

# The WEEKLY WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

**State Department Tried To Delay Roosevelt's Neutrality Proclamations; Only His Direct Orders Forced Issuance Of Arms Embargo, Ship Warning; British Tried To Maintain Censorship By Stopping Phone Link To Paris; Coal Board Stymied By Lack Of Money, Office, Staff; Charges Sabotage.**

by DREW PEARSON and ROBERT S. ALLEN

Washington—A sharp difference of opinion between the President and his State Department on the all-important question of neutrality has just been revealed.

It occurred while Roosevelt was still aboard the Houston, at the time he issued his proclamations declaring an arms embargo and warning American citizens against travel on belligerent (which meant Italian ships.)

The arms embargo message was made public by the State Department at eleven o'clock on a Saturday night. Reason given for the lateness of the hour was difficult radio transmission between Washington and the President's cruiser.

Actually, however, this was not the case. The State Department opposed issuing the proclamation so soon. Career men, never in sympathy with the Neutrality Act forced on them by Congress, favored delay. They hoped still to get discretionary powers to throw the weight of the United States against the aggressor nation.

Most ardent advocate of delay was professorial Stanley K. Hornbeck, chief of the Far Eastern Division. Virtually all other State Department officials sided with him except astute Judge R. Walton Moore, Assistant Secretary, and Joe Green, in charge of Munitions Control.

Roosevelt, however, soon put an end to their hesitancy. He ordered the arms embargo proclaimed immediately.

After issuing this one proclamation Saturday night, the State Department stalled again. Roosevelt had suggested (which from the President is tantamount to an order) that the second proclamation, in regard to travel on Italian shipping, also be issued immediately.

But the State Department did nothing. Finally on Sunday, a crisp message came from the Houston. In effect Roosevelt said: Where is that second neutrality proclamation?

This was something not even the State Department could ignore. It radioed Roosevelt the text of the proclamation. He sent it back with his O. K. It was published Sunday afternoon.

**QUEEN OF JUNKETS**  
The S. S. President Grant, now on the bosom of the North Pacific, her cabins crammed with U. S. Congressmen, should set a record for junketeering.

En route to the Orient at Philippine Government expense, the ship has no definite schedule. It is due to arrive in Manila before the inauguration of Manuel Quezon, November 1. But the date of its home-coming is uncertain.

Questioned as to when the President Grant probably would arrive, steamship officials replied: "It all depends on how long the Senators want to remain in Japan and Honolulu. We are

See Castevens Motor Co. for radio batteries, tubes and service.—adv.

**NOTICE**

**Sale Of Personal Property By Administrator**

As administrator of the estate of H. J. Estep, I will, on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1935, beginning at 10 o'clock A. M., on the premises, offer for sale to the highest bidder, the following real estate:

2 Horses, 1 Hereford Bull, 2 milk cows, 3 heifers, 8 sheep, 2 hogs, about 125 bushels of corn, 30 bushels of rye, 9 stacks of hay, fodder, 1 drill, 1 mower, plows and other farm implements, household goods, etc.

Terms: Cash on all amounts up to \$5.00, over \$5.00, on 8 months' time, secured note.

This Oct. 12, 1935.

W. B. ESTEP, Administrator

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ready to sail whenever they are." Note: Stay-at-home Congressmen suggest that the President Grant be rechristened "S. S. Queen of Junkets."

**BRITISH CENSORSHIP**  
The Federal Communications Commission, prying behind the British censorship of Baron Alois's broadcast to the United States, found more dynamite than appeared on the surface.

Chiefly, they found a link between the American Telephone and Telegraph Company and the British Government, by which the British were in a position to obstruct or listen in on telephone messages between the United States and the Continent.

This situation first cropped up when France proposed direct trans-Atlantic telephone communication with the United States. France wanted to avoid having messages go through London.

The State Department OK'd the plan; so also did the War and Navy Departments. But the A. T. and T. objected. It gave various objections, one that there was not sufficient traffic between New York and Paris. Finally, however, it admitted having an exclusive contract with the British Government. And the latter had objected.

Later the British Embassy supported this objection officially at the State Department.

**ROOSEVELT INTERVENTION**  
For months negotiations were delayed. The French Government sent a special delegate to Washington. Finally Ambassador Straus laid the matter personally before President Roosevelt.

