WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

Boost in Relief Fund Forecast As House Joins Spending Spree; Leave Tax Bogy for Next Year

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

Coup de Grace

"You have just done the most tragic thing in the history of the country. You have shown a reversal of the spirit con-gress adopted from the beginning in try-ing to live within the budget . . . I feel this afternoon very much like the poet who said:

I was at the funeral of all my hopes And tombed them one by one. Not a word was said, not a tear was shed When the mournful task was done."

Thus did Virginia's Rep. Clifton Woodrum scold and eulogize his fel-low congressmen who had just administered the coup de grace to a great and idealistic crusade: The 1940 congressional economy cam-paign. Until the senate added al-most \$300,000,000 to the farm appro-



VIRGINIA'S WOODRUM

priation bill, house skinflints had slashed more than that from early budgetary requests. They had saved almost enough to avoid the \$450,000,000 new tax levy which Franklin Roosevelt wanted in order to avert a boost in the \$45,000,000,000 debt limit.

But senate spendthriftiness now found its way to the house. Upped \$55,651,058 above the President's budget request were CCC and NYA funds, and it was this particular increase that made Virginia's Wood-rum wax poetic. Next item would be relief, for which the President asked \$1,000,000,000; but everyone knew that this figure would be increased. Sole remaining bulwark of economy was the house appropriations committee, which was rumored about to slash \$60,000,000 from the navy bill.

Meanwhile it was a safe guess that congress would shun new taxes this session. Reasons: (1) It's an election year; (2) the debt limit won't be exceeded until next year, and a new congress will then be in

Also in congress:

¶ Flayed by customarily ardent
New Dealers like Key Pittman, Joe
O'Mahoney and Pat McCarran, a
resolution for three-year extension of the administration's reciprocal trade act neared its showdown in the senate. Chief quibble: Whether the senate should retain ratification power. Franklin Roosevelt prom-sed to veto the bill if the senate did. ¶ The perennial and controversial anti-lynching bill, already passed by the house, went to the senate floor after an okay by the judiciary com-

Inserted in the Hatch anti-politics bill by a house committee was a clause forbidding expenditures of more than \$3,000,000 by any national political party in any campaign.

(Hearings opened on the chain store tax bill, flaming torch and cause celebre of Texas' Rep. Wright Patman. First blow: Weaver My-ers, legal staffman for the congressional committee on internal rev-enue, opined that the measure was "clearly unconstitutional." Rea-

TREND

How the wind is blowing . .

POLITICS — At Dallas, ex-Gov. Miriam A. ("Ma") Ferguson an-nounced she was willing to run for a third term.

JAPAN-At Tokyo, Rear Adm Shozaburo Kanazawa viewed with "grave concern" a report that the U. S. is strengthening its Philippine

INCOME - Salaries and other money paid U. S. individuals in February totaled \$5,554,000,000, a 6 per cent increase over February,

son: It proposes a graduated tax, based on the number of stores. Myers pointed out that the Constitution requires that taxes be levied uniformly, geographically speaking.

WHITE HOUSE:

Welles' Return

Down the bay at New York went some 25 reporters to meet the incoming Conte di Savoia. A few minutes later, in her card room, they faced a tall, dark-suited and handsome diplomat. Behind him was a 90-minute talk with Adolf Hitler: two meetings with Benito Musler; two meetings with Benito Mus-solini; long and private discussions with Neville Chamberlain and Edouard Daladier.

Had he wished, Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles might have pulled big news from his bulging portfolio. Instead he said: "I am mighty glad to see you, and I'm glad to be home."

With that he caught a train for With that he caught a train for Washington where rumors were already mounting fast. Revived was the favorite chestnut that Sumner Welles' report held the key to Franklin Roosevelt's third term ambitions. Said the wiseacres: If Mr. Welles felt a European peace was in the air, the President would retire; otherwise, no. Judging by European news Mr. Welles read the American papers, it looked like a third term.

EUROPE:

Telegram

"Thanks to the wisdom of the Soviet government and to our valiant Red Army, the plans of the British-French war-mongers who attempted to fan the flames of war in northeastern Europe again failed . . ."

