

Russia Expelled by League

House Committee Investigating NLRB



This is the first photo of the House Committee investigating the National Labor Relations Board. Left to right, meeting in Washington: Representatives Abe Murdock of Utah, Arthur D. Healy of Mass., Chairman Howard W. Smith of Virginia, Charles Halleck of Indiana, and Harry N. Routhoff of Ohio. First three named are Democrats; the others are Republicans.

Workers Better Off Now Than They Were In 1929

Real Wages Highest in History of Nation Considering Cost of Living And Before Taxes, Babson Declares.

By ROGER W. BABSON, Copyright 1939, Publishers Financial Bureau, Inc.
Charlotte, December 14.—Factory workers in this and practically every other industrial town who have jobs are better off today than they have ever been. Their wages, measured by the amount of food and clothing their pay envelopes will buy, are the highest in history. The working generation of 1939 gets far more for its dollar than that of 1929. Only disadvantage facing the employee of today is the fact that a fourth of his income must go for taxes, relief, and graft.
In remembering the late 1920's as a period of unbridled prosperity, we often forget that many changes have been placed which benefit the wage earner and salary worker of 1939.

German Liner Leaves Mexico For Germany

Vera Cruz, Mexico, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The 32,581-ton German liner Columbus slipped out of Vera Cruz in the darkness early today on what was an apparent attempt to run the Atlantic and reach a German port through the Allied naval blockade.
Also at sea was the German freighter Arauca, which cleared Vera Cruz harbor for New Orleans, La.
The Columbus, a rich war prize if it falls into the hands of Allied warships, obtained papers for a trans-Atlantic crossing. The secrecy of her departure was because of the presence of British warships patrolling Gulf and Caribbean waters.

Germans Held In Wilmington Are Released

Washington, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The coast guard released today seven German sailors who had been held aboard the 43-foot yawl Lakala at Wilmington, N. C. They were first detained about ten days ago while Federal authorities sought to determine whether they might violate any neutrality or other law.
The coast guard released the men on advice of the United States district attorney for Eastern North Carolina.
Until the men explained they bought the ship in an effort to get

JUDGE McELROY, OF MARSHALL, IS DEAD

Western North Carolina Jurist Passes In Asheville Hospital After Heart Attack
Asheville, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Judge Pender A. McElroy, retired, died in a hospital here today at the age of 72.
Judge McElroy, who retired from the superior court bench two years ago after serving 20 years, suffered a heart attack Tuesday at his home in Marshall. He is survived by three children.
Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon in Marshall.



Martin Dies

Firms. The other item has been the conviction of our local bund-fuehrer, Fritz Kuhn, as a common swindler. What's more, the bunds were made ridiculous by the pettiness of Kuhn's supposed persecutions and by the sickness of his love letters, read in connection with his trial as a grafter on

NASH LAD KILLED BY 'UNLOADED GUN'

Nashville, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Joe Hall, 16, was ordered held under \$500 bond on a technical charge of manslaughter today as a result of the fatal shooting of ten-year-old M. B. Boykin, Jr., near here, yesterday.
Coroner M. C. Guley, who investigated, said Hall told him he and young Boykin were playing cowboys and quoted him as saying, "I didn't know the gun was loaded."

Berlin Says German Battleship Not To Interne At Montevideo

36 Dead On Graf Spee After Fight

British Warships That Engaged in Battle Wait Outside Neutral Harbor For Pocket Battleship to Attempt Escape.

London, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The Admiralty announced tonight that naval forces watching for the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee "have been strongly reinforced."
No details were given, however, of the additions to the cruisers Ajax and Achilles, which mounted guard outside Montevideo in an effort to prevent escape of the Nazi warship.

Berlin, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The German high command asserted today that the German pocket battleship Graf Spee was sinking the British merchantmen Tairoa and Steons Hall when she was encountered by three British cruisers in the South Atlantic yesterday.
Authorized sources at the same time vigorously denied that the