Only then were the British and the A. T. and T. overruled. Roosevelt intimated to the Federal Communications Commission that a special wave-length should be set aside for the Paris telephone.

Opinion within the FCC at that time was divided. Then came British censorship of Baron Alois's broadcast. Immediately opinion, within the commission solidified.

Direct telephone communication to France soon will be in operation.

**STYMIED BOARD**

A red-hot explosion is brewing behind the scenes in the Bituminous Coal Board. The five members of the body are boiling over at what they call inner Administration attempts to sabotage their work.

Although the Board has been in existence over a month, it is still without money, quarters or a staff—and with no immediate prospects of getting them apparent. So tense has become the undercover situation that Board members are threatening a direct appeal to the President for relief.

At the root of the Board's troubles is the loss of its appropriation, killed by Huey Long on the closing night of Congress.

To overcome this, the President instructed Charles West, Under-secretary of the Interior, to find offices for the Board and to furnish it with operating expenses from unobligated PWA money.

Shortly thereafter came the first jolt. The Board had been promised office room in the vast Department of Commerce building. But at the last moment, Secretary Roper sent word that he had turned over the space to George Peek's Import-Export Bank. This agency is about as important as last winter's snows.

Then came Jolt Number 2. West notified the Board that the PWA had only \$1,000 of unearned funds.

Finally John L. Lewis, dynamic head of the United Mine Workers, got in touch with West.

"Mr. Secretary," he said. "You had better cut out this messing around with the Coal Board. If you don't get busy and see that it gets quarters and money to function, there is going to be hell popping around here when the President returns."

**LIVE CRIMINALS**  
Little known but very efficient are the experimental laboratories of the U. S. Food and Drug Administration.

Existence of the laboratories is soft-pedaled in order to avoid interference by anti-vivisectionists objecting to the use of animals in testing drugs and foods.

Recently, however, the inevitable happened. An indignant lady anti-vivisectionist stormed into the office of Dr. W. G.

Campbell, chief of the FDA, protesting vehemently. "It seems to me," she cried, "that if you must make these experiments you would use criminals."

"But, Madam," objected Campbell, "the body of a dead man would be of no value in our work. We need living creatures to test the foods and drugs that are consumed by men and animals."

"Oh, you misunderstand," was the calm reply. "I didn't mean dead criminals. I meant live one."

**MERRY-GO-ROUND**

The word "centralization" has been banned from Administration speeches. Criticism by Liberty Leaguers is the reason. Used instead is the word "unification." . . . Speeches by Cabinet members are given an official scanning by White House Secretary Steve Early. . . . Both the Republican and Democratic National Committees are compiling lists of campaign harangues for next year's electioneering. On the basis of early preparations, the country is in for one of the heaviest crops of oratory in history. . . . The Federal Alcohol Administration acted with unprecedented alacrity to suppress a whiskey label featuring a nude woman. . . . Motor bus operators know when they have a good thing. They have joined with eastern railroads in fighting the proposal of the Interstate Commerce Commission to reduce fares from three to two cents a mile. . . . When the Bituminous Coal Board wanted to put out its first administrative order, it was unable to find funds to have the document printed, had to be satisfied with typed carbon copies. . . . A documentary history of the lumber code just completed requires twenty feet of shelf space. There were 557 codes in effect when the Supreme Court threw out the NRA. If all require the same amount of space the code history library promises to be one of the most monumental in Government annals.

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**Ennice**

Ennice, Oct. 28.—A large crowd attended baptismal services at Crab Creek Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Evans and family spent Sunday at the home of E. E. Blevins, Dobson.

Miss Perol Carpenter spent Wednesday night with Miss Gwyndalen Greene.

Miss Ruby Higgins spent Thursday night with Mrs. Joe Combs.

Dale Duncan spent Wednesday night with Ray Wagoner.

Clyde Johnson is improving from a recent attack of diphtheria.

Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Evans and family spent Sunday afternoon at the home of W. C. Higgins.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Higgins had as dinner guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Higgins and family, of Sparta, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Combs and daughter, Marcel, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Poole and family, Mrs. Jennie Poole, Mr. and Mrs. Larrie Cooper and daughter, Mildred, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Combs, Robert Joines, Mrs. Guy Taylor and son, G. F., Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Evans.