Such was the telegram sent to Dictator Josef Stalin the day Russia made peace with Finland. It came made peace with Finland. It came not from friendly Germany but from hostile France—from Soviet Ambassador Jakob Souritz. Two weeks later Envoy Souritz's recall at request of the French government created a mild diplomatic flurry that echoed across the English channel. There, Britain and Russia were at swords points over British seizure of a Soviet freighter in the Pacific. After several days the excitement had apparently died down, but not a big question mark: down, but not a big question mark:



ENVOY SOURITZ

Did Envoy Souritz, a seasoned dip-lomat, send this uncoded wire as a deliberate attempt to shatter Franco-Soviet relations?

Chancellories

In Paris, Premier Paul Reynaud's new cabinet made an auspicious start in its aggressive campaign against Germany. Summoned home one by one were all of France's diplomats, chief among them Am-bassador to Italy Andre Francois-Poncet. Reason: Premier Revnaud will do his best to keep Italy away from Berlin and Russia. Meanwhile Great Britain was also starting trade negotiations with Rome, but more important for the moment was creation of a five-man "inner cab-

For two days the British blockade worked its way into the Skager-rak and Kattegat and threatened to rak and Kattegat and threatened to cut off Germany's merchant trade with Scandinavia. There was still a chance it might succeed, but the Nazis began fierce warfare in the North sea with the apparent purpose of diverting British attention from the blockade. Meanwhile spring flowers began blossoming on the western frout.



1. Above is the cannon-firing P40 Curtiss pursuit ship, one of three new army models which France and Britain asked permission to buy. Did the army grant or refuse such permission?

2. (Each part of the following counts 10 points). Why were the following movie stars in the news: (a) Dorothy "Penny" Singleton; (b) Bob Burns?

3. True or False: Reprimanded by the state department after delivering an anti-German speech, U. S. Minister to Canada James H. B. Cromwell resigned in a huff.

4. What record-shattering event made residents of Syracuse, Utica, Rochester, and other upper New York cities stay home against their will?

5. Choice: The new explosive of Lester P. Barlow, demonstrated before congressmen, is made of (a) ilquid oxygen and carbon; (b) T. N. T., dynamite and carbon; (c) glycerin and rosewater.

News Quiz Answers

News Quiz Answers

1. Permission was granted.
2. (A) "Penny" Singleton was hospitalized after an auto accident; (B) Bob Burns and others were sued by man who said he was kidnaped and forced to sign a denial that Burns had stolen his wife's affections.
3. Palse. He refused to resign.
4. The biggest blizzard since 1888 blocked all roads and piled drifts up to 30 feet in depth.
5.: (A) is correct.

AVIATION:

Achievement

Skies were overcast but radio reception was good. Pilot A. F. Olson nosed his Northwest airliner into the night toward Billings, Mont. Just west of Helena a bolt of lightning "appeared from nowhere," ripped the fabric from the right aileron and gave Pilot Olson, his two fellow crew-

men and 21 passengers a good scare. When Pilot Olson landed at Billings he also brought home the bacon. That night the nation's 21 commercial airlines completed a full year's operation, flying almost 88,000,000 miles with not a single

crew or passenger fatality.

While operators slapped themselves on the back, actuaries figured this record made it safer to

UNAMERICANISM:

'Amazing'

Back into the headlines after his vacation in Florida went Texas' Rep. Martin Dies and his un-Americanism investigating commit-tee. Current enemy: Russia and Communism. While Chairman Dies announced plans to "summon wit-nesses as fast as we can locate them," his operatives swooped down on Pittsburgh Communist headquarters in search of a Red who used the name "Franklin D. Roosevelt" on his party membership card. Also hard at work was New Jersey's Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, a Dies aid, who told reporters that "any number" of school textbooks used in the U. S. contain "one subversive passage right after another . Taken with the sur-rounding material, they may mean little, but when they are put with other selected passages they fit to-gether perfectly, and the result is

COURTS:

Sherman Vengeance

At Washington last year an A. F. of L. teamsters' union allegedly "conspired" to make concrete mixing companies hire union teamsters to drive mixer trucks. About this time the anti-trust division of the department of justice began cast-ing a suspicious eye at the sorry plight of America's building construction field. Taking a long shot, Trust Buster Thurman Arnold

Trust Buster Thurman Arnold stapped a charge of Sherman act violation against Washington's teamsters. The allegation: That this squabble interrupted building operations, therefore the union had restrained trade.

