

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER

Vol. LXVII

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1941

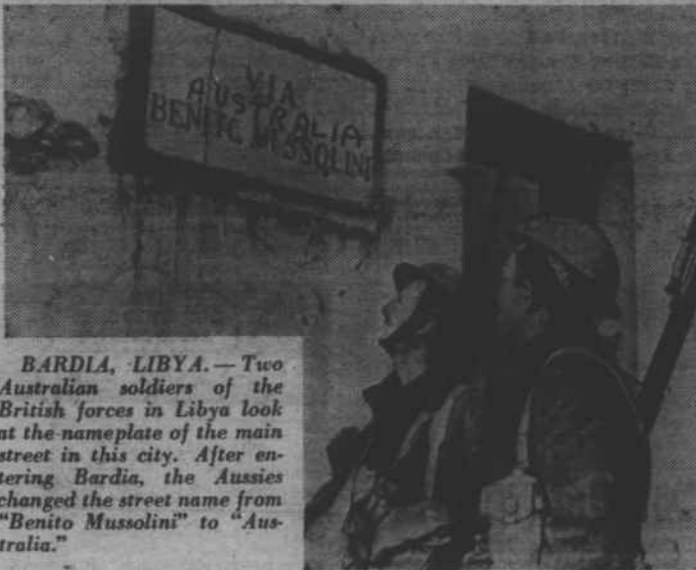
No. 2

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

By Edward C. Wayne

## Washington Experts See War Crisis In Europe and Asia Within 90 Days As Hitler 'Promises' German Victory; U. S. and Ford Clash on Labor Policy

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.)



**BARDIA, LIBYA.**—Two Australian soldiers of the British forces in Libya look at the nameplate of the main street in this city. After entering Bardia, the Aussies changed the street name from "Benito Mussolini" to "Australia."

### 60 TO 90 DAYS: Crisis Will Come

In Washington, where bets can be obtained on almost anything, the odds are 55 to 45 that the United States will be at war with Japan within 60 to 90 days. Peace is on the short end.

The view is shared by competent observers. Whether there will be actual armed conflict probably will depend on what happens during this period. The predictions are being made not by goosebone prophets but on careful analysis of political, military, geographical and economic factors.

Those most apprehensive in the capital are concerned with adoption of the lend-lease bill which would give President Roosevelt full powers to place the nation on an all-out war footing. They believe Japan is a full partner of the Axis and will act on orders from Berlin.

They believe that within 60 to 90 days Hitler will order the full force of his powerful attack left loose on Britain and they are doubtful of the outcome. They fear the United States will be faced with an enemy on the Atlantic and the Pacific at the same time.

For America the chief immediate political factor is the tripartite pact among Japan, Germany and Italy, signed last September. The pact provides for co-operative action if either of the others is involved in a war. These officials believe the treaty is an outright offensive alliance aimed at the U. S., just as Nazi spokesmen said at the time.

In Tokyo those immediately concerned are seeking full powers for the cabinet headed by Premier Prince Fumimaro Konoye, who is pledged to the "new world order."

In both countries it is the apparent desire on the part of leaders to prepare public opinion for the worst so that there will be no outcry which would force modification of the programs.

### Crisis Year

President Roosevelt's birthday is a holiday in Germany, but not for the same reason. In Germany it is celebrated as the birthday of the Nazi acquisition of power. Annually Hitler makes a speech. This year was no exception.

But his speech bade the German people to mark the year 1941 as an exception. He promised it would be the victory year. He said the attack on Britain was near, that it would come without fail in spring, and he warned that no aid from the United States would be permitted to reach England.

Every ship carrying help to Britain, he said, would be torpedoed, no matter what its ownership, no matter if it was convoyed or not.

Also in the theater of war: The British continued to make headway in Libya, besieging Benghazi, the last main port held by the Italians and threatening to extend their lines to the border of French Tunisia.

In East Africa they also battered their way into Eritrea. The Italians retreated in trucks. An Italian army of 100,000 there was said to be in a bad way.

German Big Berthas were firing from the French channel ports into England. Whereas before the projectile toppled into the Dover area, now they were reported to reach 10 miles inland.

### WAR CONFIRMED: Senators Hear Report

When Wendell Willkie decided to go to England to "see for himself" the progress of the war, there was sarcasm in some sources. It was said the G.O.P. nominee intended to "confirm the rumors of war in Europe."