TO DEFEY BLOCKADE

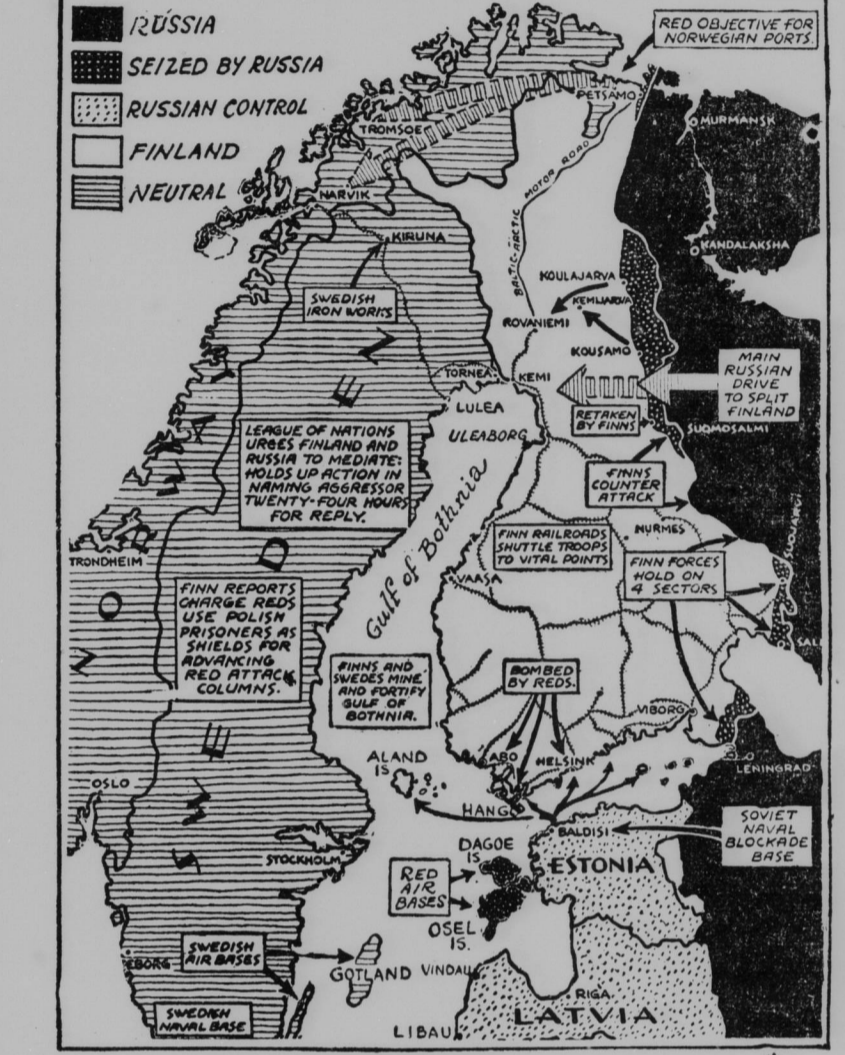
New York, Dec. 14.—(AP)—A daring attempt by the shell-torn German pocket battleship Graf Spee to run the gauntlet of British cruisers holding a "death watch" outside the harbor of Montevideo, Uruguay, as forecast today in an NBC broadcast from the South American port. The NBC ship was rushing repairs and seemingly desperate efforts were being made to sail out of the harbor before a time deadline entered the Graf Spee for the duration of the war.
He also said a reinforced squadron of British cruisers was lying in wait at the mouth of the Platte river, but did not specify the ships involved.

Spee would be interned in Montevideo, where it went after being damaged in the sea battle. These sources said the ship went to Montevideo merely to bury 36 dead seamen and to provide hospital treatment for gassed and wounded men, and replenish victuals damaged by

British Used Every Trick Of Naval War

Montevideo, Uruguay, Dec. 14.—(AP)—How three British cruisers, Exeter, Achilles and Ajax, their guns outranged at least 3,000 yards by the 11-inch German guns, used every trick known to naval warfare to beat down their larger opponent's defenses.
The British made "magnificent" use of smoke screens, witnesses said, to avoid exposing themselves disastrously to the Admiral Graf Spee's heavy gun fire. The cruisers were said to have darted from behind these sheltering smoke screens to fire their own salvoes, then retreated swiftly from sight, constantly shifting their position.
Although outranged and lacking their opponent's heavier armor, a British official said the lighter cruisers had to close in, despite the 850-pound projectiles the pocket battleship was hurling. To avoid these shells, one of which almost ripped a turret from the Exeter early in the battle, the British cruisers resorted to hit-and-run tactics maneuvering at high speed.

Battle Tides In Red Invasion



Progress of the Russian-Finnish war is shown on this self-explanatory map. The territory seized by the Red invaders has cost the Soviet a terrific toll in dead and wounded as the Finns continue to fight desperately in the face of overwhelming odds. (Central Press)

Invasion Of Finland Is Denounced

All Members of League Urged to Aid Finland in Every Possible Way; First Time in History Any Nation Ousted; Neighbors Abstain.

Geneva, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The League of Nations, by unanimous vote of its council, today expelled Soviet Russia because of her invasion of Finland.
Four members of the Council, including Finland, abstained voting on the expulsion motion. The others were China, Yugoslavia and Greece.
The vote was on a resolution which declared that as a result of Russia's actions toward Finland, "The U. S. S. R. no longer is a member of the League."
This was the first time in League history that a nation had been expelled.

