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WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

By Edward C. Wayne

Defense Funds Constitute Largest Item In 17 1/2 Billion Dollar National Budget; Blockade on Food for France Is Lifted; British Win New Victories Over Italians

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

FIRM WORDS:

President Speaks

President Roosevelt spoke to the new congress. There were no weasel words. The President was grave. His speech was frank, and fighting. He said he would call on congress to give authority to provide "billions of dollars" worth of weapons needed by the embattled democracies of the world. He warned appeasers and subversive elements that the government would use its sovereignty to save the government. He admitted that the defense effort is lagging in some quarters and demanded sacrifices from business, labor and agriculture.

England has been criticized at home and abroad for not making earlier a statement of its war aims. President Roosevelt covered this detail as far as the American effort goes. He said America was seeking to protect the fundamentals on which this government was founded—free speech, a free press, the right to worship as a person's conscience dictates; and, lastly "freedom from want and freedom from fear."

The President made no light matter of the danger. He said secret troops of the dictators already are among us. He said as long as the aggressor nations maintain the initiative, America is not safe. He declared whatever stands in the way of speed must give way to the national security.

It was the most unique message ever delivered to a new congress. Usually President's messages to new bodies go into lengthy and detailed recitals on a multitudinous amount of administrative complexities. This message dwelt on one subject—defense and speed in defense.

Two days later came the President's new budget message. It called for a total expenditure of \$17,485,526,049 during the 1942 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1941. This is the highest budget in history except the war year 1918-19. Over 10 billions of this amount is to be used for U. S. defense spending. The balance of non-defense spending came to well over six billions, a little less than this year.

More taxes will be needed, said the President's message, to pay



SENATOR ALVA B. ADAMS of Colorado is pictured here trying to "balance the budget," which was read by clerks before the House and Senate. A member of the Senate appropriations committee, Senator Adams has a direct interest in 17 1/2 billion dollar document.

these bills. The public debt will pass the \$49,000,000,000 limit by June 30 this year, and the President suggested removal of the debt limit.

Almost \$2,000,000,000 was included to maintain agricultural aid at present level. The WPA item was cut to \$995,000,000, a drop of \$400,000,000 from this year.

PROPAGANDA:

New Style

Before France fell, the civil population was lulled into a false sense of security by assurances of the invincibility of the Maginot line. When Germans cracked the lines, the whole French nation went jittery and fled—from anywhere to anywhere. They believed all had been lost, and in the resulting confusion all was lost.

European propaganda staffs, quick to sense public reactions, took a lesson. The British immediately began giving their people the ugly facts. People's minds were "conditioned" to expect the worst. When what happened wasn't half as bad as expected, public morale rose.

When Australian troops battered their way into Bardia, Italian Libya, and took the first fortified town captured by British troops in the war,

New Commander



Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, by direction of the President, has announced that Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel (above), has been appointed commander-in-chief of the entire United States navy and personal commander of the Pacific fleet.

Boys From Down Under

Conversely there was no celebration in England, although the British figuratively lifted their hats in appreciation to the Anzacs who fought amid heat and sand in Egypt. Anzacs are Australian and New



When the British forces entered Bardia after routing the Italian stronghold, Air Gunner H. T. Brundidge, 25, (above), was the lone American in their ranks. He holds a civilian pilot's license and has been recommended for an Air Force commission.

Zealand troops who came half way round the world to answer England's call, just as their fathers had done in the World War. Officially they are members of the Australian and New Zealand army corps.

The Anzacs are one of the oddest armies in the world, knowing little of the discipline quirks that govern many other bodies of troops. The Anzacs do not salute the officers of their own army, and certainly not the officers of any other, including the British. Colonels are likely to be called by their first names even when addressed by privates; captains and sergeants mingle with the utmost freedom. All troops eat at the same table and wear the same uniform, the only difference being insignia of rank.

But any World War veteran will tell you that the Anzacs are one of the tightest bunch of men ever to raise a gun.

For 20 days they had to stand outside the gates of Bardia, waiting the word to attack, and growing more impatient by the hour. When the signal came the city fell in less than 48 hours.

