

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY ROGER SHAW

Fundamental Strategy of War Undergoes Major Alterations; Presidential Race Warms Up

(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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This map graphically shows the many points of attack on the British Isles open to Hitler's air raiders.

GERMAN WAR: Strategy

It is about time that we examined the fundamental strategy of the German war, at this point. For the whole situation has changed, in England, in Germany, and in the United States.

The German aim was a simple one. It was to attack England by land, sea, and air, without wasting much time or effort in other theaters of war, which were trifling, anyway. Italy was expected to take Malta, and Spain was expected to enter the war and take Gibraltar, with the possibility that Japan might take Hongkong, but all these were side issues as compared with the basic battle of Britain. Here the preliminary German air bombardment proved highly effective, and English Portsmouth and Welsh Cardiff were believed already to be gutted. Edward VIII, duke of Windsor, was called a fifth columnist by some Englishmen, and hailed as the next monarch by others.

Churchill Plan

The English war plan was this: to hold out, like a besieged fortress, if possible for two or three months. Then, late fall would put an end to German operations against the island fortress. At this point, the English would swing into offensive action in the following way: by an intensified sea blockade that would bring famine to the entire continent of Europe. There have been crop shortages, and failures, on the continent, and another war-winter might bring untold horrors to the Dutch, Belgians, French, Norse, Danes, etc.—and even to the Germans. This was exactly what Winston Churchill was counting on.

There was one hitch in this plan. What food there was on the continent, would go (1) to the German army, (2) to the German home folks, and (3) to the Dutch, Belgians, French, etc., etc. Thereby, the British would make the Dutch and French suffer for Hitler's wrongdoings. But this was only the beginning of the repercussions. It was expected that this plan—the "Churchill plan," they called it—would have the following astounding effect in the United States: it would turn the isolationists into interventionists, and the interventionists into isolationists. The reason for this was as follows: the humane isolationists could not stand the continental starvation, and would want to intervene

NAMES

... in the news

New York city's Mayor LaGuardia strongly advocated universal military service.

President Manuel Quezon of the Philippines told American high-commissioner Francis Sayre (Woodrow Wilson's son-in-law): "We must do our own thinking and learn lessons from contemporary history—or bust!"

Claude Dornier Jr., son of Germany's outstanding aircraft designer, was in New York, and planned to enter an American university in the autumn. Dornier bombers were being massed for the battle of Britain: all-metal monoplanes.

Gen. Eugene Mittelhauser's famous Near Eastern French army was reported, at last, ready for final disbandment, under the direction of an Italian war mission. Mittelhauser succeeded Gen. Max Weygand when the latter went to France to wind up the war and help reorganize the government.

to break the British blockade and feed the starving French, Dutch, and Belgians, with American foodstuffs (of which we would have a surplus). This would make the isolationists take an interventionist position. Meanwhile, the interventionists would cry "hands off" the British blockade, and would want the continent to stew in its own juice, which would turn them into isolationists. This, then, was the key-note to the European war situation as a whole. Meanwhile, Hitler liberated the Belgian war prisoners and sent them home, having long since done the same by the Norwegian and Dutch soldier-captives. The French were expected to be next on the parole list. Not so, the "tough-and-ready" Poles, of whom there were more than a million in German military hands.

CAMPAIGN: Up-Warming

The 1940 presidential campaign race was busy up-warming. It was, in fact, getting warmer and warmer. The third term attempt, by Mr. Roosevelt brought forth many dire predictions from newspaper editorial writers. One excellent quip went the rounds. A lady said to a gent: "But a third term's unprecedented!" To which the gent replied, "So was General Washington's first term."

Some thoughtful students of political science believed that the third term phenomenon was a pale American reflection of totalitarian dictatorships abroad... just as our Civil war of 1861 was a pale reflection of "civil 1848" in Europe. Henry Wallace was put up as Democratic vice president in order to match the Republican McNary, for both were agricultural experts of the very first water. The choice of Wallace brought out that this New Dealer was an ex-Republican, and Mr. Roosevelt had passed over a number of regulation machine Democrats.

Wallace, Ickes, Stimson, Knox, Hopkins, Miss Perkins: none of them had had a Democratic background. But then, of course, the ex-Democrat Willkie had only been a Republican for but two scant years. However, too, was a former Democrat, while it was expected that Al Smith would continue to take a walk. It looked as though the old party divisions were breaking down all along the line, and the terms New Deal and Old Guard were increasingly taking the place of the Republican and Democratic tags. The loss of Jim Farley, the political genius who managed the party machinery for Roosevelt, was a heavy blow to many of the Democrats.

More of It

While a good many Democrats were muttering about the III term, Wallace, and Farley, Willkie stressed his own humble origin, and inferred artfully that Roosevelt's path had been a lot softer. Willkie said, furthermore, that he was making no sacrifice, but that he really wanted to run—which was certainly obvious to almost anybody.

OIL, OIL, OIL: Petroleum

Large shipments of oil have been going through to Spain, from American Texas, and also from South American Venezuela and Colombia. Something like 2½ million barrels had been sent from the United States in eight months of the war. Was Hitler getting much of it? Probably, they thought in Washington.