Protesting loudly that unions do not fall under the Sherman act, A. F. of L. cooked up a demurrer and a motion to dismiss the indictment. In late March Federal District Judge Peyton Gordon surprised everybody by upholding the indictment, maintaining the Sherman act applies to unions where their objectives are not "legitimate."

Bruckart's Washington Digest

Third Term Backers Dismayed By Roosevelt's Failure to Speak

Candidates Farley and Garner Confuse Issue for President's Followers: Hull-Jackson Combination Further Complicates Political Scene.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART
WNU Service, National Press Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.
The story at this time is what has happened in another direction. In the efforts of the

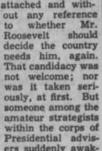
WASHINGTON.-The political situation that fails to provide a good laugh somewhere along the line is rare, indeed. There is, of course, rare, indeed. There is, of course, that time-worn expression about politics making strange bedfellows, which frequently happens. There is just as much of a laugh for me, however, when these same strangers have got into the same bedmentioned in the preceding sentence—and the slats fall out from under one of them. Actually, collapse of the slats gives anyone quite a sinking feeling, sort of an all-gone sensation.

And, so, I am writing this week about how fallen slats have forced some of the boys on the Democratic team to prepare a pallet on the floor. In some quarters, I have heard expressions within the last few days indicating that there is no particular shortage of pallets, but the would-be wheelhorses are having difficulty at discovering the proper floor.

proper floor.

It all came about in a series of events, some of which I have discussed in these columns before but, of necessity, must be repeated. Everyone knows, for instance, how the payroll boys, anxious to keep their jowls inside the trough, have been carrying on a great drive that they hope will eventuate in a third-term nomination for President Roosevelt. They have been doing right well by They have been doing right well by themselves, what with federal mil-lions to spend; a patronage army mustered by Secretary Wallace who also pays farmers to let him show also pays farmers to let him show them how to farm; the vast relief legions and the other government agents of one kind or another, ag-gregating nearly a million persons, not to mention postmasters, United States attorneys and marshals and the others. They are, or they were, cocky and pretty happy about the whole thing.

There were such things as Vice President Garner's candidacy which was announced without strings



John Garner

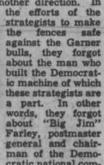
ened to the fact that the Garner candidacy might be regarded as serious. Well, there were deep discussions of what to do. Whatever else you can say about the true New Dealer, the helland-high-water New Dealer, it must be said that he is a serious person, lation with grave determination that what is about to be done for you is, of course, always for your best in-

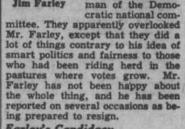
Whispering Campaign Sees Garner as Stooge

Out of these discussions has come a whispering campaign. It is exactly the same type of whispering campaign as was used against Herbert Hoover, when he was President. Only, these whispers are by Democrats about a Democrat. It has a technique that is well worked out and it gets results. That is, it goes a long engage. gets results if it goes on long enough without anyone seeing what the

In the current whispering campaign-and its source can be traced to an expert-Mr. Garner was picto an expert—Mr. Garner was pic-tured as just a stooge, just someone striving to break down the New Deal. He was pointed out as dis-loyal, a personally disloyal man de-spite 40 years as a Democratic bat-tler, and his campaign was said to have "flattened out" to such an extent that everyone interested in the Democratic party could go home and go to bed—you know, the way that is done after an election victory is safely in the bag and the

I am not prepared to argue that Mr. Garner's candidacy is, or is not, washed up. Just as a one-man guess, I have thought he was rather popular in the parts of the country where I have traveled in recent months. But that is not the story about which I am writing.





Farley's Candidacy

Surprise to Leaders Surprise to Leaders

And, now, what confronts the boys? Just an announcement by Mr. Farley that he is an out-and-out candidate for the presidential nomination of the Democratic party, an announcement that ended with "that's that!" When Mr. Farley made that statement to the party leaders in Massachusetts recently, he pulled out more bed slats than you can imagine. He did not say "if the Chief does not run." He said he was running "and that's that!"

There are not many folks in the

There are not many folks in the country who do not realize that, as a machine politician, Mr. Farley has few equals. He has a personal following that he has built up throughout the nation, men whom he calls

out the nation, men whom he calls by their first names and who write to him as "Dear Jim."

