

## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

By Edward C. Wayne

### House and Senate Set 21-35 Age Limit In Draft Bill, Volunteer Plan Dropped; 'Total Air War' Blasts London Area; 32 Killed in Munitions Plant Explosion

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

#### DRAFT: In November

Prospects are that no American youth will be conscripted into army service until after election. Just before the house passed the draft bill by a vote of 185 to 155, and announcement to this effect was made by Representative Wadsworth (R., N. Y.) co-author of the bill.

To make sure of this, however, the house inserted an amendment,

#### THE WAR: London Battered

In the fifty-third week of the war, Nazi air power began the long-proclaimed action which it declared would end in British surrender or the destruction of the world's largest city.

Previous raids and previous bombings were as nothing. Reichsmarshal Hermann W. Goering, from a safe seat in France, personally took charge of the Luftwaffe's operations.

Gone now was raiding only of defense points and industries. Except for German propaganda sources, none challenged the announcement that purely residential areas were being subjected to devastating explosions.

Hospitals were wrecked, subways demoralized, gas mains broken and set afire. In a two-day period the British admitted 600 killed and 2,500

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#### MUNITIONS: Disaster

In what was declared to be the worst disaster in the history of the American munitions industry, 32 persons were known dead, 23 missing (also believed to have perished) and 260 persons were injured in a series of earth-shaking explosions which destroyed the Hercules Powder company's Kenil, N. J., plant.

#### EGYPT: Offensive

Italy's long awaited offensive against English forces in Egypt got under way as artillery fire rumbled up and down the Egypt-Libya border.

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Objective of the terror was to undermine the morale of the ordinary citizen. Berlin said when this was accomplished, the Churchill cabinet would fall and a new cabinet willing to deal with the Reich would take its place.

In the battered, shell-torn city, however, the first day of the raids showed no loss of determination to hold out. The king visited a slum section where bombs had ripped great craters in the street, where homes of hundreds had been torn to bits.

British fliers, reported by the German air arm to be reduced to ineffective operation, were still able to get into the air and fight. More-over they went visiting on their own. Docks at Hamburg, ports along the channel coast, in Denmark and Norway were given a treatment of aerial bombardments.

Nightly there were air raid alarms in Berlin, too. At least one bomb was dropped on the Reichstag building, seat of Hitler's rubber-stamp parliament.

## TREND

how the wind is blowing

Congress — A recess of several weeks beginning before October 1 is expected in Washington.

Vatican — All attacks on the Reich have been halted by the pope, now that hope for a quick peace are lost, in a campaign to help Catholics in the conquered areas.

Plastics — Bausch and Lomb, leading optical manufacturers, are testing a new eye-glass lens of transparent plastics.

Rayon — Japan may be dislodged as the leading rayon manufacturing country with development of a U. S. process using rayon with woolen and worsted fabrics.

Labor — Unemployment is estimated at the lowest since 1929, by an American Federation of Labor survey. Volume is set at 4,500,000. Last year it was 9,650,000. All time top was 13,270,000 in 1933. The 1929 figure was 1,864,000, but the natural growth of population has increased several million since then and therefore more people actually have jobs.

Education — The federal office of education estimates that one-fourth of the nation will be in school by October 1. The various classifications add up to 32,000,000 persons. This includes 2,000,000 adults in night or part-time schools.

#### VICHY: Battle for Empire

Hurried changes in the line-up of the Petain cabinet sent Gen. Maxime Weygand to the French African colonies. It is hoped his presence will halt the growing shift of allegiance of France's outlying colonies away from the Vichy government and toward the "Free France" committee headed by General de Galle, now in London.

General Weygand was relieved of the post of secretary of war and Gen. Charles Huntziger named in his place. General Huntziger was one of the signers of the armistice terms with Adolf Hitler.

The Petain government also ordered detention of more wartime cabinet leaders, including former Premier Edouard Daladier and Paul Reynaud, and Gen. Maurice Gamelin. All are being held in a chateau near Riom, where the "war guilt" trials are now in progress. Former Air Ministers Pierre Cot and Guy La Chambre also were ordered arrested. Both are in the United States.

Seizure of the fortunes of 15 bankers, writers and industrialists was revealed. Heading the list was a group of the leaders of the House of Rothschild, many of whom fled France ahead of Hitler. Some of the industrialists shipped millions of francs ahead of them, but all leave behind vast holdings in French railroads and factories which now become property of the state.

In New York arrived M. Henry-Haye, newly appointed ambassador

to the United States. He was met at the pier by pickets who carried signs reading "Made in Germany."

