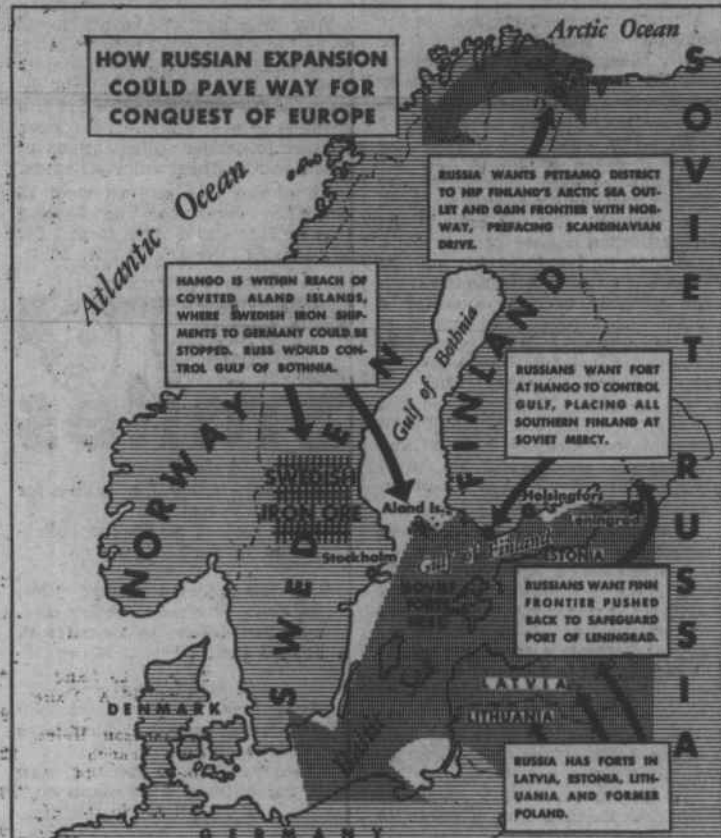


WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

Hitler Discredited, Friendless As Result of Finland Invasion; Reds Gird for Blow at Reich

(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: Finnish Finish

Moscow civilians knew only that their Premier Vicheslav Molotov had first denounced Russia's non-aggression pact with Finland, and next had broken off diplomatic relations with that little republic. But a few minutes after the second step Russian troops invaded the Karelian isthmus; Russian planes bombed Helsingfors, Viborg, Imatra and Tammelsuu; Russian warships began tossing shells all along the Gulf of Finland's northern shore. The Finnish government, which only a few hours earlier had withdrawn frontier guards and pleaded for a peaceful settlement, resigned immediately and President Kyoesti Kallio declared war. But everyone knew the Russian juggernaut would swallow his nation in a few days.

All the world watched this outrage painfully, but only the U. S. took concrete action. The charge d'affaires in Moscow was instructed to offer mediation, but nothing came of it.

Most pained of all was none other than Adolf Hitler, who must have realized all too suddenly that Finland's death at Russia's hand made him Europe's most discredited ruler. Having staved off war on two fronts in September by making friends with Russia, Der Fuehrer had seen Joe Stalin come first into Poland, next into Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, and now into Finland, always for "defensive" purposes. Against what nation but Germany would Russia need defenses? And how easily could defenses be turned into offensive positions? (see map).

The Reich had no alternative but to "sympathize" with Russia, but nobody was fooled. By not sympathizing, Germany would automatically fall in beside the allies against Russia, thereby discrediting Adolf Hitler. There no longer remained doubt about the position of Italy, erstwhile axis partner of Germany. Marshal Italo Balbo's *Corriere Padano* was outspoken in its admiration for Finland's opposition to "brutal pressure of the colossus with feet of clay."

Magnetic mines and a valiant U-boat commander named Guenther Prien were worrying Great Britain almost to death. Commander Prien, whose submarine sank the Royal Oak October 14, came back to destroy a 10,000-ton cruiser (according to Berlin). Two days earlier the Nazi raider, *Deutschland*, sank the man-of-war *Rawalpindi* with a loss of 260 lives.

of the world was on London. Japan, refusing to recognize the blockade, threatened to seize British ships. The Netherlands and Belgium protested. Greece, one-half of whose imports come from Germany via sea, faced an economic crisis. Hearing that Britain threatened to close the Suez canal, the straits of Gibraltar and the Dardanelles, Rome's *Giornale d'Italia* departed from Italy's noncommittal attitude to offer food for thought: "The blockade is most dangerous. It may induce other people who are not yet participating in the war to . . . think that such a state of affairs cannot endure."

