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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS By Farnham F. Dudgeon

French Break Diplomatic Ties With England Following Loss Of Fleet in Naval Encounter

(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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"Take a tip from me," or "How to be a vice president" might well be captions of this picture showing Vice President John N. Garner congratulating his colleague, Sen. Charles L. McNary of Oregon, upon his return to senate duty following his selection as the G. O. P. nominee for Mr. Garner's post. Garner, never without a cigar, reportedly told McNary at the time of his congratulations that "Charlie, the first thing you must learn for this job, is the proper way to hold a cigar."

THE WAR: Strange Battle

Since that fateful day on which the French government came to armistice terms with Adolf Hitler, major problem facing Great Britain has been the disposition of the French fleet. For control of the seas and the continuation of the naval blockade against the axis powers is vital to the British cause.

Well did Winston Churchill and his advisers know that if Germany interned the French navy or turned it against England, the combined naval weight of Germany, Italy and France would be superior to their own.

Naval experts throughout the world had predicted that England would never allow the French fleet to fall into German hands. And after a brief but fierce naval engagement on the North African coast these predictions were fulfilled.

As Prime Minister Churchill reported to the house of commons this battle wrecked the French fleet and cheated the dictator's attempts to control the seas. In addition to heavy French loss of life, Churchill said, seven of France's crack warships were sunk or badly damaged. At least 217 other French naval units have been seized in British ports since the armistice.

This naval battle occurred when the French naval commander at Oran, Algiers, Admiral Marcel Gensoul, acting under Nazi orders, chose to fight it out after a British ultimatum demanded that he either deliver his ships in British ports or scuttle them.

In the resulting battle the backbone of the French fleet was either sunk, seized or dispersed.

Two days following the naval encounter the French government notified Germany that because of the "unjustifiable aggression" by Britain's fleet, France had severed diplomatic relations with England. Thus allies of what had been termed a "never-ending" alliance came to a distinct parting of the ways.

DOMESTIC:

First Installment

It costs money—and a lot of it—to carry on a program of military preparedness and defense such as that now being undertaken by the United States, but some U. S. citizens have believed that such money would just automatically appear upon call. Such is not the case and now for the first time U. S. consumers

NAMES

... in the news

Gen. Charles De Gaulle, head of the "French national committee" in London, appealed to Frenchmen in America to help in carrying on war against Germany.

George Bernard Shaw, famous British dramatist, cracked that if he were in charge of "this war, I should ask Hitler what food he needed, so that the war might be fought out to a finish."

'Praying Colonel'



Col. Frank Knox, testifying before the Senate Naval Affairs committee as it was considering his nomination as Secretary of Navy, strikes this "praying pose" while presenting a portion of his testimony. The committee approved his nomination by a 9 to 5 vote and the military affairs committee approved the nomination of Henry L. Stimson as Secretary of War by a 13-4 vote.

POLITICS:

'People's Movement'

While old guard Republicans were pondering the strange political phenomenon that boosted Wendell Willkie to be their standard bearer in the 1940 campaign, that gentleman was busy outlining plans which he hopes will aid in carrying him to victory in November.

First step was his resignation as president of Commonwealth & Southern corporation.

Then he announced the appointment of a permanent political advisory committee of 12 members to help in the campaign. This group, headed by Gov. Harold Stassen of Minnesota, will replace no other party organization but appears to be an attempt to solidify all elements of the G. O. P. and at the same time make a bid for the nation's all-important independent vote.

At the same time Willkie declared that he wanted no campaign contributions of more than \$5,000, no individual cash gifts of more than \$10, and attempting to limit the "big business curse" as much as possible, he stated that he wanted "no corporate contributions in any guise whether they be advertising in campaign books, programs, or anything else."

The more \$1 contributions he receives, the happier he'll be, he says, for "in my judgment this is a people's movement and I want to keep it so."

Apparently the G. O. P. "oomph" man realizes that his biggest job is to keep the good graces of the grassroots public opinion that was such a vital factor in his nomination.

FAR EAST:

To Be Continued

Biggest problem facing Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek as his Chinese forces have been steadily retreating before the advance of the invading Japanese army has been the obtaining of adequate supplies—war goods and foodstuffs.