M. Henry-Haye protested in English without trace of an accent: "I wear no shirt but a white one, as white as I can keep it."

Incidentally, President Roosevelt is NOT responsible for these attacks on business. But certain senators and representatives have been showing either very poor logic, or rather contemptible politics.

As an estimated 100,000 American Legionnaires converged on Boston, Mass., for their twenty-first national convention, the war and U. S. peacetime conscription cast a serious light over the sessions. Plenty of the usual Legion merrymaking was in store too, however, with a program including a concert by Boston's famed Symphony orchestra, a gala "Cavalcade of Stars" to be shown before 40,000 at Braves field, under sponsorship of Schenley post, No. 1190, and the big parade of 400 bands, drum and bugle corps.

Among leading candidates for national commander are Ray Fields, Guthrie, Okla., and Lynn Stambaugh, Fargo, N. D.

#### Washington Digest

### Armament Manufacturers Realize Plant Expansion Carries Risks

#### Reduced Military Appropriations Would Spell Ruin; U. S. Foreign Policy Unparalleled; German War Claims Appear Unsound.

By CARTER FIELD (Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

WASHINGTON.—It is fairly simple for the government to commandeer any existing plant which it may deem necessary for the national defense program and the owners of which are unwilling to co-operate. But it is a bit difficult for the government to commandeer a plant for which the blueprints have not even been drawn.

Yet the ONLY fact behind the amazing public misconception of this whole picture of the alleged bogging down of the national defense program, which is blamed on greedy would-be war profiteers, concerns PROPOSED plants, not EXISTING plants.

And the truth even about that is that there is very little delaying on the part of concerns which the government wants to take war contracts. Dozens of big concerns are risking the shirts of their stockholders by constructing new plants for the manufacture of airplane engines, airplane propellers and whatnot without knowing what the prices will be, without knowing what profits they will be allowed, and at the risk of having stark and idle plants on their hands two or three years hence.

Right now there seems to be danger. The public is aroused to it, and is behind the appropriating of billions for national defense. War rages in Europe, and there is eager demand for all sorts of war supplies. But who can tell what the picture will be even next summer, much less three years from now?

Disarmament might follow peace in Europe. For example, there might be not only peace, but the sort of disarmament agreement for which the statesmen of the early 1920's were striving, a situation in which no nation would build another fighting ship or fighting plane, a tank or a big gun, for a considerable period of years.

At the moment this seems far-fetched, but consider the arguments which those who will be advocating this course will have, should there be peace a couple of years from now. Every nation in the world will be so deeply in debt that there will be serious doubt that they can ever pay the interest on it! A moment's thought about the present British debt and the rate at which it is being increased will show that this is not a totally impossible picture.

Taxation will be grinding, not only in Europe, but in the United States, whether we get into the war or not. For we are rapidly reaching a total of debt which will require heavy taxation merely to pay the government's annual interest bill.

Expansion of plants requires real nerve.

So beyond any question, when peace does come, there is going to be a tremendous demand on the part of the taxpayers to cut down on military appropriations, if this can be done safely, and it will appeal to a number of statesmen then, as it did in 1921, to bring about disarmament by treaties.

Boiled down, that is why manufacturers OUGHT to be worried about amortization. And that is why the public should really be appreciating the nerve of those companies which are building new plants because the government wants them to do it, without waiting to find out about profits, and whether the tax collectors will leave them anything with which to pay for the new plants. Put another way, without knowing whether they will ever get back 10 cents on the dollar of their new investments.

Incidentally, President Roosevelt is NOT responsible for these attacks on business. But certain senators and representatives have been showing either very poor logic, or rather contemptible politics.

U. S. Foreign Policy is Unique in History

There may be some parallel in history for the course now being followed by the United States government, and the open expressions of so many nonofficial American speakers, and editors, but researchers seem unable to find it.

For example, the various moves which have been made in defiance of neutrality, moves which very obviously have the approval of a considerable majority—some of the polls estimate it as more than 60 per cent—of the American people,

and yet which run absolutely counter to the supposed desire of a very large majority of the people to keep out of war.

Putting it bluntly, and undiplomatically, it would appear that nothing this country may do is likely either to get it into the war or keep it out. That decision, it would appear from all the known facts, will be made for us, not by us. It will be made by Adolf Hitler.

To put it another way, this country has already done so many things obviously hostile to Germany, and designed to aid her enemies, that if there were any purpose to be served, Hitler might feel himself justified in declaring war against the United States.

