

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LABINE

Soviet-U. S. Relations Strained By Molotov's Attack on FDR; Italy Protects Her Neutrality

(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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EUROPE: Double Feature

All Hallows' eve found every European ear cocked to Moscow, awaiting history-making utterances from Premier Viacheslav Molotov. Adolf Hitler had 1,900,000 men poised at the front; so did the allies. But war hung in abeyance. For as Russia swung so would the war, because every other European state had declared its status, neutral with leanings either toward Germany (like Italy and Hungary) or toward the allies.

Stolen Thunder

A few short hours before Molotov's speech, Il Duce Benito Mussolini pulled a coup that must have stunned his erstwhile colleague in Germany. Ousted was Propaganda Minister Dino Alfieri, close friend of Nazidom's Propagandist Paul Joseph Goebbels. Ousted were Fascist Secretary Achille Starace, close friend of Dep-

safeguard their world empires. But sober reflection made the allies worry about:

Finland. Molotov revealed, much to the Finns' chagrin, the stalemated proposals which have occupied these two countries for the past month. Besides a mutual assistance pact, Russia wanted territorial exchanges (see map) which Finland declared would "rob us of the chance of defending the independence . . . of our land."

Germany. He said Nazi-Russian friendship was getting thicker. Next day it was revealed that discussions were going forward successfully. One report from Stockholm said Russian submarines would be given the Nazis in exchange for German merchant ships, providing a subtle way of staying "neutral."

Poland. He said there can be no question of restoring Poland and that it was absurd to continue the war for that cause. Two days earlier, Britain's Prime Minister Cham-



IL DUCE'S STARACE
His demotion . . .



STALIN'S MOLOTOV
... stole his thunder.

uty Fuehrer Rudolf Hess and the man who gave a signal for the Italian chamber's demonstration against France last winter; Gen. Alberto Pariani, friend of Hitler's Col. Gen. Walter von Brauchitsch and author of the Italian "blitzkrieg" plan for a German-Italian-Spanish drive against France; Gen. Giuseppe Valle, friend of Field Marshal Hermann Goering. Replacing them were middle-of-the-roads like Marshal Rodolfo Graziani, chief of staff. Retained were other favorites like Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano (Mussolini's son-in-law) and Count Dino Grandi.

In Paris there was a feeling the Rome-Berlin axis had broken down completely. London was also happy, for a few hours earlier Italy's Ambassador Giuseppe Bastianini had made a strong anti-Communist speech. In the Balkans it was thought Mussolini disapproved Russia's expansionist policy, especially since Il Duce did not even wait until Molotov spoke. But in Italy it was a simple indication that Mussolini had his ear to the ground; Italians wanted strict neutrality.

Ominous Talk

First allied reaction to Premier Molotov's speech was relief over his failure to declare a military al-



RUSSIAN DEMANDS
The Soviet would give Finland part of Karelia. (1) in exchange for moving back Finnish frontier northwest of Leningrad. (2); Russia wants (3) islands of Selkari, Hogland, Lavonsaari and Tyttari; would lease land (4) at mouth of Finnish gulf for naval bases; asks for Finnish part of Rybachki peninsula (5).

liance with the Reich, even though he did charge Britain and France were warring not to preserve democracy or restore Poland, but to

berlain had acknowledged Russia's right of invasion to "protect" her blood brothers from Germany.

Balkans. He gave no hint of expansion there, but shook a nasty finger at Turkey for signing mutual assistance pacts with the allies after shunning a treaty with the Soviet.

United States. He precipitated a heated argument which observers thought might end with severance of Soviet-U. S. diplomatic relations. Commenting on President Roosevelt's earlier note expressing hope for continued amicable Finnish-Russian relations, Molotov said: "One finds it hard to reconcile that with the American policy of neutrality . . . One might think that matters are in better shape between the United States and . . . the Philippines . . . than between the Soviet Union and Finland, which has long ago obtained both freedom and political independence . . ."

Next day, while Massachusetts' Rep. John McCormack demanded from the house floor that Ambassador Laurence Steinhardt be recalled from Moscow, the President dug from his files an exchange of notes with Soviet President Michael Kalinin last April, when Kalinin cabled an unsolicited "expression of profound sympathy" with the President's efforts to safeguard peace. This cable had come one day after Mr. Roosevelt sent peace pleas to Dictators Hitler and Mussolini. Thus the U. S. put Kalinin on record as supporting the President's peace efforts in contrast to Molotov's declaration. Suggested White House Secretary Steve Early: "It would seem that he (Molotov) had the embargo in mind rather than what he termed the President's moral support of Finland."

