

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

Special Congressional Session Expected to Halt War Profits; Housewife Feels Price Boost

EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.



NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE ON RAMPAGE The President's "moral" obligation was forgotten.

BUSINESS:

War Babies

No American has the moral right to profiteer at the expense of either his fellow citizens or of the men, women and children who are living and dying in the midst of war in Europe.

The U. S. had two days to ponder this Presidential warning before the markets opened after a Labor day week-end.

The net result soon sifted down to Mrs. Housewife, whose meat, butter, eggs and flour went skyrocketing despite government-held surpluses of most commodities.

Grains were no exception, "jumping to their pegged limits each day. Meat followed the trend. Hogs soared from 50 to 75 cents as the market opened, jumping another \$1 the next day.

The search of his statutes would show the attorney-general he hid few laws to fall back on. Hence the wiseacres thought Mr. Murphy would spend the next few weeks drafting legislation which the President could offer a special congressional session.

THE WAR: Speculation

As the War of 1939 got well underway, censorship's lid clamped itself over everything save the vague official communiques from London, Paris, Berlin and Warsaw.

could ascertain a few things. The gist: France, Britain and Poland were in a tough spot.

The key to this problem lay somewhere in Poland. Defending troops rushed back to the Vistula and Bug rivers (See Map) where they hoped to dig in permanently.

To a certain point Der Fuehrer's scheme was obvious. The Reich



POLAND'S WAR

Heavy shaded area shows German territory. Light shade shows territory Poles say they are willing to surrender to establish permanent front lines along the Vistula and Bug rivers, in strategic areas shown with dots.

made no offensive on the western front, where British-French forces found the lightly manned Siegfried line a stone wall.

But observers saw another possible reason for Hitler's apparent lack of interest in the western front. Having no military objectives there, having failed to declare war against Britain and France, he might turn about and sue for immediate peace on the stipulation that Poland shall be incorporated into the Reich.

Actuality

Aside from Poland's retreat, aside from German apathy on the western front, the War of 1939 followed tradition. On the propaganda front, Berlin issued a "white book" replying to Britain's "white paper," recounting pre-war Anglo-German relations and placing responsibility on England.

Most vital, however, was the time-tested plan whereby the United Kingdom hopes to starve Germany into submission. Thrown around western exits of the Baltic sea was the impregnable naval blockade which only Britain could muster.

ASIDE FROM WAR

While war and its repercussions held U. S. interest 100 per cent, the following newsworthy events drew little attention:

IN BALTIMORE—Twenty-six-year-old Mrs. Harold Ickes, wife of the 65-year-old interior secretary, presented her husband with a baby boy.

IN CLEVELAND—Col. Roscoe Turner, veteran aviator, sped 282 miles per hour to win the Thompson trophy the third successive time, thus winning \$16,000. Then he announced retirement from the air racing business.

IN NEW YORK—Willys-Overland claimed it was dropping a "bombshell" into the automobile field with an unprecedented new low price car for 1940.

PAN AMERICA: Solidarity

Hemispherically, the Americas constitute an economic unity which can operate independently of war-crazy Europe. But in peacetime the Old world's rich nations dangle tempting trade offers before the tiny lands of Central and South America, wooing them away from the more logical north-and-south commercial channels.

No exception to this rule is the War of 1939, which finds Argentina cut off from her German-Italian trade sources by a British blockade, and finds Mexico's expropriated oil program at a standstill because Germany can no longer cross the sea.

Not unexpected, therefore, was the call which went forth from tiny Panama republic a few days after war was declared. Would the 21 American nations attend a meeting to preserve New World peace?

Plainly visible behind scenes was the fast-moving hand of the U. S., which could use Pan-American solidarity to good advantage. Europe can no longer supply the needs of South America, nor can America supply the needs of Europe under neutrality restrictions.

DOMESTIC: Un-Americanism

Fully stolen by Europe's war is the news spotlight which Washington's election-bound investigation committees hoped to enjoy this summer. But early September brought one witness before Rep. Martin Dies' un-Americanism committee who broke through the barrage from abroad. The witness: Earl Browder, general secretary of the U. S. Communist party.

Interesting to committeemen were the revelations that (1) Communist Browder has traveled abroad the past two years on a false passport; (2) his assertion that Communists work with every group seeking to improve U. S. economic conditions; (3) his apparently contradictory admission that if the present economic system worked ef-



COMMUNIST BROWDER "I only indorsed his policies."

fectively there would be no place for the Communist party.

Biggest news, however, was something which might—if substantiated—make the Republican party blush. In 1936, said the witness, a man named "Davidson" had approached him as representing seven wealthy Republicans who were willing to give the Communist party \$250,000 to nominate President Roosevelt as its presidential candidate.

If this embarrassed Republicans, their Democratic opponents were also reddened. Communist Browder denied he had endorsed President Roosevelt in 1936. Then he explained why: "I carefully refrained because I knew the Republicans wanted me to do it. I only indorsed his (Roosevelt's) policies."

