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## WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

By Edward C. Wayne

### Hitler Continues Drive to the East As Pressure Nets Results in Balkans; Labor Unrest in Defense Industries Will Be Handled Under New U. S. Agency

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.)

#### SURRENDER: Prelude to Peace

Nazi soldiers marched into Bulgaria. They were not opposed. Bulgarian officials who earlier talked bravely, but took no steps to prepare the nation for resistance, capitulated to Berlin's demands when the final test came.

Hundreds of thousands of Germans poured across the border in 48 hours. Panzer divisions raced across roads and took positions on the borders of Turkey and Greece. They supplanted officials known to be unsympathetic to their cause, rationed food, directed transportation, and virtually placed the whole nation under German military law and economy. Secret police followed close behind to round up those who loved their country too well for German interests.

Berlin announced the occupation as a great military victory, although not a shot had been fired. But the action did have a strangely familiar ring. It paralleled closely the Nazi pattern that brought the downfall of many other European nations where officials had been induced to visit Munich to "guarantee peace."

Fascism had come to Bulgaria, ruled by King Boris, from within, long before it had been compelled by force of arms without. Bulgaria was bold out, as many other brave but hesitant nations had been sold out—by those groups within its own borders who believed they stood to gain in influence, in prestige and in wealth if a Fascist form of government would be established.

They will be disillusioned, as other groups have been disillusioned in other once independent nations—in Austria, in Norway, in Denmark, in the Netherlands, in Spain, in France and even in Germany itself.

#### Drang Nach Osten

It is said no man lives unto himself alone; that his every action reflects on the life of his community and his nation. If that is true, then it is equally true that no nation lives to itself alone; that its policies reflect on its neighbors as well.

So it was with Bulgaria. The highways of Bulgaria lead to other frontiers and 300,000 conquest-seeking Germans rested on the borders of Greece and Turkey. The small Greek army had halted the first Axis move to the east by defeating superiorly equipped Italian soldiers. Turkey, allied to Britain, had stood as the guardian of the eastern Mediterranean. But these nations found



KING BORIS OF BULGARIA  
Fascism came from within.

themselves in peril. Yugoslavia, through which better roads lead to Greece, was in the same situation.

All found themselves facing the choice of fighting against an efficient war machine or bowing to the will of Britain. None had much hope for success if they fought. All looked to England for help, but the problem of sending such assistance was monumental. The Germans had available 26 divisions for use in the Balkans. The only British force competent to deal with such numbers was in North Africa.

Whether the British had the means available to transport and land an expeditionary force was problematical. General Wavell's speedup campaign in Libya undoubtedly was to clean up that area quickly in the hope of using his troops in the Balkans. The factor of time and space in such a movement, however, seemed unsurmountable.

The hibernating bear of the North, Russia, began to show signs of alarm. Moscow sent a sharp rebuke to Bulgaria, denouncing the surrender. Significantly enough, no protest was made to Germany. Berlin shrugged off the Moscow statement, with the observation that Russia's attitude was only a defensive one, that its army was not equipped for offensive action. Therefore the protest was of no importance.

Adolf Hitler wasted no time while Turkey, Greece and Yugoslavia trembled. He quickly sent couriers to their capitals with offers of "peace." He said he had no designs on their territory. Turkey and Greece took small comfort from these assurances. They had seen the same kind of pledges given Poland, Czechoslovakia and other small countries that now have no way of life of their own.

Hitler seemed well along toward success of the old German ambition of drang nach osten, drive to the east. To the east lies the riches of Asia—Egypt, Persia, Syria, India and East Africa.

#### NEW LABOR PLAN: By Executive Order

A new labor board to serve as a "supreme court" in disputes involving defense industries is in the making. It will be created by President Roosevelt by White House order and consist of 11 men, three to represent



WILLIAM S. KNUDSEN  
He wanted 30 days before a strike.

the public and four each from labor and industry.

The board of non-salaried members would act only in cases where the labor department's conciliation service failed to make progress and so certified. It would have no power of compulsion but would be so constructed as to make mediation machinery possible.

#### Strikes

The President's decision was said to be caused by the 48-hour strike at the Buffalo plant of the Bethlehem Steel company. There 14,000 employees brought their work to a halt when the Steel Workers Organizing committee (C.I.O.) said the corporation failed to bargain with them. Picket lines surrounded the several miles of fence.