FOOD FOR EUROPE:

Britain Relents

American governmental pressure upon London has brought a change in blockade policy and will result in some food shipments being made to Spain, unoccupied France and Finland.

U. S. authorities have been negotiating with the British for months to obtain a reversal of the order. The British were afraid that any food reaching Europe soon would be in the hands of the Germans, whom they accuse of stripping occupied territory so as to increase rations at home. The story told in France was repeated to American diplomats. In France, it is said, there is a German waiting every time a chicken lays an egg.

Besides, it was pointed out to the U. S. agents, that it is the duty of the conquering nation to feed the conquered, and it was recalled that American and British sacrifices were necessary after the Armistice in 1918 in order to get food into Germany, both occupied and unoccupied territory.

But American pressure continued, and London unwilling to be stubborn with the nation to whom it is looking to supply much of its munitions, finally relented.

SEA WOLVES:

History Repeats

The German quota of three British ships sunk daily was raised to five as a sea raider appeared in the Pacific to war on the British trade lines. Prisoners taken by the raider and later released said the captain of the German ship is Count Felix von Luckner. Count Von Luckner led the British a merry chase in 1916. Then he was supplied with an old sailing vessel by the German navy, ran the blockade and left behind him a trail of sinking ships from the west coast of Ireland to the South Seas.

After the war, Count Von Luckner came to the United States. He lectured to audiences that were dazzled with his good-natured rillery. He leased a sailing ship and took the sons of wealthy parents on summer cruises for large fees. He expressed disgust with the Nazi government.

But the count's present audiences are not being dazzled. They say he sank their ships without warning, killing women and children, that he huddled what prisoners he took in evil quarters with little food. Ever the gallant, however, he gave them a complaint book in which they entered all the complaints they wished to make about the ship. He promised them the book would be for his personal attention. But there was no indication he bothered after reading the complaints.

Meanwhile, there was a hint that American vessels might soon take over the Pacific trade routes and release British vessels there for the more vital Atlantic runs, in areas closed to American ships under the neutrality act. The idea was discussed at the outbreak of the war. Washington sources say the British vetoed it. London sources say the proposal never got an answer from American ships.

NEW DRAFT:

Legion Plan

When next fall rolls around, it has generally been expected President Roosevelt will call for a new enrollment in the selective draft. The idea behind this is to take care of those who have attained their twenty-first birthday since October, 1940, and to exempt those who have passed their thirty-sixth birthday. The new enrollment would call for new drawing of numbers which might see some lifted to top positions who now are far down the list.

The American Legion has come forward with a new plan. It calls for enrollment in a new selective draft only of youths between the ages of 18 and 21. Moreover it would be a permanent arrangement, not like the present law which is operative only during the present threatening emergency. It would call for compulsory military training of the nation's youth as a matter of regular national policy.

MISCELLANY:

Death pursued four navy air corps members. They with three others, including two officers, were riding in an amphibian plane in Texas when caught in a storm. The pilot, to lighten his load, ordered the five enlisted men to parachute to earth. Four landed safely, one tore loose from his chute and fell to his death. A naval court of inquiry was ordered to fly to the scene near Big Spring, Texas, for an investigation. After the official proceedings the court flew toward San Diego, Calif., with the four enlisted men in the plane. In a lonely California canyon the plane crashed. Eleven were killed, including the four who had survived the adventure in the other plane.

Washington Digest

Secretary of Agriculture Is Experienced Farmer

Progressive Farming Methods Won Him Medals; War Causes 'Class Feeling' to Decline in England.

By BAUKHAGE

National Farm and Home Hour Commentator.

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

WASHINGTON. — Rough-hewn seems to be the word I'm after. I sat in the office of the secretary of agriculture, a big empty-looking room, and thought of a new axe biting into a log. Chips were flying. Then, there was the cut, clean and fresh. Then another. And another. Not smooth, machine edge, such as a new saw makes with the regular lines the teeth leave across the surface. But a good straight job, the mark of each blow, surely placed, across the grain, clear through.