Thus when the Japanese announced that they had sealed the Chinese border with French Indo-China and that this source of supply for Kai-shek's government was definitely cut off it looked like a grave blow indeed had been struck at China's cause.

But from Chungking, provisional capital of the Chinese government, authoritative sources have announced that despite this loss, the war will be continued, for accumulated reserves will allow military operations to continue at their present pace for at least a year.

MISCELLANY:

Three Years

When Moses L. Annenberg pleaded guilty to indictment charging him with evasion of \$1,217,296 in income taxes due the federal government, the "boys in the back room" were betting plenty that the wealthy Philadelphia publisher and former operator of racing news information services on a huge profitable nationwide scale, would get off with a few sharp words and a much sharper fine. But the "railbirds" failed to reckon with U. S. District Judge James H. Wilkerson of Chicago, who, after hearing the testimony of the government and after listening to Moe's plea for "justice" sentenced him to serve three years in federal prison.

Bruckart's Washington Digest

U. S. Industry Cannot Compete With Dictators' 'Slave Labor'

Hull's Reciprocal Trade Treaties Will Be Rendered Useless as World Market Becomes Flooded by Materials Produced at Pittance Wages.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART
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Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON.—The Hitler armistice terms that were imposed upon France brings to this country, and other nations of the Western hemisphere, the stark reality that our whole business structure must undergo drastic reorganization and readjustment. It is a fact that can no longer be ignored. We are face to face with a situation that requires our government and our economic leadership to look first, last and all of the time to the preservation of an American principle.

Whether we like it or not, the terms forced down the throats of the French by Hitler and the gagging added by the fatty Mussolini have put the United States, its consuming public, its workers and its general commercial effort in a tough spot. It is a situation in which we must produce all of the things we need, and we need not plan on producing more than we need!

To present one phase, one result, of the economic destruction of France by the Hitler victory, it is necessary only to point to what has happened to the trade agreement program arranged and defended always by Secretary Cordell Hull of the department of state.

Secretary Hull, to my mind, is the most sincere and honest individual of the Roosevelt administration. He conceived and supported the trade agreement plan because he believed it was the solution to many problems arising between nations. It was, he believed, a step toward international peace because most of the international troubles start from international trade jealousies.

Hull's Trade Treaties

Are 'Washed Up'

But Mr. Hull's trade treaties are gone, washed up. They mean nothing at all now. None of the European nations that have come under Hitler influence will be able to observe them, because Hitler will di-



CORDELL HULL
'His treaties collapsed.'

rect their trade. Few, if any, of the nations elsewhere in the world can continue to observe the agreements because they must look first to self-preservation.

While I never have felt that Mr. Hull's conception of dealing with international trade was such hot stuff, I have felt always nevertheless that his ideals and his objectives were to be respected. He has fought for the principle through all of my quarter of a century in Washington. Now, one swoop of a military machine, not even within our borders, and the whole program becomes impotent and unimportant. It is a tragedy of the kind that sometimes hits ideals.

And with the Hull program out of the window, what next? At best, any statement can be only a guess. Yet, some of the facts, must be accepted as basic. One of these facts is that throughout all of the Europe, where people live under the steel boot of a dictator, workers are going to be little more than slaves for the next decade or longer. They will do the work assigned to them and they will do it at rates of pay fixed by the dictator.

Since the dictator form of rule will direct at least 80 per cent of all Europe and an equal portion of Asia, it is easy to conceive that the dictators will use the products of the labor to gain money for rebuilding and rehabilitation and for maintenance of the greatest armies the world has ever known. Those products will be sold wherever they

can be sold and they will be sold at prices below anything ever dreamed of under our system and the American standard of living.

U. S. Foreign Markets Will Be Closed

To put the question bluntly: how will the owners of our steel mills or our automobile factories or thousands of other businesses be able to compete with that kind of labor? Rates of pay in this country long have been double and triple and more above the European or Asiatic rates. Our workers continue to seek more and more of the share of production. But will the things they produce ever reach a market, except in the United States, when Germans and French and Italians and Russians and Japanese and others are working for a few cents a day? I think not.

Or take agriculture. Will American wheat or corn or fat hogs or dairy products be sold in the markets of the world at the cost of production when the workers of the dictator nations are producing the same things and being given perhaps only enough food for living?