Willkie went, he saw and hurried home. Hardly had he arrived in London when an announcement was made that he would reduce the length of his stay in order to report home sooner. Even after that, another 48 hours was cut from the schedule at the request of State Secretary Hull who asked him to testify before the senate committee considering the lend-lease bill. Willkie's speed on the journey over and back seems almost a rebuke to the isolationists who have emphasized how far away England really is.

But there was more sarcasm for Willkie's trip. It came now from Republican sources. The national convention of Young Republicans, meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, heard a resolution which condemned the party leader for his support of the bill. The resolution was not passed. It met with displeasure at the hands of many G.O.P. stalwarts who believed Willkie's position in support of the administration policy should not be criticized at this time.

A few days earlier, in fact, the Pennsylvania state Republican committee itself went on record as favoring the aims of the lend-lease bill and requesting the state's Republican congressmen to vote for it. Some G.O.P. newspapers, however, were not pleased. One declared Willkie, by supporting the Roosevelt foreign policy, was a "Quisling" to the Republicans.

In both countries it is the apparent desire on the part of leaders to prepare public opinion for the worst so that there will be no outcry which would force modification of the programs.

### CRACKDOWN: For Defense

The war department announced award to the Fargo Motor company of Detroit of a \$10,288,128 contract for trucks. At the same time it let it be known that the Ford Motor company was low bidder but that their estimate was thrown out because Ford refused to agree to labor policy restrictions. The specifications of the contract called for observance of the labor policy statement adopted by the defense commission last fall. Through this part of the specification the Ford had drawn a line in red ink, blocking it out.

The refusal of Ford to observe the provisions of the bidding is not the first difference between the company and the government, nor is it the first business the firm has lost. The automobile manufacturer held out against the NRA, and the government stopped buying Ford cars. In Pennsylvania the state also cancelled an order then for several million dollars. Last fall Ford refused to accept a defense commission contract for airplane engines because the material was scheduled to be shared with Great Britain.

Supporters of the most recent action within the government declared that it was wrong to award defense contracts to a manufacturer who has been held guilty of Wagner act violations.

A Ford spokesman asserted that while the manufacturer would refuse to make defense material requiring compliance with the law, he was willing to make any material possible without any profit to him.

### Land of Liberty?



**NEW YORK.**—Nine-year-old Michael Storrle of England, gazing at the Statue of Liberty, when he was taken to Ellis Island for an immigration hearing. When he arrived in the U. S. recently, it was found he did not have his visa to enter. His father may have forgotten the precious document when the boy sailed from Lisbon.

### PEACE: It's Wonderful

Japan long has eyed the rich area of Indo-China and the port of Saigon, through which is exported 80 per cent of Indo-China's rice, fish, salt and timber. Last September Siam (Thailand) which is known as a "client state" of Japan, suddenly declared war on the French who control Indo-China. The French, occupied elsewhere, were forced to fight only an feeble campaign.

Now Japan has stepped in as a "mediator." "A Japanese flotilla sailed into Saigon and ordered mediation end the conflict. Seven Japanese diplomats called representatives of the two powers to the warship and ordered "peace." Japan claimed the right as the protector of the "new order" in the Far East.

But Japan revealed she was not interested in peace alone. As payment for bringing peace, Japan demanded that 80 per cent of each year's crop in Indo-China be sold to them. The demand gave point to the argument that Japan had deliberately encouraged the Thai attack so that it could step in and make peace, at a price.

### Power

Meanwhile the Japanese naval force continued to base itself in Saigon, just opposite the Philippines which stand between Japan and the Dutch East Indies. The Japanese navy already has occupied Hanoi, opposite the northern tip of the Philippines. Only other base in the area is the British fortifications at Singapore. Japan has said that if America takes over that base, through negotiations with Britain, it will be regarded as an act of war.

### YOUTH:

#### Sponsor Lost

The American Youth congress is a group with affiliations from hundreds of organizations, religious, political, fraternal and educational. Organized in 1934, it claims 3,400,000 affiliated members.

But the group has had plenty of critics. The Dies committee investigated it for communism. The President chided it last year when convention delegates called at the White House. In return he was booed. But through all the criticism, Mrs. Roosevelt remained one of its champions. She attended meetings, made speeches and denied the charges of communism. She invited delegates to the White House for dinners.