That's what I was thinking about as I talked with Claude Wickard, a big round-faced, homely fellow, a little awkward behind the mahogany desk but not awkward, I felt sure, standing up in a farm wagon, reins in his hands, confident and solid, his feet apart as the wheels bumped over the field.

Not so much at home but sure of what he was after behind the desk, the way he was that night when he called the meeting in the little Indiana schoolhouse, a kerosene lamp that hadn't been cleaned for a long time sputtering beside him, 14 or 20 farmers sitting in front of him as he organized the first Farm Bureau meeting in his community—the first one he ever attended, too.

COMES TO WASHINGTON

That scene, as he described it, stuck in my mind because it seemed to be the turning point in his career, or perhaps the first milestone on the road that at last took him reluctantly away from the acres that had been in the Wickard family since the 1840s and brought him



CLAUDE WICKARD Rough-hewn is the word.

down to Washington—into the government where he has been trying to put into practice the ideas he thought would be good for other farmers and other acres from Maine to California.

Claude Wickard first came to the capital in 1933 to become assistant and later chief of the corn-hog section of the Triple-A. He was made secretary of the department of agriculture last August when Secretary Wallace resigned to run for vice president. But his heart is still back in Carroll county, Indiana, where his 71-year-old father and two men are running his farm.

Corn and hogs were on Secretary Wickard's mind when I talked to him the other day, and it was corn and hogs that brought him to Washington in the beginning by way of Des Moines, Iowa, but it really goes back further than that. The schoolhouse meeting, I spoke of, was the milestone, but the day he told his father he was going to college was really the beginning. In those days—and it isn't so long ago because Wickard is only 47—a lot of farmers thought that all a boy would get in college was a lot of darn-fool ideas.

Only one of the Wickard's neighbors had been to college, but Purdue university was only 30 miles away and the idea percolated. Young Claude went and when he was graduated (agricultural course, of course) in 1915 he was ready to take over the farm. Twelve years later the Prairie Farmer named him as a Master Farmer of Indiana. That was the only thing he boasted about in the half-hour conversation I had with him.

WINS STATE MEDALS

Soil building brought him state medals later for success in increasing crop-yields and hog production. It also got him a request from the State Farm Bureau organization to get busy and organize a unit in his community. There wasn't any farm organization in his county then. He was supposed to go to the county seat and learn how to do it but he was too busy with his chores to get away so he just called a meeting in the schoolhouse and told his neighbors what he thought ought to be done.

"I guess I sort of overstated what we could do," he said to me as he repeated the anecdote, "some of the fellows asked me afterward where all the reforms I talked about went to." He smiled that wide smile of his. Some of these ideas worked out. And the Master Farmer, in 1932, was chosen by the three rural counties that were his district to go to the state senate. The next year he was chosen Indiana delegate to the National Corn Hog conference at Des Moines. All this time the farm was his chief preoccupation, was then as it still is, his only source of income besides his salary.

OFFERED POSITION

The conference had hardly started when A. G. Black, whose room was on the same floor of the hotel as Wickard's, buttonholed him. Black was then head of the Corn Hog section of the Triple A. He wanted an assistant and he wanted Wickard for the job and wanted him right away. It seemed a pretty important offer, but it also seemed impossible. You can't lock up a farm like a city flat and walk off with the key in your pocket. But Black was persistent and after a mental and physical struggle, the Master Farmer mastered the situation, and with many a backward look set off for Washington.

He managed to keep in pretty close touch with Carroll County while he was Corn Hog boss, but now it's harder because a secretary of agriculture is kept very busy.

And right now Secretary Wickard wants to see more hogs—all over the country—than there are. He's worried about the pig crop report we've heard so much about lately and the last word he had to say to me, while a secretary was pulling his sleeve for his next appointment, was on this subject:

"People don't understand what I'm after," he said as I rose to go, "when I say the farmers ought to hold back some of their breed sows and gilts now because pork is going to be higher later on. I had quite a time with three cabinet ladies. (He chuckled.) They thought all I was worrying about was the price of pork chops. What we want to do is to try to take the peaks and valleys out of farm prices and if the farmers save some of their hogs for breeding now, they'll get more money for them later and it will tend to keep the price level stabilized."

