanding players of this year's college graduating class. Billy Patterson had already signed with that club. The third man, Davey O'Brien of Texas Christian, belongs to Philadelphia.
George Halas signed a great player in Luckman. His passing record is one of the best. Last year he threw 132 passes, completing 66 for nine touchdowns and 368 yards. He completed 10 out of 17 forward passes against Yale for 169 yards. In 62 times carrying the ball he gained 428 yards, averaging 4.6 yards each attempt.

Luckman is six feet tall and weighs 195 pounds. He possesses all the physical requirements for stardom, and Halas will give him ample opportunity to try his hand at carrying as well as passing the ball.
The Ivy league lad didn't leap at the chance to turn pro. He seemed to take much greater pride in his academic training than in his athletic ability. It took quite a bit of persuasion to get him back in mole-skins, and signs of relief were distinctly audible when he affixed his signature to a two-year contract.

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