The ranks of those who jumped too soon include a lot of senators and representatives who had ar-rived at their places on the payroll by virtue of a happy ride on the Roosevelt coattails. But the Roose-velt coattails might not have borne up under the strain, except for the velt coattails might not have borne up under the strain, except for the Farley direction. That is what the early bandwagon crowd is now trying to measure. They are looking around to see whether their pallet should be on the Farley floor, the Garner floor or the Roosevelt floor, and they are casting squints through partially open doors to see whether there might be comparative peace and political quiet in the next room where the second-choice delegates may have to go at convention time.

Hull-Jackson Team

May Enter 1940 Race This whole stage scene is further complicated by continued stories that Mr. Roosevelt looks upon Secretary Hull of the state department as a "good man," but with sort of a side stance that "some good libgeneral) should be nominated with eral like Bob Jackson (the attorney him." Of course, there is no way to substantiate the story that Mr. Roosevelt wants Hull and Jackson as the team. He has said nothing. I have said before, and there is no reason to change the belief, that Mr. Roosevelt is not going to say

anything un-til about convention time. In the meantime, the folks who owe their po-litical places to Mr. Farley and who have gone off the deep end for deep end for Mr. Roosevelt as a third-term

Cordell Hull

nights. They are afraid to make up their pallets on the floor anywhere in fear of the boogey-man.

As I said at the beginning, nearly

every political situation contains a good laugh. It is always the more amusing when you see the amateurs trying to play the game of profes-sionals. The final scene on the stage may not have Garner or Far-ley or Roosevelt in the center to ley or Roosevelt in the center to take the acclaim of the audience, but Mr. Garner is going ahead and Mr. Farley is going ahead, and the third-term leaders are practically helpless since Mr. Roosevelt steadfastly declines to make a public statement on his intentions. He just leak the electrons on the floor. ets the slats stay on the floor.



ST. PETERSBURGH, FLA.—The Red Bird engraved upon the shirts of the St. Louis Cardinals has snirts of the St. Louis Cardinals has turned into a hawk, seeking its prey.

A year ago these Cardinals were not sure whether they might finish second or fifth.

They caught your eye in this sun-flooded city that now lays claim to

now lays claim to the World Series training spot. But too many of them had just begun to wield a razor along downy cheeks. They were Red Birds then — not hawks.

They needed the Grantland Rice



hammering experi-ence of a hard campaign. It was in the shade of a sheltering

oak, ash or palm tree that Branch Rickey advised me to pick the Reds for 1939 and the Cardinals for 1940. "We have quife a number of young fellows," he said, "who need just one more season. The Reds will get the jump on this young team but we won't be far away in the stretch. It will be different next year."

This happens to be the "next year" mentioned by Mr. Rickey. If he is as sound a prophet in 1940 as he was in 1939, the Cardinals are already in.

Sound Pitching Staff

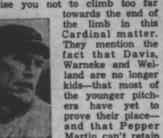
Sound Pitching Staff

They have that year's experience stuck under their belts and they have the same speed and the same spirit. More than that, in addition to such veterans as Curt Davis, Lon Warneke and Big Bob Weiland, they also carry along the younger pitching arms of Cooper, McGee, Lanier, Bowman, Sunkel and Barrett—the soundest all-around pitching staff in the National league and one of the best in baseball.

It has both quantity and quality. From the nine pitchers mentioned Ray Blades should be able to get at least five moving briskly along, which is well above the average.

There are those around who will the tree are those around who gire the street are to the street are to the street and they are the climb too for

There are those around who will advise you not to climb too far towards the end of



Martin can't retain the iron in his sys-tem and the flame Curt Davis

Temperamental Medwick

They also bring out the fact that Joe Medwick hasn't been any too happy under the St. Louis setup for some time. And Ducky Medwick happens to be one of the best ball players in either league. He may be high-strung and temperamental, but he can hit, field, run and throw—the four main essentials.

Ray Blades figures there are six teams that can win the National

league pennant,
I can't agree with him. The race should be between the Cardinals and

should be between the Caronnais and Reds, with the Dodgers and Cubs making the main challenge. Frank Frisch will peed at least a year to get the Pirates untangled and headed forward. I can't figure Giants, Braves or Phillies with anything but a miracle

Most of the old Gas House Gang have left the scene. They are scat-tered far and wide.