(Unspolitized, the neutrality bill worked its way through the house which voted 237 to 177 for sending it to conference with the senate, conferees to have definite instructions. One instruction: To repeal the arms embargo, by a vote of 243 to 181. This congress expected to get out of town immediately. Britain halted the repeal; Nazidom was enraged. One suddenly discovered danger of cash-and-carry is that the allies will indeed buy more arms but will cut other imports from the U. S.)

Western Front

Abandoning purely defensive positions, German "shock troops" stormed the French frontier at scattered points as murky weather gave way to sunshine. Fears grew that Belgium and the Netherlands might be invaded.

Bruckart's Washington Digest

Investigation of Un-American Activities in U. S. Bearing Fruit

Gives New Perspective on Foreign Influences at Work in Our Midst; Shows How Our Citizens Are Used To Promote Ends of Dictatorship.

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

WASHINGTON.—The long, and sometimes wearisome, investigation by the special committee on un-American activities, headed by Rep. Martin Dies of Texas, has begun to bear fruit. It is not yet clear whether all of the fruit will be good. But there surely is reason to believe that, even with some of that fruit slightly decayed, a great deal has been accomplished that will be helpful in retaining America for Americans.

1. Aviation News: (a) Who are Clyde Schlieper and Wes Carroll, shown above, and why are they so tired?; (b) What was the intended destination of a nonstop flight that left New York, and did it succeed?
2. What happened to Mrs. Homer Stout, Oklahoma farm wife who tried the "freezing" treatment for cancer?
3. True or false: The Mexican revolutionary party has asked for return of oil lands expropriated from American-owned companies.
4. Choice: Sen. James Mead of New York introduced a bill proposing that \$139,000,000 be set aside by the treasury for small loans to: (a) business firms; (b) distraught farmers; (c) municipally owned power plants; (d) "little theater" groups.
5. True or false: No food rationing will be needed in Britain during the winter.

(Answers at bottom of column.)

POLITICS: Candidate-of-the-Week

Rooseveltian third-term talk, which took a back seat in early days of the war crisis, loomed again in San Francisco when Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace boomed the President for re-election. Next day Secretary Steve Early made it clear that Franklin Roosevelt wanted no boom, and Iowa's Sen. Guy Gillette left a White House conference where the President had reportedly asked that Iowa's delegation to next year's convention go unpledged. The deduction: That Mr. Roosevelt will not seek re-election, and certainly wants the matter hushed for the present.

But Henry Wallace had started the political pot boiling again. Into the Republican picture jumped Oregon's Sen. Charles McNary, who tentatively consented to run. Into the Democratic picture jumped a brand new name, Montana's Sen. Burton K. Wheeler.

Writing California's Gov. Cuthbert Olson to protest a meeting of "progressive leaders" scheduled for next month in Salt Lake City, C. I. O.'s John Lewis gave, among other reasons: "The slight to Senator Wheeler and other great liberals of the west, who have not been consulted . . ."

Lewis apparently considered the meeting (some of whose participants may be violating the Hatch "no politics" act) as a third-term boom. Certainly it was made clear that Senator Wheeler should be consulted in any future "liberal" discussions about 1940. Washington observers, realizing that Lewis support may be a kiss of death to any political aspirations the senator may entertain, nevertheless admitted he has A. F. of L. backing and plenty of friends in the senate.

SENATOR WHEELER AND WIFE Plenty of friends.

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News Quiz Answers

1. (a) Schlieper and Carroll are endurance fliers who stayed up six hours more than 30 days over Long Beach, Calif. That's why they're tired; (b) The destination was Lima, Peru, but flight ended in Ecuador.
2. She died when "thawed out," but physicians said cause of death was rupture of a bile duct, and that cancer treatment had probably been successful.
3. False. Party has demanded that lands be seized permanently.
4. (a) is correct.
5. False. Ration cards will be distributed starting December 1, with emphasis on butter, lard and bacon.

Speaking of Sports

Season Opens On All-America Grid Selections

By ROBERT McSHANE

FROM Maine to California, from North Dakota to Texas, publicity typhants are beating out the glories of this year's crop of potential All-America football players.

The publicity department of any large college is a high-powered, smoothly organized affair, and the choicest grist for its mill is a possible All-America candidate. Naturally, that Paul Bunyan of the gridiron brings beneficial publicity to his college. Local and state papers back the drive to see his name engraved on the roll of honor. Students grow enthusiastic, alumni swell with pride and the school reaps the publicity harvest.