But the Office of Production Management in Washington quickly stepped in, without waiting for the labor department to get under way. William S. Knudsen and Sidney Hillman, OPM directors, offered a compromise plan of settlement which called for return of all workers with seniority protected, negotiations with the union and an NLRB election. Both sides accepted.

Meanwhile in Michigan the United Automobile Workers (C.I.O.) filed notice with the state of Michigan that it will call a strike at the three main plants of the Ford company. Notice of such intention is now necessary under Michigan law.

#### Knudsen Plan

Knudsen, in the meantime, wrote a memorandum to Representative Sumners (D., Texas), chairman of the house judiciary committee, which is considering changes in the national labor laws. Knudsen's plan would deny protection of the Wagner act to unions or employees considered recalcitrant. He proposed that strikes be forbidden in defense industries unless employees of a plant had given their consent by secret ballot, conducted under the supervision of the U. S. labor department. After such notice is served, he proposed the OPM be given 30 days to seek settlement.

#### 'Heavy Dew'



Streets became rivers in the Los Angeles, Calif., area during the storm which brought rain figures up to the highest level in 48 years. Here a Reseda, Calif., woman is being helped board a bicycle so she can stay above "water-level" on her way home.

#### ENVOYS: Grab Headlines

When Lord Halifax, British ambassador to the United States, arrived at Annapolis, Md., President Roosevelt met his ship, setting a precedent. Not to be outdone, King George VI met the train which took the new U. S. ambassador to the Court of St. James, John C. Winant, to London. That also was a precedent.

A new Canadian minister was selected for the United States. He is 71-year-old Leighton G. McCarthy, Toronto industrialist. No stranger to the U. S. is Ambassador McCarthy, nor to President Roosevelt. Ambassador McCarthy has for several years been a director of the Warm Springs foundation.

#### BERMUDA: U. S. Control

Grumbling in the house of commons, in London, over the swap of Caribbean bases to the U. S. for 50 over-aged destroyers, has been forbidden to break into the open by Prime Minister Churchill. However the wide authority given the U. S. in these areas is just beginning to become apparent.

Take Bermuda, for instance. There the U. S. has acquired about a tenth of the acreage of the tiny island. The chief hotel has been leased by the U. S. navy for its technicians. The hotel has no room for tourists. In another hotel army engineers have set up. Marines have pitched a camp in still another spot.

In Washington, Rep. Carl Vinson (D., Tenn.), chairman of the house naval committee, disclosed the terms of the Bermuda lease, which are similar to the terms of leases at all other bases. They include: (1) The lease to run 99 years, with the United States granted the right, if necessary for defense, to assume "military control and conduct military operations within any part of Bermuda"; (2) other areas to be leased, if needed; (3) Americans to control ship and air operations and communications within leased areas; (4) Americans to have the right to improve anchorages near leased land bases and to install defenses; (5) Americans to have the same privilege as the British in the use of roads and bridges and the right to use British docks and shops.

Unfortunately the protein commodities which are needed by England are not the ones we most want to sell. They do not constitute our great surpluses, disposition of which has caused the biggest headaches in the department of agriculture since the farm problem was tossed in the government's lap.

#### INSURANCE: Supervision Asked

Discussion of federal control of life insurance was heard in Washington before the joint senate-house committee investigating monopolies. Sumner T. Pike, representative of the Securities and Exchange commission, told the committee he believed the federal government should not supplant the states in control of insurance companies, but that a program of strengthening the state systems was desirable.

Senator O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.) said he opposed the idea. So did Representative Sumner (D., Texas) the vice chairman. Thurman Arnold, assistant attorney general in charge of the anti-trust division, said if the states cannot do the job "we might wake up after the war and find we have to take more drastic action than otherwise would be necessary."

#### MISCELLANY:

There now is \$14,000,000,000 in gold in the vaults of Fort Knox, Ky., the largest treasure ever assembled under one roof in the history of the world. The new total was reached when \$8,500,000,000 was transferred from vaults in New York. The pile of glittering bars is just about half of all the gold in the world.

## Washington Digest

### England May Get Food Under 'Lend-Lease' Bill

Increasing Shortages Now Appear Likely;  
Roosevelt Opposed to Censorship  
Of 'Defense' Information.

