

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

Russia's Ouster From League Is Empty Victory for Finland Because Geneva Is Powerless

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)
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They Figured in the Battle of Nations



JOSEPH AVENOL

Secretary-general of the League, he called the special session at Finland's behest after the little Baltic nation was invaded by Russia. Purpose: To win League condemnation of Russia, possibly her expulsion, and the support of other League nations for Finland's cause. When the assembly agreed unanimously to offer Russia its mediation services, Avenol extended the bid to Moscow.



VIACHESLAV MOLOTOV

Premier of Russia, he replied bluntly by referring Avenol to an earlier Soviet message which said Russia considered Finland's appeal "unfounded"; that Russia did not consider herself at war with Finland; that Moscow was maintaining "peaceful relations" with the Soviet sponsored Finnish "peoples" government; that the regular Helsinki government no longer had authority.



KARL HAMBRO

League assembly president and representative of Norway, he was among leading pro-Finnish workers who argued for Russia's expulsion following receipt of Molotov's message. Rudolphe Freyre, Argentine delegate, threatened to leave the League unless this action was taken. Finally such a resolution was passed and the council adopted it. Avenol was ordered to give the Soviet its walking papers.



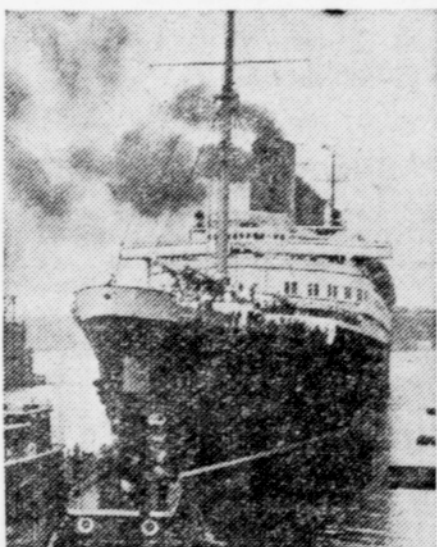
JAKOB SURITS

Russian ambassador to France and delegate to the League, he packed his bags and left Geneva silently while the forces of democracy cheered. But observers wondered about the wisdom of this gesture. Would not Russia's ouster draw the Kremlin closer to Berlin and Tokyo, thereby cementing the pro-war forces and spreading the conflict? Moreover, had the defunct League gained anything?

THE WARS: Western Front

"Strangers are present," said Prime Minister Chamberlain, and 15 reporters were ousted from the gallery. A few minutes later the house of commons began its first secret session since the World war. Subject: "Organization of supplies for the persecution of war."

There was probably a lot of explaining to do. First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill was probably asked why Germany's \$20,000,000 Bremen was allowed to slip through the blockade and reach



BREMEN

Why, Mr. Churchill?

Hamburg, homeward bound from Murmansk.

(The admiralty had announced a British submarine had sighted the Bremen but did not attack because it would have broken international law. Germany scoffed at this report, but failed to tell why the Bremen was called home so suddenly from the alleged safety of a Russian port.)

Sir John Simon probably had to explain why Britain and France had merged their economic structure into what English financiers called an "unbreakable combination of financial power." But aside from these matters, the allies could be fairly well pleased with the war's progress.

Day after Germany had announced her war aim was "military destruction of the enemy," three British cruisers sent the Nazi raider Admiral Graf Spee limping into the harbor of Montevideo, Uruguay, with 36 dead after a 14-hour running

fight. Same day, however, this gain was offset when the British destroyer Duchess collided with another warship and went down with 122 men.

Intensified warfare was also seen on the Western front, where Nazi raiders provided a mysterious touch by attacking at night wearing black hoods and cloaks.

Northern Front

Russia could not blame little Finland for the loss of her steamer Indigirka, which went down off the coast of far-away Japan with a loss of probably 700 lives. But the Kremlin did pout that Finland's white-clad ski units were "using bandit tactics in sudden attacks..."

Wrote one war correspondent to his Moscow paper: "The enemy does not engage in open battle. Hidden, under white robes, they suddenly dart from the woods to shoot at our advancing units. Then in all haste they run, frequently taking off their boots to ski only in their stockings."

Finally, after 14 days of ignominious defeat, the Russians reportedly rushed up 1,500,000 men and 1,000 airplanes to bisect little Finland, whose troops were slaughtering hundreds of Reds each day, disabling tanks and capturing light artillery pieces. Britain announced she would send war materials to aid the Helsinki government, while Italy continued sending planes and pilots.

BUSINESS:

Asphyxiation

Ever since its passage the 1935 public utility holding company act has been fought tooth and nail by America's No. 1 holding company, Associated Gas and Electric company. Last year a senate investigating committee was outsmarted in its sensational search for mysterious H. C. Hopson, Associated Gas' guiding spirit.

Crux of the holding company act is a "death sentence" clause providing for integration of all utility systems geographically and economically. This month, its long argument apparently lost, Associated Gas asphyxiated itself. Resigned "because of ill health" was President J. I. Mange, replaced by Roger J. Whiteford. Said the new chief: "It is my purpose to give my attention at once to simplification of the corporate system... integration or consolidation of its properties... and adjustment of the voting power..."

Nazi Land Mine Hunters Draw Most Dangerous Job



The warning sign, "Minen," (Mines) on the cart tells the story of this picture. A squad of German soldiers hunt land mines in a sector on the western front recovered from the French. Most dangerous job is that of pulling the cart in which recovered mines are carried. A slight mishap and it is doubtful if even the identification tag would be found. The recovered bombs which cannot be used by the finders are destroyed by Nazi marksmen—in a safe place.



Final Russo-Nazi Splitup of Poland

Creation of a puppet Polish state under Berlin domination is expected shortly as the final step in that doomed nation's division between Germany and Russia. Small area whose fate is still undecided probably will become a corral for German and Polish Jews, who will be forced to seek refuge there.

Stork Habitual Visitor to Massachusetts Family



Mr. and Mrs. James Oliveri of Quincy, Mass., visited by the stork only recently, are shown with their family of 12 children. Mrs. Oliveri holds the youngest arrival, who was christened Peter. Mr. Oliveri, 36 years old, is an auto mechanic receiving \$36 a week salary. Mrs. Oliveri is 32 years old. The couple has been married for 15 years.

Diaper Derby



Edward Moeller, a bachelor uncle, won the Kansas City, Mo., diaper derby recently when he bested a field of five experienced fathers, completing his task in 1:02 seconds. Reason: He used a zipper diaper.

Meet 'Josephine,' 900-Pound Champion



"Josephine," 900-pound three-time champion Poland China hog, gets a long drink of water from four-year-old Marlene Cattle. Josephine attracted more than her share of attention when she was entered in a Los Angeles live stock show. She weighs about 20 times as much as her diminutive caretaker, but obeys orders readily, especially if there's food in the offering.