Until 1924 the dictator of All-America selections was Walter Camp, whose findings were featured by Collier's. Today the picture has changed. Scores of authorities, both real and self-designated, claim the right to name an All-America team.

Since Camp's time, however, no selection is looked upon as official. Spalding's Official Football Guide, the football bible of American colleges, does not publish a team choice.

And there's a good reason for that. A truly just, representative All-America team today verges on the

impossible. Football is being played at approximately 650 colleges, and less than 10 per cent of those schools have been represented on All-America teams.

Figuring loosely we find that between five and six hundred colleges have never had an All-America football player. It's just a bit far-fetched to assume that those schools haven't had players worthy of the honor.

Some of them certainly have had standout performers who deserved the rating. Among their well-drilled numbers are bound to be equals of those picked, but in the narrowing down process many are neglected because of the comparative unimportance of their school.

That's where the college publicity office enters into the scheme of things. Their job is to build up any promising candidate. His name must be known from coast to coast.

The larger schools get the breaks when All-America selections are made. It is only natural that a brighter light is focused on them during the season. Untold thousands of fans eagerly await the outcome of a Minnesota-Notre Dame game and watch the individual performances. How many of those fans know what's happening at Jonesville State Teachers college?

Power in Names

That doesn't mean, of course, that the small college fails to produce its share of what should be All-America players. It does mean that those potential gridiron greats are neglected, except locally, because all too few people know of them or are interested in them.

All this is no reflection on the men who select All-America teams. They are usually conscientious and as careful as possible in their selections. But an analysis of the situation minimizes the value of picking 11 men as the best players of the nation. There are too many teams and too many players.

Regardless of the obvious unfairness, the average fan would not dispense with All-America selections. He wants his players rewarded. He hopes his judgment will be vindicated.

And hope still springs eternal in the human breast.

Water Bugs

DESPITE the fact that Sir Malcolm Campbell, British speedboat king, established a new world's record of 141.74 miles per hour in his Bluebird, American inboard drivers had a successful season of shattering records for less powerful boat classes.

An official recapitulation shows that Jack Cooper, Kansas City grandfather, chalked up the fastest speedboat mark in America's waters with an 87.485 m.p.h. journey in the 225 hydroplane class. The record was made in a one-mile time trial. The oldest also set a distance competitive standard of 66.639. Chauncey Hamlin Jr., Buffalo, raised the five-mile record to 66.376.

Zaimon G. Simmons established a distance record for the Gold Cup, or 12-liter class, of 66.24 m.p.h.

The country's two other leading inboard classes, 135 and 91, also saw record breakers. Among the 135 boats, John L. Hyde of Washington traveled 67.479 for a mile trial, and 52.173 for the five-mile competition. Racer Arno Apel, Ventnor, N. J., ran the 61 one-mile mark up to 52.894 and the five-mile competitive standard up to 48.361.

Gridiron Topnotchers

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

One of the brightest stars in southern football history is George "Bad News" Cafego, field general for the University of Tennessee Volunteers. George, a Scarbro, W. Va., boy, was named on many All-America teams and was a unanimous choice for Southeastern conference honors during the

Neglected Heroes

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Sport Shorts

LOUISVILLE set an American association record by making 138 errors this season, one more than St. Paul in 1936. . . . Detroit, Mich., will stage the annual American Bowling congress on 40 alleys starting March 7. Six freight cars of bowling pins, costing \$50,000, have been ordered. . . . Only six times in world series history has the series been settled in four straight games. The Boston Braves did it in 1914, the Yanks the other five in 1927, 1928, 1932, 1936 and 1939. . . . Man O'War and Sun Briar are the only thoroughbreds who have sired horses that have won more than \$2,000,000. . . . Jack Blackburn, Joe Louis' trainer, has earned more in five years in his present capacity than he did in 24 years of ring battling. . . . Hank Reese, veteran center of the Philadelphia Eagles of the National Football league, has played the game for 15 years. . . . Indiana gridiron consume 11 gallons of milk at each evening meal. . . . Approximately 2,780 alumni have won varsity letters in all sports at Illinois. . . . Johnny Maltch, Marquette halfback, bakes a good cake. During the off season he works in his father's bakery in Milwaukee.

Man O'War

Man O'War was the fastest horse ever bred in America. He won the Kentucky Derby in 1919, the Preakness in 1919, the Belmont Stakes in 1919, and the Triple Crown in 1919.

John Maltch

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