That's Wickard all over—the practical farmer who has learned to think.

ENGLISH FARMERS

WORK UNDER FIRE

"I farm in Wiltshire myself," said Anthony Hurd, a British farmer, telling about conditions in England while the bombs were dropping, "500 acres, and we average 45 bushels of wheat to the acre. In the 14 years I've been farming there has never been an easier harvest."

Farming has been revolutionized in England. In the first place, like it or not, class feeling separated England into groups. The farmers (not the "gentry" were a proud folk, but still not of the "upper classes") have taken a new role in English life. They were given a big job, the outworking of that job is going to help kill the class system. Listen to my Wiltshire friend again: "We were asked particularly to get another 2,000,000 acres under the plow in the United Kingdom and convert that amount of permanent grassland into crops of wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and so on, which yield much more food per acre. That has been done. We have produced a big extra tonnage of cereals, particularly oats and barley—possibly as much as 1,000,000 tons extra—more potatoes than usual, and more roots and fodder crops for dairy cows and other live stock."

Speaking of SPORTS

By ROBERT McSHANE
Released by Western Newspaper Union

TOGETHER with a few million other individuals, we're going to request a few favors from that diminutive, under-dressed cherub who represents the spirit of 1941.

To begin with, we want a worthy contender for the heavyweight boxing crown. Stumblebums won't do. Our man must have worked himself up the hard way—by eliminating the best fighters in the heavyweight division.

Remember Clark

Please give Clark Shaughnessy another winning football team. He deserves it. Remember Clark Shaughnessy



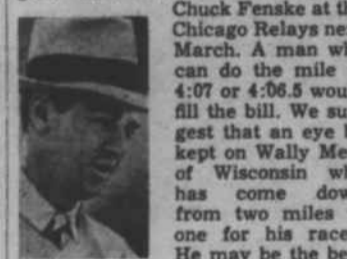
Clark Shaughnessy

of Chicago team in 1939? They lost to Harvard, 61-0; to Michigan, 85-0; and to Ohio State, 61-0. Those scores were typical. The Maroons didn't as much as score against Big Ten competition. As a climax to that horrible season, President Hutchins ruled football out of Chicago university, leaving Shaughnessy without a team. Then Clark got a job coaching at Stanford university. The Stanford team he was to coach in 1940 didn't win a single one of its eight starts in 1939. In but one year Shaughnessy wrote football drama that would shame the wildest fiction writer. His Stanford team won every game in 1940—with the same players that experienced such a disastrous season the previous year. He took the T-formation and made it work as it never worked before. His was the year's greatest comeback. He deserves another good year.

Then, too, millions of golf fans would be quite happy to see Slammin' Sammy Snead win the United States Open Golf championship. He is one of the finest players in the game today and should round into form during the coming year. But if Sammy doesn't win the Open, we'd be almost as happy to see some fine veteran like Craig Wood or Harry Cooper win it.

We'd be very grateful for another close pennant race in the American league. If the Yankees come back to win this year, which wouldn't be too surprising, please make them fight for every game.

Right now the country needs a good mile runner to run against



Sam Snead

Chuck Fenske at the Chicago Relays next March. A man who can do the mile in 4:07 or 4:06.5 would fill the bill. We suggest that an eye be kept on Wally Mehl of Wisconsin who has come down from two miles to one for his races. He may be the best of all before he's through. Mehl believes that in 1941 or 1942 he will achieve that shining goal of the middle distances—a 4-minute mile. The fastest mile ever recorded was 4:04 by Glenn Cunningham.

This is a long-range request, but the nation would like to have a new Tom Harmon available for next fall.

Who's Champ?

Boxing fans everywhere would be pleased if the various athletic commissions and fight associations would agree on rankings. For instance, the National Boxing association recognizes Tony Zale as the champion of the 160 pound division while the New York Athletic commission bestows its title blessing on Ken Overlin. Lew Jenkins is the acknowledged lightweight champ in New York and in his home state of Texas. However, Sammy Angott is the recognized claimant in N.B.A. territory.