Only a few years ago at Bradenton there were the two Deans, Jimmy Wilson, Rip Collins, Leo Durocher, Bill Hallahan and several others. Now Pepper Martin and Joe Medwick are about the only

ones left.

Baseball has seen better teams, but none with so much color. There was the time when Jimmy Wilson, the erack Cardinal eatcher, began missing his silk shirts from the locker. Disay began wearing them. Disay was then a rookle. When Jimmy put the blast on Dis for pilfering his favorite shirt, Dix only grinned.

"Listen, Jimmy," he said. "I came down here with only one shirt. I knew you wouldn't want the greatest pitcher baseball ever knew to go around with the same shirt for a

est pitcher baseball ever knew to go around with the same shirt for a month. Now, would you?"
"I guess you're right, Diz," Wilson said. So Dean kept the shirt. But there is still enough color in this present Cardinal outfit. It's a young outfit, in the main, an outfit that is keen to go somewhere.

-Speaking of Sports-

3-Count 'Em-3 DiMags Join in Baseball Wars

By ROBERT McSHANE

CONTRARY to rumor, there is no ruling to the effect that every major league baseball club must include at least one DiMaggio on its

The public unconsciously has been misled by the frequency with which the name appears in the public prints. The ball-playing members of the clan are not numbered by the dozen. In fact, there are only three of the former fisher lads now in big time baseball.

in big time baseball.

Joe DiMaggio, veteran of the tribe, is not unknown to baseball addicts. He commanded a considerable degree of attention when he made a runaway of the race for individual batting championship of the American league last season, hitting at a distinctly passable clip of .381. The Yankee star led his closest competitor by the comfortable margin of 21 points, establishing himself as one of the truly great batsmen of all time.

Win Duplicate Honors

Brother Dominic DiMaggio, a I spectacled, expensive young man, getting a tryout with the Boston E Sox. In 1939 he was voted the ms valuable player of the Pacific Cosleague. (Joe receive the sar award in the American league.)

Though Dominic still has to weat glasses with thick lenses, he his the ball hard—had the second high



THE DI MAGGIOS: Joe and Vin

est batting average on the West coast, 361, led in total hits and runs scored, and was among the leading home run hitters.

Dom started playing ball with the Monterey Presidio team. From there he jumped to the San Francisco Seals, where he hung on in spite of a couple of bad starts. He batted just above 300 in his first two seasons. Like the rest of the family, he is an outfielder.

Brother Vince DiMaggie, now the

family, he is an outfielder.

Brother Vince DiMaggio, now the property of the Cinchmati Reds, is the oldest but least known of the illustrious trio. It was Vince who first went to the basehall wars. While a junior high school student he was picked as a member of a San Francisco all-star team. Before he went to high school he was picked up by the Seals. Father Giuseppe DiMaggio wan't at all en-thusiastic. He argued. All the DiMaggios had been fishermen. Vince's liking for the game wen out.

Joe's Introduction

Joe's Introduction

It was Vince who brought Brother
Joe into the game. Late one session, when Vince was with the Seals
and when all contests for place in
the Pacific Coast league had been
decided, 'Augie Galan, the shortstop,
asked to be excused from a game
to go on a barnstorming tour. The
manager said he could go if he
would find somebody to play shortstop. Vince DiMaggie dug up his
brother Joe. That was the start of
the greatest DiMaggie career.

Largely on the strength of Joe's

the greatest DiMaggio career.

Largely on the strength of Joe's reputation, Vince went to the Boston Bees. He couldn't hit major league pitching, and in 1938 led the National circuit in strikeouts. He was sent to Kansas City. There he began to hit home runs, gained confidence and removed a bothersome hitch in his swing. Then he was brought back to the big time with Cincinnati.

Despite the fact that Vince stra out 12 times in 14 times at bat du ing last year's pennant fight, Ma ager Bill McKechnie still has fai in him. Now the oldest of the DiMaggios is getting probably hast chance to make good.

There you have the DiMag, family—Joe, king-pin slugger of the world champion New York Yankee Dom, highly touted minor leas star getting his golden opportunith the Red Sox; and Vince, who big—and undoubtedly last—chan is with the Reds.