Bruckart's Washington Digest

Treasury Official Discusses Our Needs Regarding Taxation

Government Wants to Know What Business Has to Say About Present Levies; Where Are We Going to Get the Revenue to Pay Our Debts.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART WNU Service, National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON.—In these days when the menace of a world-destroying war hangs perilously overhead, it is heartening to read something or hear something that gives consideration to the problems of America and Americans.

Undersecretary John W. Hanes, then, serving as secretary of the treasury because of the absence of Secretary Morgenthau, made what a good many described as a dry speech. Certainly, most editors so regarded it, or else they thought that the European backyard fence with its mess of tomcats squalling at each other was more important.

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Many of the Taxes That Had Been Tried Failed Miserably

If I read the speech by Mr. Hanes correctly, what he had to say was that a good many of the taxes that had been tried by the sputtering type of New Dealers have failed miserably. Of course, Mr. Hanes could not say it just that way, but he told of repeal of a group of taxes and revision of others, and in almost the same breath, he predicted the changes would aid business recovery.

Where Are We Going to Get Revenue to Pay Debts?

People may ask what the alternative is. Where are we, as a nation, going to get the revenue necessary to pay the interest on this gigantic public debt of nation, states and cities?

Might Be Smart Politics To Undertake Tax Revision

It is much too early for any one to hazard a guess as to what will be done. Next year is a year for general elections, from the President on down the line. It is rather unusual for a congress to undertake tax revision (especially upward) in advance of a campaign, but somehow I believe it might be pretty smart politics to do so next year.

25 States Make Users of Tobacco Pay a Tax

Now, I am not here to plead the cause of the cigarette. The tobacco industry and the tobacco farmer, I assume, are able to take care of their own problems. But how many people have stopped to think that 25 states are making the users of tobacco pay a tax ranging from one cent to five cents on a pack of cigarettes, and that the federal government takes six cents a pack (of popular priced brands) before the pack reaches the retailer in your town!

is versed in politics. He told of the situation in a rather simple and understandable way, and when it is summarized what he said was: We have to have more tax receipts but on an equitable basis. It will remain to be seen whether congressional leaders will have the guts to place the taxes on a sound basis.

One can look over present tax laws and find so many instances where tax burdens break the back of one line of business and fall absolutely to touch another. The demagogues will tear their hair and moan about taxing the poor, and proceed to lay taxes that are hidden in a hundred articles that wage workers must have. And that is the menace of the present tax situation: hidden taxes. I wonder how many political leaders would be able to hold on to their jobs if they would tell the truth about the taxes they have concealed.

The public administration clearing house, an institution designed to aid state governments by dissemination of information regarding the various states, released a statement a few days ago that was quite illuminating as to the steps being taken in tax matters. It showed that four additional states—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and New York—had enacted new taxes on cigarettes in 1939. That makes a total of 25 states now using this source of taxes.

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The political demagogue will harangue at length, slap his hips and wipe motion picture tears from eyes about a sales tax that "takes as much from the poor as from the rich," and vote glibly for a tax on cigarettes. Nor does he mention ever that such a tax as the one just cited—and there are many others that could be mentioned—promotes something akin to bootlegging.

Not any one can, or ought, to say that tobacco ought to be free from taxes. I have seen no sign from the industry or organizations of tobacco farmers making such a contention. Yet, from an unbiased viewpoint, the basis established by Mr. Hanes, it seems to me there should be attention given to this type of taxation, whether on tobacco or any one of a thousand other commodities. It is a type of taxation that, for the most part, is concealed.

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The income tax is certain to continue. It ought to continue, because those who have incomes must carry their share, or more. But I am quite sure that every one else ought to know that he is a part of the government, too. It may be, therefore, that a general sales tax—open and above board—is the answer. Surely, it would be better than the present several hundred hidden taxes that are nothing more or less than sales taxes, and quite unevenly distributed.

We have heard much about planning for the future, assuring security and honeyed words of that kind, and so it seems not improper to suggest that attention be given to a general program of taxation that will help in bringing about those objectives.

Speaking of Sports

Betty Jameson, Fairway Queen, Popular Winner

By ROBERT McSHANE

MISS BETTY JAMESON, newly crowned queen of a player-American fairways, occasioned no great upset when she won the National Women's Golf championship recently at Noroton, Conn.

In the first place, Miss Jameson is a sturdy, solid sort of a player. When she defeated 19-year-old Dorothy Kirby of Atlanta in the final round, even the most rabidly Dixie-minded fans admitted that the Georgia girl lost to the better shotmaker. Betty, Miss Kirby's senior by only one year, is recognized as one of the finest players in feminine ranks.

This was the second time the two finalists had met. Two years ago, in the southern championship, the pride and joy of Atlanta beat Miss Jameson 3 and 2. The slender Georgia girl was just too good. This year, in the National meet, the tables were turned. Long-striding Texas Betty walked away from Miss Kirby during the first nine holes, and never gave her a chance to catch up.

Betty Jameson isn't a golfing blase. In other words, she didn't set the golfing world on fire the first time she picked up a club. Back of her success is the usual story of a champion. She chose the almost certain route to success—hard practice, plenty of it, and patience. The long, grueling hours she spent on a practice tee are reflected in the game she plays today.

