

This Week IN WASHINGTON

Washington—Wendell L. Willkie, titular head of the Republican party, last week attempted to throw a monkey wrench into the planned opposition to President Roosevelt's "All-Out" aid-to-Britain bill by announcing that he favored the bill's provisions with the very minor reservation that a two-year time limit be placed on Presidential powers.

While proponents of the bill are hailing his statement as a forthright, honest appraisal that should effect immediate passage of the bill in its entirety, or with a few minor changes, the opposition is cautiously silent. Informally, many Republican house and senate members condemn the former candidate's statement, but officially it is being ignored.

The opposition, however, is still very voluble on the bill itself. This bill, number 1776, as it happens, proposes to give the President the unlimited right to "sell, transfer, exchange, lease, or otherwise dispose of" any defense article which the President may deem advisable to transfer to another nation. It contains provisions for goods to be manufactured on government order and paid for from the national treasury—these goods to be subject to transfer as the President orders. It also carries a provision for the repair of British warships in American ports—in fact, the bill, as it stands, is so all-encompassing, that it gives the Presi-

dent power to do everything except send men to the aid of a country whose defense he may think vital to the safety of the United States.

Dewey Attacks Bill

New York's District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, came out with a scathing indictment of the bill, enumerating the unprecedented powers it would give the President and stating: "This is the time for national unity. The President's proposal is a grave blow, not only to national unity but to all free government everywhere."

Former President Hoover and former Republican candidate, Alfred M. Landon, also strongly condemned the bill, the latter calling it "the first step toward dictatorship." Members of both House and Senate joined in a minority condemnation and promised a terrific battle before the bill was passed. However, the President's adherents backed it strongly, many saying that its provisions did not go far enough. Representative Sol Bloom, Democrat of New York, and chairman of the powerful House Foreign Affairs Committee stated: "This bill follows the line of the President's address, and if it accomplishes the purpose of giving aid to the democracies, I have no doubt that it will meet with popular approval."

There undoubtedly will be changes in the bill before it is passed. The time limit which Mr. Willkie thought advisable, will be probably inserted. Certification from the army and navy that goods are not necessary for our own defense requirements may be demanded, but there is little doubt that bill 1776 will pass both House and Senate without any vital revisions.

Long Debate Expected

There has been some discussion of voting a cloture in the Senate

to prevent a filibuster—but this means, a limit could be placed on debate. But such a move has never been made when vital legislation was before the body, and it is doubtful if it could be forced through.

It is expected that debate may last well in March before final consideration. Despite condemnation of the delaying tactics of the opposition, it will be given a thorough hearing and the country will have every opportunity of making its opinion felt in Congress.

The Latin American republics may influence many votes on the provision of the bill which calls for the repair of British ships in American ports. This provision would override the Declaration of Panama which the American Republics entered into as a part of their cooperative endeavor to keep war from the Americas. A specific part of this declaration included: "The American Republics shall prevent the fitting out, arming or augmenting the force or armament of any ship or vessel to be employed in the service of one of the belligerents, to cruise or commit hostilities against another belligerent."

Largest Budget

In the meantime, the largest peace time budget in the history of the United States lurks in the background, and along with it, the proposal to take the lid off the debt limit. Informed quarters are predicting its passage with a minimum of debate as soon as the "All-Out" aid bill is disposed of, with, however, the debt limit maintained at a level considerably higher than the present \$45,000,000,000 limit.

Almost lost in the turmoil over the war bills and the budget are various disputes arising from the unsettled international situation. Among them is that between the Department of Justice and the State Department. The Justice Department is complaining about the in-rush of foreign agents in the guise of tourists and blames the State Department for not checking it at its source by denying visas to prospective visitors unless they can prove that it is to the interest of the United States to admit them.

The State Department, in a delicate position because of our professed espousal of the British cause while we are legally at peace with Germany, answers that they make the most thorough investigation possible before issuing visitors' visas and can do little more for fear of retaliation by a foreign country.

Under Two Flags



SOMEWHERE IN AFRICA—That is covering a lot of territory, but that's all the censor allows. This Spahi is one of the hundreds who recently went over to the "Free French" forces of General De Gaulle. He was photographed saluting with his own standard after his company had been presented with the new flag of Free France and the British Union Jack.

Silver Anniversary



HOLLYWOOD, Cal. . . . Back in 1915, Joe E. Brown, the bashful bridegroom of this picture, married the blushing bride, Mrs. Joe E. Brown, who accompanies him here. Then, he promised her a big church wedding if he ever had enough money. It seems that somewhere along the way, the famous film comedian found the money, for here they are!