All in all, we'd like a year quite similar to the one just ended. It was a year full of upsets and surprises. No one could foresee the Yankees in third place. The Chicago Bears' 73 to 0 win over the Washington Redskins, for the National League pro football title came as a stunning upset. Ohio State's poor football season was unexpected. Willie Hoppe's clean sweep of the three-cushion billiard tournament came under the heading of minor miracles. The surprises in the 1940 realm of sports are far too numerous to list.

That's why we think Master 1941 can't go wrong if he manages to duplicate last year's bill of fare on the sports menu.



GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

Washington, D. C.

'OPPOSITION' THINKING

A favorite lawyer's trick is to give his own version of what his worthy opponent "thinks" and then tear his self-constructed straw man to pieces. That is being done daily in the current debate on foreign policy. Those opposing our rapid approach to a virtual war alliance with Great Britain, are said to "think" that no combination of powers will ever attack us and, no matter who wins, we can do business with them, so why risk offending Hitler and provoking him to fight us. What duck soup that is to argue down.

These truths are self evident: that it is our great interest to see Britain win; that the hateful destruction of England embitters every American heart; that force rather than honor and good will now rule the world and that we hate that as we hate Hitler who has been foremost in advancing that hellish condition; that we are in great danger and that our only course is swift preparation for invincible defense; that we are not so defended now and that the preparation is lagging shamefully. Any advocate of what is rushing us to a war alliance—who denies the sincerity of these opinions of others as a basis for his argument, is obscuring the real issue—the dreadful question of peace or war for America.

There can be only one question in the troubled heart of every true American—what is it best for us to do to safeguard the present and the future of our own country? Is it best to engage now in a two ocean war with a one ocean navy? Is it best for us to send, or threaten to send, our armed forces to seize the Azores, the Irish harbors, the tip of West Africa and Singapore—to plunge into warlike operations all the way from the Straits of Dover to the Straits of Malacca and, conceivably even further—through the Mediterranean and Red seas to Greece, Egypt, the Dardanelles, Calcutta and Colombo?

Short of this, is it best to take the interpediate step leading straight and inevitably to this course by putting our overseas shipments into American bottoms and, with a convoy of cruisers, attempt to buck the line of a legitimate blockade? Is it best now to undertake to finance another nation in a new world war, when we are already staggering under a mountainous burden of debt and confronting a near necessity of doubling it as a necessity in our own defense?

These are real and basic issues and not at all the ill-considered or emotional conscious or deliberate obstruction of them by attacking the patriotic integrity or plain sanity of the people who raise them.

Furthermore, let this be faced: If our defense is so wholly dependent on Great Britain as we are now told

—if she is now fighting our decisive battle which, if lost, loses our freedom—then the course advocated by those who say we should contribute unlimited material resources, but no blood, without regard to any of the considerations raised here—if these things we are told are true—then that advocated course is the most futile and pusillanimous ever followed by an honorable nation. If they are true, we should have been in this war a year ago with everything we have. Surely there is a question of truth here that deserves debate. The whole of our future is at stake on the wisdom of our answer.

OVERNIGHT OFFICERS

The army is not making the best use of its trained officer personnel.

The war department quite properly and necessarily encourage tens of thousands of civilians to take appointments as reserve officers. Naturally, some of them were rank amateurs as soldiers and the bulk of them held lieutenant's commissions. Now we are calling thousands of them to active duty. When they join for duty with troops they have to earn their advancement, but when they come in on staff assignments, it is becoming a very different matter.

A little personality plus, sometimes, a political drag, works for many of these neophytes what many years of service don't work for a regular. New captains, majors and lieutenant-colonels are being created out of reserve subalterns who haven't a year of active duty.

At the same time, men with complete military experience and education, who have resigned or retired or are World War veterans returned to civil life, get a deaf ear when they volunteer to be recommissioned and recalled to active duty.