Some, in fact, believed that Germany had been getting far more oil from America than from Russia.

An Emphatic No



To Adolf Hitler's "last chance peace offer," Prime Minister Churchill of England sounded the expected "no." Long an enemy of Hitler, Churchill has been particularly obnoxious to the Fuehrer. Even when Churchill was just a private citizen, Hitler singled him out for oratorical attack. (See—Hitler Talks.)

HITLER TALKS:

Endlessly

Hitler's speech came over the radio, translated into an extreme, ultra, English accent. It must have been Lord Haw-Haw putting it across. It went on endlessly. Hitler said he didn't want to destroy the British empire. He said he shrank at the destruction which hung over England, and suggested an "honorable" peace. Hitler reviewed his conquests, his methods, and his diplomatic wrangles with Chamberlain and Daladier. He said he spoke not as a victor, but as a rationalist, anxious to terminate futile misery. Some 31 Pacific coast radio stations cut off his speech because it was trying to "justify his crimes against civilization itself."

Hitler also made Goering something brand-new in the staid history of the Prussian army: a Reich's Marshal of Greater Germany, and gave him the Grand Cross of the Iron Cross. Goering designed himself a new, different, extra-special uniform—"the only one of its kind in all German officialdom." Hitler also created nine new field-m Marshals and two new field-m Marshals-general, and 17 new colonel-generals (German military grades run different from the American).

BURMA ROAD:

So Silly

The Burma road controversy took the silliest turn on record. That road carried war supplies to Chiang Kai-shek and his armies. The British foreign office closed it, on the heated demand of Japan. Then Secretary Hull protested that the Burma road was necessary for world trade and international commerce (Hull is an old free-trader). At this point, part of the British parliament supported Hull against their own foreign office, with cries of "no appeasement." China, infuriated, threatened England with dire threats. Germany, of course, took the side of Japan. Thereby, Hitler took the side of the British foreign office, against Hull and Chiang Kai-shek. It was Anglo-Germany, plus Japan, versus the U. S. A. Meanwhile, England was trying to negotiate the finish to the Jap-Chinese contest, but apparently our own state department was opposed to "appeasement" in the Orient. All this hit a new low in foreign relations.

ANGLO-SHIFT:

Turnabouts

While Hitler was promoting all those glamour-boy generals and airmen, and scattering decorations to the four winds, England was kicking various people upstairs. An arrogant-looking gentleman named Lieut.-Gen. Sir Alan F. Brooke, recently general officer in charge of the southern command, became commander-in-chief of the home forces. He took the place of Gen. Sir Edmund Ironside (it was Oliver Cromwell's ironside that founded the British regular army).

Sir Ironside, a huge, hulking fellow, who once commanded Gibraltar, was kicked into being a field-general. Viscount Gort, former commander of the ill-fated British expeditionary force in France and Flanders, had the same experience. He became inspector general of forces for training. Previously, Gort had received the sacred order of the bath, which evoked considerable criticism. But Gort, everybody admitted, was a good organizer. Brooke had commanded the II corps of the British expeditionary force.

Vitamin B

Simultaneous with the military turnabouts, England went in for a new kind of white bread. It was rich in vitamin B and calcium salt, to help overcome the wartime strain of nerves and physical fatigue. It was a revolution in nutrition. The scientific food ministry was enthusiastic about it, and it might turn out to be a real boon to medicine, and to humanity in general. The British public began to buy it up, and gulp it down, prontissimo.

FDR-Wallace Ticket Choice Of Democrats

Third Term Tradition Is Broken by Delegates At Convention.

By GEORGE A. BARCLAY

A TRADITION of 152 years standing was shattered when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was nominated for a third term by the Democratic convention in Chicago. It was the first time in history that such an event has occurred.

From start to finish at the convention it was evident he would be nominated. Even when speakers proposed the names of other candidates, it was apparent that when the vote was finally taken, President Roosevelt would be drafted. A surprise to many convention attendants was the fact that when the nominations started, Alabama did not yield to New York, but gave its junior senator, Lister Hill, the honor of nominating the President.

Greatest speculation centered around the nomination of a vice president. It became known on the final day that President Roosevelt's choice was Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture. As in the case of the renomination of the President, the delegates knew for whom they were to vote before entering the hall. But it was only after a neck-and-neck race with Speaker William B. Bankhead and a noisy demonstration by groups of delegates and spectators who shouted objections when Paul V. McNutt, federal security administrator, asked withdrawal of his own name, that Mr. Wallace was nominated. His selection is expected to appeal to agriculture and to act as an offset to the same appeal of Sen. Charles McNary, Republican vice-presidential nominee.

Acceptance Speech.

In accepting the nomination for a third term, Mr. Roosevelt showed himself once more a tradition smasher.

In a radio address broadcast from the White House to the delegates he said that he accepted the nomination only after deep conflict between his personal desire to retire and the urgings of his conscience. But now, he said, the European war had created a public danger in the United States.

"In the face of that danger," he told the delegates, "all those who can be of service to the republic have no other choice but to offer themselves for service in those capacities for which they are best fitted."