There could be countless other illustrations offered, but these serve to illustrate the steadily closing gap through which our excess of agricultural products and manufactured commodities heretofore have been passing. I think the picture that is plainly visible now ought to compel every government official and every political party to turn thoughts to the American problem.

Hitler's Peace Terms

Are Terribly Harsh

The Hitler terms have been released only sufficiently for a conception of their terrible harshness. No one yet can tell how much of France will remain under complete control of Germany, or how much of it will become absolute German territory. We know only that, in general, all of France's sources of supplies will pass into German control, or will be managed under Hitler's Nazi program. We do not yet know whether there will be surrender of all colonial possessions, islands and the like. Yet, there is none so foolish as to believe that Hitler will overlook the opportunity of directing the production and trade of every area which may serve as a cog in the great Nazi economic machine.

Propaganda Is Used

To Make People Slaves

Some may ask why this dark outlook is emphasized and what basis there is for it, beyond the explanations already given. I think the answer is simple. The drain of war preparation that has been made upon all of those nations involved, not to mention the tremendous expenditure of men and money during actual fighting, has left each race of peoples denuded. The dictators dare not let revolutionary movements get started. The steel boot will walk across the bodies of every person who offers opposition to any order to produce food and fiber. Propaganda will be used to convince those peoples that it is their duty to their homeland. Propaganda was successful in working those people like slaves, as Hitler did, in building up the war machine.

We have seen some indication of this in Russia. The Soviet dictator has decreed an extension of working hours for all workers in Russia. The people were told merely that they will work many hours more. They have to do it, or be shot.

It may be that the new Soviet order represents a renewed war preparation on the part of the Communists. None here knows the answer. The fact remains, however, that the great horde of Russians are to be driven like plow mules into long days of harsh labor—while the cheap Communist agitators in this country foment new strikes for short hours and higher and higher pay. It is a sour situation. But it is very real, and it shows what dictators can do.

All of which seems to me to prove that there is a right important battle in the United States that we had better win. While administration folks and partisan politicians shout and create new hysteria about a military machine to defend us, I hold to the idea that we had better divide attention to defense of the nation into two phases. We had better prepare to defend within as well as without.

Speaking of Sports

Medwick Case Recalls Bygone 'Bean Ballers'

By ROBERT McSHANE
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

LARRY MacPHAIL's recent demand that the National League bar St. Louis Cardinal Pitcher Bob Bowman for his "beaning" of Joe Medwick calls to mind other tragedies and semi-tragedies which stirred the baseball world for a while.

Perhaps the outstanding case in baseball's history was that of Carl Mays, New York Yankee pitcher, in 1920. Three American league clubs tried to have him banished from baseball when he killed Ray Chapman, Cleveland infielder, with a "bean ball."

Accusations of using a "bean ball" were nothing new to Mays. For three seasons it had been said that he deliberately fired his air-splitting "submarine ball" at batters' heads to make them quit crowding the plate. But this time the charges were of a more serious nature.

The Cleveland players were up in arms. Only slightly less perturbed were their colleagues on the Tiger and Red Sox clubs who met and announced that they would refuse to bat against Mays again.

President Ban Johnson absolved Mays of intent to hit Chapman and the boycott faded away. But Mays was the object of widespread dislike during the remainder of his big league career.

'Dusting' in the Open

Two outbreaks of open "dusting" came in 1937, once when Dixie Dean, angered by the New York Giants, let fly at them repeatedly, and once when Jimmy Wilson, Phillies manager, ordered his pitchers to flatten Cub batters when the Phillies were on the short end of a 14 to 3 score. Players on neither team, however, harbored a grudge.

The career of Johnny Watwood, young White Sox player, ended on a tragic note just 10 years ago. Watwood was hit on the head by Cub fireball hurler Pat Malone during the Chicago city series in 1930. He recovered from the skull fracture, but his baseball days were ended. His batting skill had vanished.

Who's Next? Louis

Really Doesn't Care

A MORATORIUM on fights for Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis has been suggested by more than one boxing enthusiast.

Louis, who won a split decision over Arturo Godoy in their first encounter, took a little short of eight rounds to chill the Latin in their more recent bout. In so doing he eliminated the last gate attraction from the list of contenders.