No golfer's game is always dependable. Just as a 350 batter may take a sudden slump, so may a golfer run into trouble. But her



BETTY JAMESON

game is basically solid. Every shot is played cleanly and crisply. She has no swinging weakness, and is one of the longest hitters among women golfers.

Though she isn't an overnight sensation, Betty did get an early start. That's why, at the age of 20, she managed to annex the women's title. She won the Texas municipal championship when she was 12 years old, the state women's crown at 13, and the Southern at 15.

Miss Jameson is the fourth new champion in four years. Mrs. Glenna Collet Vare's victory in 1935, her sixth, marked the end of the old order. Since that time the title has been held by Pam Barton of England, 19 years old when she won it; by Mrs. Estelle Lawson Page of Chapel Hill, N. C., a newcomer; by Miss Patty Berg of Minneapolis, who, even in her early teens, was acknowledged to be one of the best women golfers in America, and who was unable to defend her title this year because of illness, and now by Miss Jameson.

Winning this tournament may be of inestimable value to the girl's game. It will give her confidence, and will help end a tendency to tighten up at crucial stages, one of her difficulties for the past 2 years.

It looked for a while as if Betty's tenseness might cost her the tournament. She had been 4 up at the end of the first 18 holes, marking down a sparkling 78. She looked like an easy winner then, but tightened up to such an extent that she couldn't get her tee shots, and some of her approaches, working normally. Miss Kirby almost caught up to her, winning three holes back on the first six of the outgoing round.

Her game came back, however. She won the twenty-seventh by searing two beautiful wood shots to the green. She played for pars and got halves on the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth, and won the thirtieth. The competitive temperament will come to her, and that's all she needs. The eyes of Texas can well rest upon Miss Betty Jameson—a real champion.

Sport Shorts

IN 50 seasons of football, Notre Dame has won 299 games, lost 66, and tied 24. The Irish will be after No. 300 when they play Purdue September 30 in the opener.

There has been no change in Northwestern university's football coaching staff for the last five years. Lyn Waldorf has the same assistants who started with him in 1935. Cornell's annual Thanksgiving day football game with Pennsylvania has been set for Saturday, November 25. The university, however, will fall in line with President Roosevelt's new Thanksgiving date.

Billie Conn, new light heavyweight champion, employs his brother Jackie, another professional fighter, as a trainer. Alice Marble starts a new night club engagement at Beverly Hills in October. In the last 50 years humans have slashed five seconds off the mile record. Harness horses have reduced it 15 seconds. Mrs. Ethel V. Mann, owner of the Milky Way farms, who spent more money for yearlings in the last five years than any other horse owner, is becoming economical. She spent only \$22,000 for 12 head at Saratoga recently.

John Henry Lewis has followed the example of Dempsey, Tunney and other former boxing champs and gone into the liquor business. There's a \$25 fine levied against any member of the New York Giants professional football team caught tussling after training camp opens. They're afraid of injuries. Henry Reese, center for the Philadelphia Eagles, is entering his sixteenth season of football competition. Henry Armstrong will soon make a motion picture short subject. Bill Terry says the trouble with the New York Giants this year has been lack of concentration. They're still trying to do the things they should have learned to do in spring training.

Atley Donald and Highty Rosar of the Yankees have been battery mates since 1934. They played together in Wheeling, Norfolk, Binghamton and Newark before reporting to the world champions.

Gridiron Topnotchers

This continues a series of articles featuring outstanding football players from schools throughout the nation. Watch their records during the coming season.

He will answer when someone yells for Jake, but a loud, quick "Steve" will do the trick equally well.

Regardless of names, the young man in question is Steven Joseph Sitko, Notre Dame's senior quarterback from Fort Wayne, Ind. The name Jake comes from his high school days when he was the Jake Gimbel award for sportsmanship at the Indiana state high school basketball tournament.

Standing six feet tall, and weighing 185 pounds, Steve won his first college monogram when he held down the No. 1 quarter-back spot for the Fighting Irish last fall. Brown eyed, with a ruddy complexion, Steve is slender, solid and fast. By temperament he is dogged and tenacious, a hard blocker and a good leader.



Steve Sitko

While in high school he won six letters in football, basketball and track. He was all-state in football and basketball.

Selecting one outstanding player for the 1939 Notre Dame football squad is an almost impossible job. But close observers are handing the palm to Steve, a rare player whose football prowess is equalled by his classroom skill.

Steve's debut with Notre Dame's No. 1 squad was made in the Kansas opener last year. He turned in a nifty exhibition of crisp downfield blocking, caught four punts and returned them for a total of 60 yards, dragging them in on the fly under a full head of steam. He ran the team intelligently, marching the variety 45 yards for a touchdown after the first exchange of kicks. The Irish scored a total of 23 points.

By his rise at Notre Dame, Steve is repaying a touching family debt. His brother, John, all-city tackle before Steve, and a freshman star at Butler, left school to work so that Steve might have a chance to go to college. (Continued by Western Newspaper Union.)