POLITICS: Short & Snappy

If Franklin Roosevelt still hoped for a third term, he could take heart from the latest *Fortune* magazine poll, which claimed that 47.4 per cent of the voters want him to stay in the White House. Percentage before the war: 34.9 per cent.

Far bigger political news was the attempt of both Republicans and Democrats to jockey into position for the 1940 campaign. Each wanted to hold its convention after the other, so badly that G. O. P. Chairman John D. M. Hamilton announced the convention call would not be issued as usual, in December. Successful at changing Thanksgiving, the President had his "spokes-



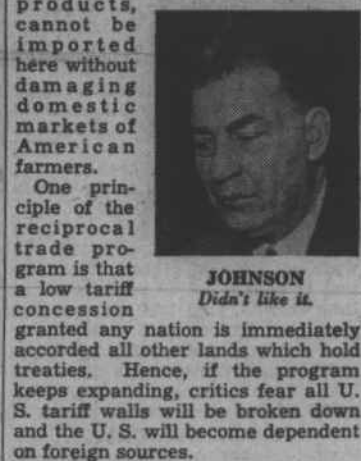
JOHN D. M. HAMILTON
It was nice of the President . . .

men" observe that it might be a good idea to postpone both conventions from June to July—or even August. Reasons: (1) During an international crisis, a long campaign would bore the public and get small results; (2) economy. Commented Chairman Hamilton the next day, not a little sarcastic: "Mr. Roosevelt's deep solicitude about economy in political campaigns is very amusing in view of his record . . . It seems to me the President is arrogating to himself a great deal of authority."

The jockeying continued. Mississippi's Democratic Sen. Pat Harrison wanted to defer convention until September; Republicans like Michigan's Vandenberg and Oregon's McNary again hoped to hold their session after the Democrats.

COMMERCE: Rough Sledding

Only through broad international trade, said British Premier Neville Chamberlain a few weeks ago, can peace be assured. In Washington Secretary of State Cordell Hull echoed his words because he needed that argument to defend his reciprocal trade program. Since Europe went to war the U. S. has rushed to make treaties with South American nations whose Old world trade outlets have been cut off. The joker has been that South America's export surpluses, which she would exchange for U. S. manufactured products, cannot be imported here without damaging domestic markets of American farmers.



JOHNSON
Didn't like it.

One principle of the reciprocal trade program is that a low tariff concession granted any nation is immediately accorded all other lands which hold treaties. Hence, if the program keeps expanding, critics fear all U. S. tariff walls will be broken down and the U. S. will become dependent on foreign sources.

LABOR: Anti-Strike Weapon?

Having at last settled the 54-day-old Chrysler dispute, organized labor turned its guns on the justice department for a much more important campaign. The target: Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold, who recently advised that unions are punishable under the anti-trust laws if they (1) prevent use of cheaper materials; (2) compel hiring of useless labor; (3) enforce systems of graft or extortion; (4) enforce illegally fixed prices; (5) destroy an established system of collective bargaining.



ARNOLD
Labor was afraid.

A few days later A. F. of L.'s President William Green fired a protest at Attorney General Frank Murphy (whose appointment last winter was protested because he was "too friendly" to labor).

It took no Philadelphia lawyer to read the fear in labor's eyes. If the justice department is upheld in its present campaign against material dealers, contractors and union leaders in the building trades conspiracy case, the unions can be prosecuted in restraint of trade for all strikes.

CONGRESS: Build-Up

By cutting expenditures in the face of increased revenues, the government hopes next year to put itself in shape for electioneering. Even so, the President admitted at Warm Springs that his planned economies are striking no impressive total. Actually, since Europe's war will necessitate a \$500,000,000 boost in defense outlays, other items must be pared tremendously to hold down the total appropriation.