By BAUKHAGE  
National Farm and Home Hour Commentator.

WNU Service, 1935 National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON.—In the past few weeks the tall figure of a Hoosier farmer has been seen frequently entering and leaving the White House. This was not so strange to us who watch the busy portals because the man was Secretary of Agriculture Wickard. Like other members of the cabinet, he is called in for frequent conferences with the President these days. Cabinet officers and other government officials have been helping the President plan the concrete steps to be taken to aid Britain under the lend-lease bill.

But what a lot of us did not guess was just what Secretary Wickard was up to. The purpose of those visits has not been officially announced, as I have written these lines. But it can be safely predicted that he was working out plans with the President to include farm products among the first supplies to be loaned or leased to England.

Secretary Wickard was able to achieve his purpose partly as a result of his own persuasiveness, and partly for other reasons that I will explain later.

Here is the tip-off on the plan the secretary discussed with the President, in Mr. Wickard's own words. It is pretty cogly expressed but if you know how, you can read between the lines. This is what Secretary Wickard said in a public speech during the congressional battle on the lend-lease bill:

Overproduction Held Unlikely.  
"Frankly speaking, there is little likelihood that we will produce too much meat, butter, cheese, milk and other dairy products in the months to come. I have an idea that all we produce in the South and elsewhere will be needed.

"The reports about the British food situation are not too encouraging. The British have lost their sources of food supply on the continent. They are handicapped still further by their shipping losses. The English may want some of our food and want it pretty soon. If they call on us, I think we will answer the call."

Almost all of the products to be sent to Britain under the lend-lease plan will be proteins (meat, milk and milk products and eggs). There will be, however, some cotton, wheat and tobacco, but these commodities will constitute a minor part of the shipments. The practical arguments for sending proteins are obvious:

1. The extra physical demands on fighting men require a greater protein diet.
2. These products up to now have been shipped to England all the way from Australia, New Zealand and the Argentine. Two trips can be made from New York to Britain while one is being made from these distant points.

Unfortunately the protein commodities which are needed by England are not the ones we most want to sell. They do not constitute our great surpluses, disposition of which has caused the biggest headaches in the department of agriculture since the farm problem was tossed in the government's lap.

Surplus Produce Unaffected.  
Furthermore, they are the products which, later on, when the defense industries expand, we will need at home because if all our unemployed were working full time and eating three meals a day, we would not have enough proteins at the present rate of production to satisfy them. The things we do want to get rid of—the things of which we have enough and to spare—are not as greatly affected by increased employment. Department of agriculture experts here will tell you any day that in prosperous times there is not an important increase in the use of cotton, tobacco and wheat.

But as far as the British go, they have to consider first things first, and they have all the cotton, wheat and tobacco they need, or they can get these products as conveniently from their own dominions as from the United States.

So this new "lend-lease" market won't solve the problem of farm surpluses. Nevertheless, it will absorb some of them, for the government is insisting that along with the proteins, some of the surplus products will be included in the commodities we dispose of under the lend-lease plan.

How long this new market over-

seas will last no one can say. It is impossible to predict how long the emergency will last or what the fortunes of war will be. But the effort of the New Deal planners is to build up an increasing demand at home for the things the farmer raises. As Secretary Wickard says on every occasion when he gets the chance:

"Whether they lose or keep the foreign markets, farmers must try to increase consumption in their best market—the domestic market."

#### President Discusses News Control With Reporters

Imagine the head of a European state sitting for half an hour while he was questioned by a group of newsmen on any subject they chose, including the government's confidential transactions!

And, yet, that happens twice a week in Washington at the White House press conferences. There the President sits at his desk covered with papers; members of the White House staff sitting about him, two secret service men standing inconspicuously behind him, between the stars and stripes and the presidential flag.

To us in Washington, the White House press conference is routine. But a recent meeting was so democratic, so unlike anything that could possibly happen abroad, that it stands out clearly in my memory.

Mr. Roosevelt started it. The question which the American public ought to think about, as he put it, had to do with the ethics, morals and patriotism of making public matters which might be injurious to national defense. First, should a member of congress divulge testimony before a secret committee session; second, should a newspaper publish or a radio station broadcast such information.

The issue was raised by the publication of testimony given by the chief of staff, General Marshall, before an executive session of the senate military affairs committee in connection with a shipment of army bombers to Hawaii.