But the organization now has come out against the selective service act, has opposed the lend-lease measure for aid to Britain and has declared the nation is being led to dictatorship. So many of the former supporters are leaving the group. Invitations issued for the convention this year were turned down by Sidney Hillman, C.I.O. vice president and national defense commissioner, Secretary—and Mrs. Roosevelt.

### MISCELLANY:

Big salaries in the United States are fading, the Institute of Real Estate Management was told, by its vice president, A. William Walstrom, of Ridgewood, N. J. Excess profits taxes and emergency levies are acting as great levers of fancy incomes, he said, adding that statistics show that the trend of top salaries shows them limited to between \$15,000 and \$25,000.

## Washington Digest

### Public Places 'Censorship' Upon Undesirable News

Opposing Viewpoints Dismissed as False; Government Aims to Increase Trade With Latin America.

By BAUKHAGE

National Farm and Home Hour Commentator.

WNU Service, 1395 National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON.—As emotions rise here over the debate of American foreign policy and America's role in connection with the European war a strange sort of censorship is settling down upon the nation. I can feel it in the mail which I receive from listeners to my broadcasts.

It is not a government censorship. It has nothing to do with company rules and regulations, it isn't even voluntary deletion on the part of writers or commentators. It is a censorship which the public itself invokes and it is quite as effective as the kind imposed by Herr Goebbels. I have encountered it before.

It is simply a flat refusal on the part of the individual to believe anything he doesn't want to. He puts it into operation with a twist of the dial when he hears something he doesn't agree with on the radio or by tossing the newspaper into the corner when his eye catches a sentiment of which he doesn't approve.

But let me give you some striking examples of this "audience" censorship—of how the public will believe only what it wants to.

The Athenia was sunk while I was in Berlin. Shortly thereafter, comment of a high American official was cabled to German papers. This official in Washington had referred to the "torpedoing" of the ship with the implication that the Nazis did it. The Germans with whom I spoke (people who couldn't have known any more about what really happened than I did) were astounded.

"Even if we wanted to torpedo a ship full of Americans," one of them said, "we wouldn't be quite dumb enough to do that when the last thing we want is to get the United States into war. If it was torpedoed at all the British did it to get you in on their side."

When I got back to the United States I found that it was accepted without argument that the Germans had done it.

To the best of my knowledge it has never yet been determined just what happened to the Athenia.

#### British Filers Interviewed.

I'll give you another example. While I was in Germany I had a chance to interview the first three British airmen shot down in raids over German territory. To be perfectly frank I found them, even the two who were laid up with injuries, extremely satisfied with their treatment. Naturally they had a good deal of attention being "firsts." And in those days the feeling wasn't so bitter.

I did report the factual things they told me—I interviewed them with no Germans present and we all spoke freely.

But did the British public believe it?

I should say not. An International News Service dispatch from London to American papers the next day quoted "diplomatic circles as being concerned" and stating that "one spokesman labeled the broadcast an obvious fake."

But no Englishman at that point wanted to believe what those boys said about their treatment or their personal feelings toward their captors.

#### Broadcast Cut Off.

The third experience was the most amusing.

I was broadcasting from Berlin and I wanted to get over the idea to my American listeners that while I was well treated I was under censorship and that if I departed from my censored text I would probably be cut off. So I said this:

"It is very much as if I were in the office of a man whose whole future is suddenly at stake, still he is kind and courteous to me. He offers me his hospitality. He lets me use his typewriter and now he pushes his busy telephone across the desk to me to let me talk to you, right before him."

And right there I was cut off the air. The American listeners knew what I was driving at and immediately surmised that the Germans had cut me off because I was criticizing the censorship. But a few days after the event I was summoned to the German foreign office and questioned at length by a highly suspicious underling. "Why," he asked haughtily, "did the National Broadcasting Company

cut you off when you were praising the Germans?"

Meanwhile I had been notified of what had happened and I explained, truthfully that I had been cut off because I had reached the end of a period and that had I continued, it would have interfered with a regular commercial program. But did my Nazi accuser believe? Did my American friends believe when I returned? Definitely not!

That is the censorship which is growing as the nation is stirred over the debate on the lend-lease bill. And not only do pros and antis defend their cause with patriotic fire but each is ready to declare that the other who disagrees must be silenced for the good of the Republic. That is the kind of individual censorship against which no protest, however powerful, can prevail.