Recently the President announced that any decision on new revenues must be made by congress. That body could choose between raising the \$45,000,000 debt limit (to be reached this year) or levying new taxes. So fearful was Mr. Roosevelt that his big defense program might be misinterpreted, that he told reporters it would be handled in a double budget: Congress will get the regular defense program first, followed by an entirely separate request for about \$500,000,000 necessitated by wars in Europe and Asia.

Wisecracks in Washington thought they had the key to next January's weather vane: If big economies are in sight, new income taxes will probably be levied on middle and lower-bracket wage earners, producing about \$300,000,000. But if another big deficit is apparent, tax adjustments will go overboard and the debt limit will be boosted.

Brackart's Washington Digest

Rumblings About Federal Spending Come From Two Schools of Thought

One Side Proposes Policing U. S. Operations; Another Insists Wanton Outgo Must Continue; Secret Memorandum Offers Program for 'Rebuilding America.'

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

WASHINGTON.—Rumblings have begun to occur again lately about federal spending. Some are for, but most of them are against, continued outgo of federal funds. They have come from widely separated schools of thought, as might be expected when there are those in the government who favor unlimited spending and those who believe in watching government finances with an eye to the future. I will try to piece them together for you.

Senator Taft, Republican, of Ohio, an avowed seeker after the nomination for President, and Senator Adams, of Colorado, a Democratic member of the senate committee on appropriations, and therefore influential in policy-making, seem to be agreed that spending has got out of hand. They are proposing something in the way of a policing of government operations, and obviously such policing will be done by an agency of congress.

Secretary Morgenthau of the treasury has been going to some lengths to have the country know there will be no violation of the present national debt limit. It is now fixed by law at \$45,000,000,000. The national debt is approaching \$42,000,000,000, in direct obligations of the federal government as distinguished from the four or five billions of debt incurred by federally owned corporations. Many persons feel this debt must be considered as a part of the public debt. Anyway, Mr. Morgenthau says there is no real reason to believe the \$45,000,000,000 limitation will be reached before next June 30, the end of the fiscal year.

President Roosevelt has sent around word to the various departments that their spending in the next fiscal year must be curtailed to some extent. He did not mention a balanced budget which he said a few years ago should be accomplished in 1940, but he took the position that the deficit in the next fiscal year should not exceed \$2,000,000,000. That is, the spending for all purposes, under the President's present conclusions, shall not exceed receipts from taxes and other general revenue by more than \$2,000,000,000.

Secret Memorandum Calls For Additional Spending

While the statements from the senators were being chewed over and while the word about Mr. Roosevelt's determination was sinking in, it was disclosed that a memorandum about future government spending was going the rounds among the so-called New Deal thinkers. The authorship of the memorandum has not been made known.

Stripped of all of its excess language, the secret memorandum points out a program for "rebuilding America," for building up America. Incidentally, and only casually, readers of the memorandum are told through its entire length that there must be additional federal spending in execution of this program. But haste is made to assure us that there should be no worry about additional spending—amount not named—because the borrowings can be paid back "out of increased income of our citizens."

And the war figures in it, too. The author of the memorandum observes that America "may be the last remnant of civilization." It has a special duty to all of the world, therefore, and the thinking element wants to make sure that our nation is ready to assume this new burden. There are many paragraphs of argument in the secret memorandum in support of the position that our nation must be "restored" and those who put it together reluctantly admit that it will take a great educational campaign to accomplish the rebuilding.

Tighter Hand on Government Spending to Be Laid Down

There can be no doubt that relief spending will have to be large again in the next year. It cannot be avoided. Business is not doing any better. It is not employing more people, or to state it another way; unemployment is just as great as ever, and people must be fed. Mr. Roosevelt has indicated that while spending for relief cannot be dodged, there are other phases of governmental activity that may be curtailed. As to this, however, one

might ask a pertinent question. It will be recalled that the President anticipated a reduction, a saving, of \$15,000,000 or \$20,000,000 would result from the government reorganization. The civil service commission and treasury figures, lately made public, show that there has been an increase of approximately \$100,000,000 for general expenses since reorganization was ordered. It seems in order then to ask how there can be curtailment, except and unless there is a willingness to abandon some of the numerous agencies of government along with the functions they perform.