On the other hand, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg never did the slightest thing to irritate the Germans, yet they were crushed without warning and in violation of the most solemn treaty promises.

So it would seem that Hitler decides what countries he will fight. The other countries either fight or do not fight, as he determines.

Unneutral Acts Have Approval of Majority

All of which would seem to make the arguments of the isolationists rather technical. We are committing acts which in other times would be branded as acts of war. For example, the original idea of a "neutrality patrol," which justified the recommissioning of the World War destroyers. For example, the repeal of the arms embargo while a war was actually in progress. For example, the more recent virtual alliance with Canada, which is at war with Germany.

And this is topped off with the delivery to the British of the 50 destroyers, with guns and ammunition aboard, which has long been predicted in these dispatches. Consider also the fact that a joint British and American committee will select the precise sites for the new military and air bases in British possessions!

And all this in the midst of a presidential campaign, with the candidates of both major parties actually approving the results accomplished—even if the opposition objects to the manner in which they are done—and with minorities in both parties very unhappy, but unable politically to do anything.

German War Claims Require Discounting

Nearly every news commentator is constantly telling the public that there is no way of being sure what is happening in Europe behind the veil of censorship. Naturally there is no denying the truth of this frequently repeated statement, but there are certain things which simply MUST be so.

The main point is, as this is written, that the Nazis have not yet conquered Britain. No censorship could hide that, if it were already an accomplished fact.

It is a matter of simple arithmetic, now that so much time has elapsed since the heavy air fighting over Britain began, that the German claims simply could not have been anything like accurate because their exaggeration is obvious.

This does not mean that the British are winning. Certainly the British censorship prevents our getting an accurate picture of that. For example, it may well be that the Nazi bombing of Britain is succeeding in destroying British airplanes and munitions works. We do not know. We only know that the British contend that so far the bombings have not accomplished anything in slowing down the British war production.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the house of commons several weeks ago that British airplane production, plus what they were bringing in, was now equal to German airplane production. He did not deny that the Germans still had great superiority in number of fighting and bombing planes, but predicted that this superiority would decline from then on.

This of course will depend on several factors. One is whether the German raiders are able to destroy British airplane plants. Another is whether submarines, mines and German planes can curb British imports of airplanes.

As long as the British can keep on fighting in the air, it is obvious that the Germans are not accomplishing their real objective.

## SPEAKING OF SPORTS

By ROBERT McSHANE

(Released by Western Newspaper Union)

SLAMMIN' SAMMY SNEAD, the luckless pro from White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., won a lot of new friends recently when he lost the Professional Golfers' association championship to Byron Nelson.

It wasn't that Sam lost the tournament. Fans are quite accustomed to that. It was the way in which he lost it.

Snead has been accused of a lot of things. The most popular accusation being that he is a front runner—that he can't come up from behind to win tournaments, or at least to make a good showing. In the P. G. A. tournament at Hershey, Pa., he gave the lie to that charge, even though he failed to win first money.

#### Snead's Putter Cold

Some measure of Sam's courageous fight can be gleaned from the fact that he was as much as 3 down to Nelson during the morning round of the 36-hole final match. He didn't square the match until the thirtieth and went ahead for the first time on the thirty-second. Through all of this, he had the edge in tee and fairway play. Nelson had been



SAM SNEAD

hooking most of the day. But at least six of Snead's putts either ringed or hopped out of the cups.

Nelson's comeback on the thirty-third was fought off with Snead's stymie. Then came Nelson's turn. He made three successive iron shots that spectators will talk about all winter. He fired a No. 7 iron four feet from the thirty-fourth flag for a birdie, blasted a pickshot shot to within six feet of the thirty-fifth cup, and laid a No. 3 iron six feet above the cup at the 190-yard thirty-sixth. His putt hung on the lip, but all he needed was a par three to match Snead and end the tournament.

But it was one tournament that Snead was not ashamed to lose. He didn't blow. He merely ran up against a competitor who was playing inspired golf.

#### Greatest of Stylists

Snead is as much of an enigma as any modern player. Almost every golfer among the elite will tell you that he has the finest all-around swing golf has yet seen.

Sam can get tremendous distances with less effort than any other of today's kingpins. His great distance is featured by fine direction. His hands, arms and body synchronize into a smooth, fluid motion which gets amazing results.

Yet Snead has never won a National Open or a P. G. A. tournament. A championship jinx seems to dog his footsteps when he is in sight of one of golf's major crowns. It is difficult to ascribe his failure to any one reason, but Francis Ouimet, the old master, thinks he has the reason.