It was an apparently united party that made the ballot unanimous for Roosevelt after the vote of the state delegations had given the President 946 1/3 of the 1,100 votes in the convention and the other candidates a combined total of 149 2/3. These candidates included Postmaster General Farley, Vice President Garner and Senator Millard Tydings. Secretary of State Hull, although not a candidate, had received 5½ votes. One after another the names were withdrawn and finally Mr. Farley.

Democratic Women Gain Voice In Party's Platform Council

By HOWARD JARVIS

ANOTHER tradition was broken by the Democratic party when it gave women delegates an equal voice with men on the party platform committee for the first time in American political history.

This action was taken at the fourth session of the convention. More than 2,000 women delegates had decided to put up a united front to demand this equality.

The women didn't hesitate to use their new-found power. They introduced several amendments to the party platform, and those amendments were passed. Foreign policy and women's rights received particular attention.

At the insistence of Mrs. Arthur Condon of Washington, D. C., the plank on foreign policy which had already been accepted by the committee was changed to provide a warning to foreign dictators. Five words, "except in case of attack" were added to the pledge not to send troops to fight in foreign lands.

The new committeewomen put through a plank which had been re-



Franklin D. Roosevelt



Henry A. Wallace

spearhead of the opposition to the third term, moved the nomination of the President by acclamation.

Aside from the balloting and the reading of the planks in the platform, three things stood out in sharp relief in an otherwise unemotional and unexciting convention. One was the candidacy of James A. Farley and the speculation over his future role in the party. The other was the reading by Permanent Chairman Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky of a statement summarizing President Roosevelt's views on the nomination the night before the balloting in which he said he had no desire or purpose to continue in office and released all delegates pledged to him. The third was the dramatic appearance of 82-year-old Senator Carter Glass of Virginia from a sick bed to inveigh against breaking the third term tradition as he nominated Mr. Farley.

Roosevelt vs. Farley.

The approaching dissolution of the partnership between Mr. Farley and President Roosevelt was evident as the chairman of the Democratic National committee raised his gavel on Monday noon, calling the convention to order. Those who remembered the situation in 1932 and 1936 when Farley was the organizing genius felt the contrast. No longer was Jim Farley the general-in-chief directing the strategy that would renominate his chief. He was in another role—that of a candidate for the presidency himself and an avowed opponent of the third-term idea.

For months it had been apparent to political observers that the President and Mr. Farley no longer saw eye-to-eye. The President's silence on the third-term question and Farley's known opposition to it increased the difficulties. Their historic conference at Hyde Park, N. Y., a week before the convention at which Mr. Roosevelt made known his views and pledged Farley to secrecy, pushed the question of their future relationship further into the limelight. To many, it seemed virtual confirmation of the long-standing rumor that Mr. Farley would resign his national committee and cabinet posts after the convention to take over the majority stock of the New York Yankees' ball club.

Complimentary references to Jim Farley by President Roosevelt in his radioed acceptance speech and by Mrs. Roosevelt who appeared personally to speak on the closing night were interpreted as a gesture of friendship to Mr. Farley.

But while the delegates cheered Senator Glass, it was a personal tribute only. Their minds were made up. Tradition or no tradition they wanted President Roosevelt for a third term.

With the nominations out of the way, the Democrats faced their campaign opponents from a platform built on a strong defense of the New Deal against the Republicans and of the Western hemisphere against all aggressors. In its planks on foreign wars, defense and aid to the allies the platform was a close approximation of similar planks adopted by the Republican convention at Philadelphia recently.

Concerning foreign wars, the platform stated: "We will not participate in foreign wars and will not send our army, naval or air forces to fight in foreign lands outside of the Americas, except in case of attack."

Concerning defense the platform pledged to "enforce and defend the Monroe doctrine," "provide America with an invincible air force, a navy strong enough to protect all our seacoasts and a fully equipped and mechanized army."

The platform is pledged to safeguard the farmer's foreign markets, expand his domestic markets for all domestic crops, to promote farmer-owned co-operatives, marketing agreements, extend crop insurance and safeguard the family-size farm.

In other planks, the party pledged extension of the Social Security act to "millions of persons not now protected," but without specifying them. A provision calling for "early realization" of a minimum pension for the aged was considered an appeal for votes of the Townsends.

The party devoted considerable space to its declaration for continuation of public hydro-electric projects and condemning the "Power Monopoly" in one paragraph mentioning indirectly Wendell L. Willkie's long duel with the Tennessee Valley authority.

Random Notes of the Convention

More women delegates cast their votes in the various state delegations than ever before in the history of conventions. One state delegation—Utah—had more women than men, the ladies outnumbering the gentlemen nine to seven. In the Florida delegation the representation of the sexes was equal. The New Jersey delegation had Rep. Mary Norton as its chairman.

One-eyed Connolly, perennial gate-crasher, failed to crash but attended the convention wearing the badge of an assistant sergeant of arms. He assisted Andy Frain, in charge of ushers.

Hollywood was represented by screen star Melvyn Douglas and his wife, Helen Gahagan. He was a California delegate, she his alter-nate.