#### Seek to Improve Latin American Market

"Good fences make good neighbors."

I once quoted that line from a New England poet to a Dakota farm son and he flew into a rage. He said it was typical of the unneighborliness of the Yankees. Well, being prairie-born myself with a long line of New England ancestors I am inclined to sit on that fence and look both ways. Perhaps we ought to say that there is nothing unneighborly in a good fence so long as it has a gate.

And Uncle Sam feels the same way about the "Good Neighbor" business as it applies to South America. The farmers on both sides of the international fence, the Latin-American farmers and the North American farmers, while they are all for unity, economically, politically and culturally, are a little wary about competition.

That is why the department of agriculture talks so much about "complementary" or non-competitive products in its program for developing trade with Latin America. We want to sell goods to South America. We have lots of things they want. But in order to buy our goods they have to have American dollars. They can get the dollars if they can sell their goods to us. Many of the things they would like to sell us already have—especially agricultural products.

Therefore certain questions addressed to the department of agriculture are pertinent. Here they are along with the official answers:

#### Principal Imports.

What are the principal agricultural products we now import from Latin America?

"Our agricultural imports from Latin America are of two general types," says the office of foreign agricultural relations. (1) "Complementary or non-competitive agricultural products, consisting for the most part of coffee, cocoa, bananas, sisal, henequen, special types of wool, spices, essential (volatile) oils, and tagua nuts. Such products are normally imported to meet the whole of our requirements since they are not produced at home."

(2) "Supplementary or competitive agricultural products. These include cane sugar, vegetable oil-seeds, cattle hides, unmanufactured tobacco, meat products, vegetables and vegetable preparations, dutiable wool, goat and kid skins, and linseed, to mention the more important."

How does the department of agriculture propose to increase trade between the United States and Latin America?

"By developing in Latin America for United States consumption the tropical and semi-tropical products which are not competitive with our agriculture."

Does Latin American co-operation mean increased imports into the United States of supplementary or competitive agricultural products?

"No, that is not the aim of the department's program."

What are the complementary or non-competitive products of Latin America, the imports of which can be increased? They consist of crude rubber, cinchona bark from which quinine is made, abaca or manila fiber, valuable for the making of ropes for the navy, rotenone-bearing plants extremely valuable for insecticidal purposes.



**GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:**

#### Washington, D. C. SELF CONTRADICTION

The proponents of the Morgenthau "lease-lend" bill are certainly talking themselves into a position of self-contradiction which it may take their lifetime to explain. The explanation required may not be merely lack of logic—it may be of why they helped to ruin their country by using their official positions to dignify statements that, from a private citizen, wouldn't stand two minutes cross-examination before a justice of the peace.

Secretary Morgenthau, who began by trying, without consulting public opinion at all, to divert our war supplies to France, where Hitler got them, says that if we do not pass that bill, Britain will have to stop fighting. Secretary Stimson, also urging this particular bill, says that it must pass at once, because if Britain stops fighting, we are subject to attack.

Mr. Morgenthau's argument is that "they haven't any dollars left." That may or may not be so, and probably isn't, but if the secretary means that they have nothing which they can pledge as collateral it certainly is not so—not by billions. There is considerable apprehension in Canada that, if we begin giving our manufactures away to Britain, Canada will lose a lot of business.

The British have to pay Canadian industry, also British industry, not to mention all the other nations of the British Commonwealth and the whole of the rest of the world. Only Uncle Sam is rushing out again to give away his—well, let's call them innards—when even the association of British nations give not theirs.

O. K., failing a franker and more credible statement of this financial problem, most of us are willing to give England money outright to buy our just share of aid to her and to the precise extent—and not one inch further—than it really contributes to American defense. We want congress to control these appropriations for the defense of Britain just as it must control appropriations for the defense of America. The "lease-lend" bill doesn't do that. It authorizes the President alone to make, buy and give Britain unlimited billions worth of our resources without consulting congress.

If, therefore, as Secretary Morgenthau has said, it is only a question of dollars for Britain, no argument is left for the much wider powers of the "lease-lend" bill.