It is in line with the idea of curtailment expenditures, however, that Senators Taft and Adams spoke. They mentioned profligate and unwise spending. The old leaf raking jobs that former Relief Administrator Hopkins sponsored, I believe, can be cited as an example.

The blasts by Senators Taft and Adams, along with the constant criticism of waste by Senator Harry Byrd, the Virginia Democrat, must be accepted as portending a change. It seems to me to be a very important sign, and a healthy one. When members of congress get up in arms sufficiently, they naturally take quite a following of public support with them. My own hunch is that in the observations of Senators Taft and Adams there lies the germ of a great governmental reform. It may not come in the next session of congress, nor even in that which convenes in 1940, but I am quite convinced that a tighter hand on government spending is going to be laid down by congress.

Describes How Government Appropriations Are Made

To make the circumstance clear, it probably is well to describe how appropriations are made. The national budget, of course, is framed by the budget director under the direct supervision of the President. The budget director gives each agency a chance to submit estimates on the amount of money its officials think it needs. They are given the opportunity in hearings to justify their figures. The budget director considers their arguments and adjusts the amounts on the basis that he believes is proper and for the good of the nation.

The budget eventually is submitted to congress. There, the appropriations committees go to work. They examine all of the estimates for expenditures and eventually call in officials of every agency seeking an appropriation and listen to the story about the programs and the funds needed. The committee then makes up its own mind, and its figures are laid before the house and the senate.

That seems a very fair way. Experience, however, indicates there are better methods. The reason the system fails is because of bureaucracy. Every government official and every agency wants to expand operations, power and influence. Thus, when Senators Taft and Adams propose policing federal expenditures, they have started something that may eventually result in development of a new arm of the congress.

Adroit in Building Up Sentiment With Money

Most observers here have long known that the new crop of spenders that now occupies the key positions have taught the old timers something fresh in the way of gaining congressional approval of appropriations. They are adroit in building up sentiment back home when it comes to teasing people into line. But they are adroit only when they can use money. It has been plain that ordinary political methods can not be used successfully by the so-called inner circle of the government. And for the reason that they can not use time tried methods—not being politicians who have hustled for votes—they are doomed to failure.

The surprising thing about the whole situation is that President Roosevelt has been convinced so many times. The President is a right clever politician. He has fopped several times very badly, but he will get along in most any political company, especially if he has the aid of Jim Farley.

Speaking of Sports

Heavies in Line For Conn After Lesnevich Win

By ROBERT McSHANE

"HE NEVER hurt me. But I had the feeling I never hurt him, either."

It's Billy Conn talking, the shanty Irish kid who had just finished pummeling out a 15-round decision over Gus Lesnevich, New Jersey light-heavyweight challenger. The bout was Conn's second successful defense of his title.

In those few words Conn presented his past ring history and foretold his coming pugilistic career. Too speedy and clever to get hurt by boxers in his own class, he lacks the wallop of a punishing fighter.

Conn won the crown from Melio Bettina in a close Madison Square Garden fight. A month later the handsome, likeable Pittsburgh hopeful invaded the heavyweight ranks against Gus Dorazio at Philadelphia. A little more than two months ago he made his first title defense against Bettina in Pittsburgh. Billy won both fights.

He is exceptionally clever and shifty, and is as game as any fighter in the ring today, but he is conceded very little chance of stepping



CHAMPION BILLY CONN

out of the light-heavyweight ranks and winning the heavyweight title from Joe Louis—the ultimate goal at which both Conn and his manager, Johnny Ray, are aiming.

Tunney Did It

There are two very good reasons why Conn isn't expected to set the heavyweight world on its ear. To begin with, Billy isn't heavy enough—and probably never will be—to fight Louis. And he never will be able to hit hard enough to stop Louis.

It is true that Gene Tunney outgrew the light-heavyweight ranks to whip Jack Dempsey, but the cases are not parallel. Tunney was a big man, large-boned. He was a chassis which could carry 200 pounds with ease. Conn isn't built that way. He is small-boned, and it is doubtful that his best fighting weight will ever be more than 175 pounds.