#### Censorship Not Desired.

The President said he had neither the desire nor the power to censor the news, but he wished us to consider whether it was ethical, moral or patriotic to publish any information which the heads of the army and navy believed should, in the interests of national defense, be kept confidential.

The newsmen did not question the advisability of withholding from the public important military secrets, but they showed plainly that they resented any suggestion that the freedom of the press be interfered with.

One correspondent said frankly that the chief of staff ought not to tell things to congressmen which he did not want to get out because such information always leaked. The President replied, quietly, that naturally, one did not like to withhold any information asked for by congress.

Another reporter asked how the press was to know what information, once they had received it, ought to be withheld, and what could be printed. The President answered this could be determined by what the heads of the army and navy felt would be injurious to national defense. The President admitted he had no specific proposal to suggest. No definite conclusion to the discussion was reached at the interview.

The incident had one effect. Shortly after the meeting, a writer who is usually excellently informed, stated that the President had turned down flatly a plan to place all information concerning defense under what amounted to a censorship board. It had been long known that such a plan was placed on the President's desk at the time war broke out abroad. The President turned it down then. When it came up the second time, he again turned it down. Later, Lowell Mellett, administrative advisor to the President, said no plan of censorship was being considered.

If war comes, some method of regulating the publication of military information will probably be put into effect. But until that moment, the press and radio will fight for freedom of speech, the spoken word, or the written.

### Business Is On Upswing in U. S.

Commerce Department Finds  
Increase in Retail Sales  
Over 1939.

WASHINGTON.—The commerce department reports that Americans bought \$45,500,000,000 of goods at retail last year, 8.3 per cent more than in 1939 and only 6 per cent short of the 1929 peak.

Three other federal agencies likewise published reports indicative of the general business upswing in the past year.

The Social Security board said that state employment offices placed \$2,300,000 workers in private jobs in 1940—the greatest number in any year since the service began in 1933. In addition, there were 557,000 placements in public jobs.

The Federal Deposit Insurance corporation reported that 1940 had fewer bank failures or forced mergers than any year since 1935.

The Federal Reserve board said the defense program boosted factory and factory equipment expenditures to \$22,123,000,000, the highest level since 1929.

#### Beat 1929 Figures.

The commerce department, in its report on retail sales, said that allowing for population increase and decline in living costs "the 1940 per capita distribution of merchandise in physical terms surpassed that of 1929 by a sizeable margin."

Secretary Jones said that sales had held at the relatively high level of the final 1939 quarter during the first six months, then swung upward, expanding about 16 per cent in the fourth quarter.

Jones described this year-end surge as "a reflection of the substantial increase in employment and income generated by the defense program."

Paul V. McNutt, social security administrator, said the 1940 volume of jobs filled in private industry was 20 per cent higher than in 1939 and reflected the increased use of public employment offices in recruiting the labor for defense and other industries. Counting both public and private placements, there was an increase of nearly 9 per cent over 1939 in jobs filled.

#### 16,500,000 Applicants.

The number of 1940 applications for work totaled more than 16,500,000—the largest received in any year in the history of the U. S. employment service.

The FDIC reported that 43 banks either closed outright or were merged with corporation financial aid in order to save them from closing in 1940. This compared with 60 in 1939, 74 in 1938, 75 in 1937, 69 in 1936 and 25 in 1935. Officials said the reason for few failures in 1934 and 1935 was the weeding out of weak banks during the 1933 banking holiday.

The Federal Reserve board, in its monthly bulletin, estimated that 1940 factory and equipment expenditures represented a \$3,000,000,000 gain over 1939, but lacked a similar amount of equaling 1929.

Estimates prepared by George Terborgh, board economist, included \$8,307,000,000 of plant spending and \$13,816,000,000 of equipment expenditures last year, compared with \$7,815,000,000 for plant and \$11,206,000,000 for equipment the preceding year.

But, the board added, the biggest gains were due to public construction, and private plant outlays were only 59 per cent of 1929 levels.

#### 'Bomb' Turns Out to Be

A Package of Sermons

PHILADELPHIA.—The bomb squad was called out and 30 policemen detailed to keep back a crowd of hundreds last night after a man reported he had seen a suspicious looking character drop a package at the side entrance of the Baptist Temple and drive away hurriedly.