NINE SOVIET NEIGHBORS REFRAIN FROM VOTING

Geneva, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The League of Nations Assembly in record time today condemned Russian ag-

Girl Senior From School Killed On Way from Banquet

Fayetteville, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Rebecca Kinlaw, 16-year-old high school senior of White Oak, died in a hospital here today of injuries she suffered in an automobile wreck as she was returning home from the annual junior-senior banquet last night.
Miss Kinlaw was the daughter of Charlie Kinlaw, a farmer.
Also injured in the accident, which occurred when the young people's automobile struck a bridge abutment, were Kenneth Council, Joan Davis, Ernest Owen and E. F. Owen, all of White Oak. Their injuries were not regarded as serious.

Finns Plan Attacks On Soviet Army

Russian Invasion Stopped on Karelian Isthmus; Invaders Stepping Fast in North as Finns Prepare to Retire There.

Helsinki, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The Finnish army communique asserted tonight that an extensive area had been recaptured by the Finns in the vicinity of a Talvajarvi, and the Russian invaders forced to retreat.
The communique declared that more Russian tanks had been captured. It accused the invaders of using gas in fighting at Suomussalmi, 20 miles inside Finland at almost the mid point of the eastern frontier, but added that the gas was largely ineffective.

Helsinki, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Military observers reported the Finns were in position today to organize counterattacks after stopping the Soviet Russian invasion on the Karelian isthmus.
A Finnish army communique reported last night the red army had

Casualties of War For Great Britain Are 2,300 So Far

London, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Great Britain's total casualties in the first three months of the war was approximately 2,300, Prime Minister Chamberlain said today in reply to a question in the House of Commons. This figure, for all British forces, compared with 12,500 in the first two months of war in 1914, he said.
Chamberlain did not divide the casualties according to the various arms of service. However, the latest report on Royal Air Force fatalities listed 422. Naval losses were approximately 1,630.

Sharp Verbal Clash Marks NLRB Inquiry

Washington, Dec. 14.—(AP)—A blistering verbal exchange between a member and the chief attorney of the House committee investigating the National Labor Relations Board broke out today when the latter outlined proposals for future committee action.
Representative Murdock, Democrat Utah, disagreed with Edmund M. Toland, committee counsel, over Toland's statement of what he considered some decisions the committee must make.
Reviewing testimony about NLRB decisions on employee representation

South Atlantic Freed, Says Chamberlain

London, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Prime Minister Chamberlain declared today that "the gallant action" of "three comparatively small British ships against a much more heavily armed adversary" probably would free the South Atlantic from depredations of the German raider Admiral Graf Spee.
Lauding the League of Nations action in condemning Russia for the invasion of Finland, Chamberlain told the House of Commons that "Germany alone among the nations, even now, is abetting by word and

BUCHAREST BLAST FATAL FOR EIGHTY

Bucharest, Roumania, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Eighty persons were killed and 200 others were gravely injured today in an explosion at a cellulose plant under military control at Zarnesti.
Many of the injured were feared to be dying. Whole families were wiped out in their sleep by the early morning blast of an overheated 1,000-gallon kettle of chemicals.

Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Fair, slightly colder near the coast and in extreme north central tonight; Friday fair, slightly warmer in west portion.

British Destroyer Sinks With Likely Loss Of 120

London, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The Admiralty reported today the British destroyer Duchess had collided with another warship and sunk with an indicated loss of 120 lives.
Only three blows—all dealt by Germany—have been more disastrous to the British navy since the outbreak of the war. They were the sinking of the aircraft carrier Courageous, with a loss of 578 men; the battleship Royal Oak, with 786 men; and the armed merchantman Rawalpindi, with 265 men.
Details of where or how the collision occurred were not given, but it was disclosed that it happened yesterday. The Admiralty said the other ship, which was not immediately identified, was undamaged.
The Admiralty announced last night that the same British submarine it asserted refrained from torpedoing the German liner Bremen Tuesday had sunk a German submarine and torpedoed a German cruiser.
(The German high command communique today reported "an underwater explosion near one light cruiser. The damage was unimportant. The ship returned to a home harbor.")

8 SHOPPING DAYS TILL Christmas

WAYNE SCHOOL GETS BIG WPA ALLOTMENT

Wayne, Dec. 14.—(AP)—C. C. Ginnis, State PWA administrator, announced today approval of three projects to cost \$88,200 and give work to 452 men.
They included: Wayne county, to renovate county school building, \$45,000, and 13 workers.