1933 PONTIAC 8, 4-door Sedan
Heater and Defroster
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Heater
1939 CHEVROLET 4-door
Special Deluxe, Heater, Defroster

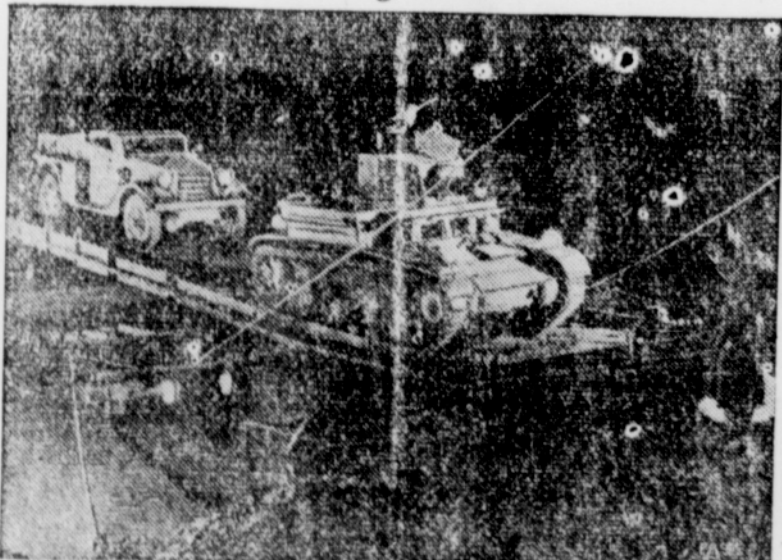
—CHEAP CARS—

1930 FORD tudor	-----	\$100.00
1929 Ford tudor	-----	\$50.00
1930 Willis Knight	-----	\$65.00
4-door sedan, clean		
1929 Oldsmobile	-----	\$50.00

GEORGE E. KOCH

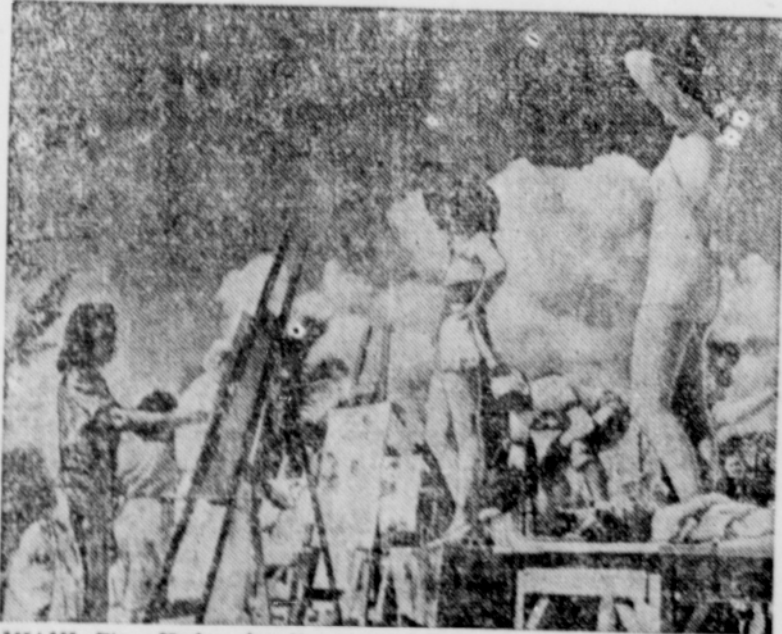
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Crossing A River



FORT KNOX, Ky.—Built under difficult conditions of rain and mud, this pontoon bridge safely carries an eleven-ton tank and an armored truck over the Salt River at Fort Knox, Ky. Engineers who built the bridge watch their handiwork under test.

Open-Air Art Studio



MIAMI, Fla.—Under the direction of Denman Fink, the art class of the University of Miami held its first outdoor winter session on the sands of Tahiti Beach, Miami, and here is what it looked like. A football star and some professional models are doing the posing.

New U. S. Ambassador Starts for Vichy



WASHINGTON, D. C. . . . Admiral William D. X. Leahy, U. S. N. (Retired), who is taking over the difficult job of Ambassador of the United States to France. With the Admiral are his wife and their grandson, Robert Deale.

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