The package, addressed to Dr. Daniel A. Poling, Temple pastor and world president of the Christian Endeavor, was thoroughly soaked in a bucket of oil.

Lieut. Albert Granitz of the bomb squad then gingerly opened it up—a batch of Dr. Poling's sermons, which the printer's son had been late in delivering.

#### Blind Peddler Loses Dog

And Town Opens Purse

RENO.—One of the familiar sights on Reno's streets, Jim Bradley, blind peddler, and his Seeing-Eye dog, Della, disappeared recently.

Bradley, a gold miner who lost his sight in a mine accident three years ago, was stranded and heartbroken when his dog died.

Word got around and within a week Bradley had \$700 to buy a new Seeing-Eye dog.

### Oldest Curfew, Rung In 1709, Is Doomed

Lack of Funds May Silence  
Town's Ancient Signal.

HARTFORD, CONN.—Suburban Wethersfield and Farmington may soon learn that the "curfew shall not ring tonight." Miss Elsie Thompson, treasurer of the Farmington fund that has kept the old church bell tolling since 1771, announced recently that the fund is getting low, and ringing of the Wethersfield bell already is on a volunteer basis.

Miss Thompson's announcement, coupled with Farmington's boast of having the only curfew still in operation, brought forth an uproar in Wethersfield, where the curfew has reputedly rung from the tower of the First Church of Christ, Congregational, for more than 232 years. Charles S. Adams, 74-year-old sexton, who has been pulling the inch-thick rope for the last 44 years and whose father yanked it for 23 years before that, says the only time it failed Wethersfield at 9 p. m. was when a man living near by was dangerously ill and its peal was omitted for a few days. This curfew, probably the oldest in the country, once was preceded by the beating of a drum that also called worshippers to church services.

The present bell, recast in 1875, is the third to hang in the Colonial tower. At Farmington, Sexton Martin Salmonson has been walking from his home several blocks to the First Congregational church to sound the 170-year-old curfew six nights a week for 32 years.

Farmington's curfew was silent for a while in 1910 because of insufficient funds, but an appeal in 1911 produced enough to resume. No added money has been received for this service since 1933.

#### Drugged Cows Provide

Slow-to-Sour Pink Milk

POMONA, CALIF.—A drug which makes cows give slow-to-sour pink milk is heralded by Agricultural Expert C. E. Howell as a likely medium to rid horses—and all other domestic animals—of most of their internal parasites.

The drug is phenothiazine, parent substance of many dyes. Cows that eat of it give pink milk which will keep for several days in a warm room.

Howell said in an interview that the drug gave promise of being an anthelmintic—a medium of destroying intestinal worms—of great value.

"Experiments on our horses," he said, "indicate that it is efficient, easily administered, non-toxic and cheap—which means that for the first time the average farmer may have a method which is not too expensive, to rid his horses of the parasites that weaken them and reduce their resistance to disease."

Phenothiazine, said Howell, first was synthesized in 1885, but was not put to practical use until 1934, when it was used to destroy mosquito larvae.

#### At 61, Man Thinks He's

Not Too Old to Fight!

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.—You're never too old to fight—or at least, so thought George Bradford McKinney, cab driver. And there's no law against it.

"I thought it might be a good idea," McKinney said as he explained his actions. "So, I went up to the draft board 22 at Redwood City and said I wanted to register. They said there wasn't any law against it."

Later when the draft board clerk was looking over the registration and came to No. 268, he said:

"This guy has enough experience to be a general. Let's see—tank corps, expert rifleman, sharpshooter, lost part of one ear in the Spanish-American—what the—hey, he's 61 years old!"

The veteran answered:

"Heck, if I can drive a cab I can drive a tank, can't I?"

The board will hold McKinney's application on file in case the present emergency becomes more serious.

#### Patron of Art Requires

Only \$1 in Iowa Town

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA.—All that is needed is \$1 to be a patron of art in Cedar Falls. That amount will make you a member of the Cedar Falls Art association for one year.

The whole thing is the idea of Ferner Nuhn, art enthusiast and writer. Nuhn's idea is to bring art, painting in particular, within the range of the average pocketbook.

Already (the project is only a few months old) an art gallery has been established in Cedar Falls. Here visitors may see, and purchase, the work of Iowa artists.