#### Concentration the Answer?

That reason, according to Ouimet, is lack of concentration. "Winning concentration is the hardest thing in golf. It isn't difficult to concentrate on a few shots. But to think of nothing except the right thing to do, shot after shot, hole after hole, round after round, is the most difficult assignment in all sports. Concentration is much simpler in games of action, such as baseball, football, tennis and polo."

Snead can't be blamed if he is still wondering how he lost the Hershey meet. The West Virginia slinger had dropped a lot of big tournaments before by folding up at critical moments, but this time it was different.

Sammy threw a final round of 65—5 under par—at Nelson, and it didn't do him any good. Said Sam sadly: "I don't know what I have to do to crash in there. I guess I'll just never win a big one."

A lot of people would argue that last remark, for Snead proved in that final 36-hole match that he is championship material.



## GENERAL JOHNSON SAYS

CAMPAIGN WEAKNESSES WASHINGTON.—You certainly have to hand it to the old master in the White House for his ability to keep the show going all by himself and to conduct a brilliant political campaign without even seeming to know that one is going on.

He is doing it in scintillating fashion. He is getting away with it. He isn't even being seriously challenged by what should be his opposition. Maybe Mr. Willkie is just winding up, but he is taking a palatial long time about it.

Public enthusiasm is a fictitious jade. Mr. Willkie's performance in taking the nomination away from the professionals at Philadelphia was as spectacular a show as Mr. Roosevelt's getting the naval and air bases. It captivated the country, but, as the President knows so well, a popular figure has got to keep the glass balls dancing.

Mr. Willkie, himself, apparently relies more on Orrin Root's amateur Willkie clubs than on the Republican party organizations in the several states. That is a mistake that Mr. Roosevelt never made. He had all kinds of amateur clubs, too. Businessmen's Roosevelt for President clubs, the Good Neighbor league and as many others as could be thrown together.

These don't have to putter around depending on emergency organization and manufactured enthusiasm. They depend on dough and, Hatch act or no Hatch act, money still talks. Mr. Roosevelt has 10 billions to spend. Yet, with all that intricate pattern of decentralized regional organization, Mr. Roosevelt never neglected the good old Democratic political organization. On the contrary, he relied on it, reworked it, reorganized it, and built it up to a greater strength and on a wider range than any Democratic organization had ever known before. Mr. Willkie may have been nominated in spite of the professionals, but he certainly cannot be elected without them.

He can't be elected without making election issues either. The ammunition is there by the ton—cannon bursting with it. But no shell is worth its cost without a gun to shoot it. I always thought the President was wrong in condemning "Yes-But" men in off-term debate of issues but you can't get anywhere in a political campaign if all you have learned to say is "Yes-But." You have got to learn to say "No Sir!" and make it emphatic and convincing enough to be heard and carry conviction.

I didn't expect that any candidate or any party would ever again make the terrific blunders of the Alf Landon campaign, but so far this Republican campaign looks enough like it to be its twin.

The high command of both the political armies appear reasonably confident and tranquil, but the great general staff of each is in a dither. For the Democrats, the loss of Jim Farley on the eve of the battle of the third term was some such catastrophe as would be the loss of Hitler to the Nazis before a decision in the Battle of Britain. Mr. Flynn, make no mistake about it, is a very able man with a better basic brain, I think, than his great predecessor.

But Mr. Flynn's field command has been restricted to the Battle of the Bronx and this great American terrain is a very different matter. Even on his own ground, Mr. Flynn will have to wait until the great boss—buster, Tom Dewey, gets through with him.

Mr. Flynn's Bronx empire was just a little imitation, competition Tammany. I don't know what bones are buried in that realm—but maybe Mr. Dewey does.

On the Republican side, campaign manager Joe Martin is as active as a night prowling tom-cat on a tin roof dodging missiles and talking back, but that is in congress—not the campaign. The purely political general staff is therefore, leaderless and accordingly disorganized. There isn't even a speech-factory.

There is no strategy board of elder statesmen—or rather, seasoned politicians. Mr. Willkie fascinates everybody who sees him or hears him talk extemporaneously either on a chair or platform, but there are 120,000,000 people in this country and he can't see them all.

There is the radio, but he is not coached to click there and in spite of the wailing of several such speech experts as Haines Falconer that he has a natural equipment with which he could promptly be made the greatest radio orator of our time, a combination of diffidence and rugged individualism prevents that. A great opportunity seems to be trembling in the balance.