There's no question but that he could give big, slow-moving heavyweights more than they could handle. Tommy Longhran proved that a clever light-heavyweight could do against more weighty opponents, even though he was far from a heavy hitter. But Joe Louis is just as fast, just as clever, just as game as any light-heavyweight, and is the deadliest puncher in the ring today.

It is likely that Billy will win his share of battles in the heavyweight division. Boxing history is studded with the names of light-heavies who could and did whip big, slow-moving bums with no trouble at all.

Talent Mopped Up

In his own weight class, against Lesnevich, who was the New York state athletic commission's No. 1 contender, Conn didn't take the brakes off his darling left jab until the fourth round. From then on he looked good. In the eleventh and thirteenth rounds he had Lesnevich groggy, hanging, clinching and leaning. But he couldn't finish him. He lacked a knockout punch.

The fact that he would be attacking a giant killer with a fly-swatter elicits from his supporters the remark that "you can't have everything."

Giving away 20 pounds to a heavy-weight as fast and dangerous as Louis is tantamount to handing an opponent a small ax after the opening bell sounds.

It may well be that all the concern about Conn's proposed fight with Joe Louis is futile. He hasn't earned the right to fight the champ yet. Some heavyweight—Bob Pastor, for instance—may change the complexion of things before the hopes of Conn and Johnny Ray are realized.

Sport Shorts

ART SCHILLIG, smashing New York university end, likes box constrictors as pets. He keeps two of the 20-foot snakes in his home in the Bronx . . . Gordon Pettinger, former Red Wing, and Jack Crawford were the only men to play in all 64 Boston Bruin games during their drive to the Stanley cup last year . . . Lefty O'Doul, manager of the San Francisco Seals, is operating a tavern in the coast city . . . When Pitt beat Duke 14 to 23 this season it was the first one-point defeat for a team coached by Wallace Wade in his 21 years as a football coach . . . Seabiscuit started 17 times as a two-year-old before he won a race . . . Fritz Crisler never has been the winning coach in a Minnesota-Michigan game. His Minnesota teams were defeated in 1930 and 1931, 7 to 0 and 6 to 0. His Michigan teams have lost 7 to 6 and 7 to 1 in the past two seasons . . . In six games, five Big Ten and one against Southern California, Ohio State University of Illinois players played more than 300 minutes. They were Fullback Retinger, Tackle Jim Reeder and Quarterback Ralph Ehm.

A. L. Statistics

INTERESTING sidelights on the 1939 American league campaign were released recently by the league's service bureau. Statistics show that not one of the Chicago White Sox pitchers succeeded in chalking up a win over each of the seven rival clubs. In sharp contrast was the work of Cleveland's Bob Feller, who won a majority against every rival club while chalking up his 24 victories. Feller, in fashioning the league's best record, won six straight from Detroit, two from St. Louis, three out of five from Boston, New York and Washington, five out of seven from Chicago, and two out of three from Philadelphia. Ted Lyons finished with the best Sox percentage, winning 14 and losing six. He best Washington four times in five games. Feller and Dutch Leonard of the Senators were outstanding for effectiveness against first-division teams. Each won 11 games and lost six. Kindest to opponents were Washington pitchers, Ken Cesse and Joe Krakauskas. Chase lost five to Cleveland and Krakauskas the same number to Detroit.



BOWLING Made Easy

By NED DAY
National Match Game Champion

(This is the fourth of a series of bowling lessons by Ned Day of Milwaukee, Wis., national match game champion and recognized as an outstanding bowling authority.)



YOUR stance in bowling should find you from 12 to 15 feet back of the foul line, depending on the length of your stride and whether the four or five step delivery has been selected.

Body position when addressing the pins should be fairly erect with shoulders square to pins. Weight of the body should be distributed evenly on the feet, which can be close together, slightly apart, or with the left foot slightly forward.

The weight of the ball should rest squarely in the left hand and should be held somewhere between the belt line and the shoulders. The "V" between the thumb and index finger should point at the head pin.

To put the ball in motion when beginning the approach, be careful not to lower it jerkily. Use a strong pushaway from the body, followed by a natural, easy back swing. (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)