Other official "opinions" that Great Britain can lick Germany on the continent with our aid, that if Great Britain doesn't, Germany will lick us, etc., etc.; aren't worth the breath with which they are spoken. Modern war is too unpredictable. There is only one rule for us—a burning lesson of this terrible age. "Arm for impregnable American defense. Rely on no other nation—on nothing but the strength of our own resources and the courage, ingenuity, patriotism and devotion of our own people."

#### DEFENSE AUTHORITY

Secretary Stimson says that one reason for bum-rushing the increasingly discredited "lease-lend" bill is that it will cure the "disorder" which has existed for nearly two years in the manufacture of munitions.

His point is that the President must purchase all supplies for our several defense departments and also for any allies because, otherwise, they would compete with each other, raise prices and create confusion.

Whatever confusion has "existed" is not traceable to any lack of executive authority.

Up to the middle of last year, our government had no plans whatever for adequate defense and then, in a moment of panic, dumped indigestible billions of dollars of totally unco-ordinated orders into the lap of an unwarned industry. It is due also to the long and inexcusable lag in setting up any single authorized and intelligent control. That hasn't been done yet.

It was not because government had not been warned by the voice of intense and highly successful experience. B. M. Baruch warned it over and over again as to precisely what was wrong and what was necessary to cure it.

To use the excuse that Mr. Stimson thus advanced for the passage of this totalitarian bill—this gratuitous American assumption of responsibility for the world-wide conduct of this war—is either a confession of ignorance or it is an attempt to frighten this nation into such an abandonment of democratic and constitutional processes as is neither necessary nor desirable.

## Speaking of SPORTS

By ROBERT McSHANE

**FRTIZIE ZIVIC**, current king of the welterweight division, has one of the oddest boxing careers on record, having whipped some of the greatest fighters in the country and having lost to some of the worst second raters.

During the past seven years Fritzie has fought 116 times and lost only 20. He has lost to such gentlemen as Johnny Barbara, an individual whose mediocre talents commanded little respect even among his friends. On the credit side he licked Henry Armstrong twice—whipped him thoroughly not more than half a year after being clouted around by the ham-and-eggers. Among his opponents have been Billy Conn, Sammy Angott, Mike Kaplan, Mitt Aron, Chuck Wood and a host of others.

Fritzie, one of five Zivic brothers, all of whom have at one time or another made a living with their fists, is slightly on the scrawny



FRTIZIE ZIVIC

side. According to Scotty Strachan, a Detroit promoter, Fritzie will fight 10 times a week if the bouts can be arranged.

### No Training Slave

While the 26-year-old Pittsburgh youth may like to fight, he isn't enthusiastic about training. In fact, he is practically immune to training rules. It has been suggested that he stays up in four or five in the morning sometimes drinking beer. This is a great sorrow to Lew Carney, his manager, but to date Mr. Carney has not discovered a pastime which his fighter is willing to substitute.

The youngest of the Zivic boys has one or two other ideas which are strictly original. Occasionally he will send Carney back to Pittsburgh and tour the country alone, handling himself and making his own contracts. While this may not be an ideal arrangement from a managerial standpoint, Carney still gets his share of the swag.

### Self-Analyst

Whether or not he's the family's best fighter, Fritzie is quite well pleased with himself. He knows, too, why he has the unhappy habit of dropping an occasional fight to a dope. That, he says, is because the Zivics are an emotional lot. He admits that at times his fighting is far from inspired. And that's because the opposition hasn't the fire to move him—isn't dangerous enough to be taken seriously.

He was inspired for the Armstrong brawl, however. He was so eager to meet the champion that he instructed Promoter Al Abrams to offer Armstrong a \$25,000 guarantee. Zivic was willing to fight for expenses in the match, originally scheduled for Pittsburgh. Mike Jacobs was so impressed by the set-up that he booked the fight for Madison Square Garden, figuring the bout was good enough for New York. The rest is ring history. Hammer's Henry lost, then lost again in a return engagement.

If ever a fighter came by his trade naturally, Fritzie did. A Zivic who couldn't scrap would have been at an awesome disadvantage. Each of the five boys believes that he could, during his prime, have whipped any and all of his brothers.

To make it even more baffling, their friends agree with them. To do anything else would not be diplomatic.

Zivic never will be known as the greatest welterweight champion in ring history. He doesn't take his business seriously enough for that. But when the blue chips are stacked high on the table, and the competition is tough, then Fritzie gives the family plenty of reason for his Zivic pride.