Not that Godoy was a marvel of the turnstiles. Far from it. The match drew only 26,786 persons and \$149,505, the smallest gate for a



ARTURO GODOY

Louis outdoor fight in New York. But Godoy was the outstanding possibility for a title fight. He had stayed the limit with the Bomber the first time and seemed to be in excellent shape when the final bell rang. He wasn't an idol of the fans, but neither did they think he was an out-and-out bum.

Godoy was game but he was far out of his class. Rugged, courageous and strong, he is hard to discourage. He likes to rush and maul his opponent. This time Louis was set. He fought his own fight and made the South American look like he really is—a second rate fighter.

Plenty of Courage

It takes more than courage and strength to win championships. It takes even more than those two ingredients to make good contenders. Otherwise the boxing game would be cluttered with musclebound heroes.

Godoy's case is typical of today's heavyweight prospects. At least in the aspect of strength. But he, unlike many others, had courage to match the champion's. Not a few other contenders were frightened stiff before they entered the ring.



GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

Washington, D. C.
DEFENSE DANGERS

There is a grave danger of this country going completely haywire under the pressure of war. It is true that the grossest neglect of defense in our history and the most reckless impairment of our credit and industrial efficiency have left us in a most defenseless posture. Although very weak, due to these deficiencies, we have roved the world like a lamb rampant slapping down the ears of every ferocious animal in the menagerie—lions and tigers as well as jackals—until we haven't a friend on earth.

Perhaps the most cock-eyed impertinence on record is that the authors of all this incompetence and danger insist that they must be perpetuated in a third term for Mr. Roosevelt.

I am accused of constant scolding. I don't want to be a scold. I examine myself about that "in the night session." I can't think that my kind of preaching is wrong in this crisis. If I can't think it is wrong I ought not to stop it—scold or no scold.

Last Mobilization

Why do I feel so confident? Well, I sat at the center of both industrial and manpower mobilization in the first World War. It is a strange result but the fact is that, although Scharnhorst and Stein invented the German idea of the "nation in arms," to overthrow Napoleon and change the face of war, and, although the Kaiser's war was almost as complete a dictatorship as Hitler's, it was not German autocracy but American democracy that taught the world the terrible modern lesson of total war.

This is no time for perfumed niceties. The cold fact is that without the full naval, military and economic strength of this country, mobilized and organized for war the first time in the modern sense, the Germans had total victory in the bag in early 1918. Then something happened. The M. P.'s didn't win that war. American resources and organization—both economic and military—did it.

But they were masterfully organized and used by efficient and experienced men who believed, almost as a religion, in both our economic and political system. This administration is allergic to both that kind of man and belief. Hopkins, Perkins, Wallace, Morgenthau—I hate to scold them—but do I have to represent that such incompetents are fit to manage this great country against an enemy who has shown himself so scoundrelously clever in applying the very lesson that competent Americans taught him and Germany in 1918?

Concentration Camps?

The President recently suggested that it would be a good thing for members of his press conference to go to a CCC camp. Are they going to be concentration camps? For Mark Sullivan, he is reported to have told other newshawks that he had a pardon "written out in blank." Mark is frequently critical but always gentle. I wonder about my "pardon in blank." If, as and when it can be done, I shall be boiled in oil.

So should I shut up? If I do, I shall write myself down as gutless as a kippered herring and as simple as a snipe. There has been no move of this administration that to me seemed right that I have not rushed out to defend until my fan mail groaned with accusations of being a water-carrier on two shoulders.

Just now I think many of the directions in which we are going are wrong and dangerous. I would like to forget to say so and to break the too strident pace of this column by writing a piece about the "bees and the rabbits and their sweet engaging habits," but solar systems and universes are being too rapidly reoriented. If not doing so is "scolding," I intend to apologize—and do it some more.

THE SIZE OF THE JOB

It is natural for military thinking to channel itself into grooves set by precedents and examples. Soldiers don't fight all the time. In periods of peace, industrial progress and invention go on but military science comes to a full stop.

The results of any test of it in war are so deadly that soldiers, in peace, try to "keep up with their profession" and, in times like these, almost frantically. No two wars are ever quite alike. We learned some things in late 1918 that should help us now, particularly in industrial mobilization. But we also learned some things it would behoove us now to forget, particularly that our principal problem is raising men whose equipment we can somehow pick out of the air.