Robert Joines spent Saturday night at the home of J. H. Wagoner.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Combs spent Sunday night at the home of W. C. Higgins.

Mrs. Laura Evans is ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Larrie Cooper and daughter spent Sunday afternoon at the home of W. C. Wilson.

North Carolina, Alleghany County.

Under and by virtue of power vested in me under a deed of trust executed by David Osborne and wife, Alie Osborne, dated 16th day of May, 1934, and recorded in Book 18, page 197, in the office of the Register of Deeds of Alleghany County to secure a certain note to R. F. Crouse and default having been made in the payment of said note, and demand having been made for the foreclosure of said deed of trust, I will on the 8th day of November, 1935, at 10 o'clock A. M. sell at the Court-house door in Sparta the herein-after described land for cash for the payment of said note:

Lying in Piney Creek Township, said County and State, and being more fully described in deed of trust from David N. Osborne and wife to the Federal Land Bank of Columbia, recorded in Book 15, page 74 office of the Register of Deeds for Alleghany county, to which deed of trust and record thereof reference is hereby made for a complete description.

This 8th day of October, 1935.

GEORGE R. CROUSE, Trustee.

4tc-31AT

**The \$20,000,000 Home of the U. S. Supreme Court**



WASHINGTON . . . A view of the imposing twenty million dollar home of the United States Supreme Court, the Corinthian marble temple erected by the government to house the Justices. At its formal opening this week it was dedicated to the philosophy of equal justice under law.

**Social Graces**

Social tact is making your company feel at home, even though you wish they were.

The easiest way to climb the social ladder is to have your grandfather begin at the bottom of it.

All kinds of social knowledge and graces are useful, but one of the best is to be able to yawn with your mouth closed.—Boston Transcript.

**So Selfish**

An old German and his wife were given to quarreling. One day, after a particularly unpleasant scene, the old woman remarked with a sigh:

"Vell, I wish I vas in Heaven!"

"I wish I vas in the beer garden," groaned the husband.

"Ach, Ja!" cried the old wife, "Always you pick out the best for yourself."

**Mt. Zion**

Piney Creek P. O., Oct. 28.—Miss Georgie Roupe has returned to Winston-Salem after spending some time with her father, Gordon Roupe. His condition does not improve.

Mr. and Mrs. Hallie Douglas, Piney Creek, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Pugh.

Mrs. Mary Wyatt was injured in a fall recently.

Mrs. Joe F. Cox has returned home after spending some time with her children in Detroit.

Kyle Mabe and Robert Blevins are at home from the C. C. C. camp.

Claude J. Smith was one of the boys from the C. C. C. camp at Southport who attended the State fair at Raleigh last week.

The group of boys was accompanied by their educational advisor, Zack M. Williams. While in Raleigh they visited the state capitol, the museum, the state hospital and various other places of interest.

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Edwards, Topia, visited relatives in this community Sunday.

Dr. P. L. Choate, Sparta, was in this community Friday.

Oscar Smith, son of S. E. Smith, is ill.

Miss Virgie Williams, Peden, and Mrs. W. F. Pugh visited Mrs. Rebecca Smith Friday.

Mrs. Mary Cox and granddaughter, Georgie Cox, visited Mrs. J. E. Miller, Piney Creek, recently.

Mr. and Mrs. David Jones and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Nate Burchett.

Mrs. Glen Combs, Sparta, Miss Callie Roup of South Carolina,

and Jessie Roupe, Sparta, are visiting their father, G. D. Roupe, who is ill. Other visitors Sunday were Ross Bateman and Calvin Andrews.

Mrs. Paul Fields and children made a business trip to Sparta last week.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Clay Smith, Jane Cox, J. F. Shepherd, S. E. Smith and son, Thomas, F. G. Weaver, Bill Williams and T. E. Pugh were shopping in Sparta Saturday.

Miss Ethel Pugh has recovered from a severe attack of chicken pox.

Salesman.—No, madam. I am afraid we cannot let you have any goods on credit. We allow credit only to customers of long standing.

Customer.—Well, if the time I've been standing here is worth anything, I ought to get the goods for nothing.

**young MOTHERS**

Take no chances. Children's colds are best treated without "dosing." At bedtime, just rub on VICKS VAPORUB

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**A NEW CHEVROLET**

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