

# The Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

### STETTINIUS STOPS DENYING SHORTAGE OF STEEL

WASHINGTON.—Edward R. Stettinius Jr., handsome raw materials chief of the Defense commission, apparently has become gun-shy. Having seen his denials of shortages in strategic materials blow up in his face, he is resorting to a new technique in the case of steel.

It took only a few days for his solemn statement that there was no aluminum shortage to be refuted by Sen. Joe O'Mahoney, chairman of the monopoly investigating committee. Even less time elapsed between his denial of a zinc and brass deficiency and the issuance of a presidential order barring their export.

The hotly controversial steel issue has been a Stettinius worry for months. As far back as last summer he was warned by experts that the nation's vast defense program, to say nothing of frantic British orders, required an immediate expansion of steel plant capacity. It was pointed out that present U. S. ingot capacity is approximately 83,000,000 tons, of which normal consumer needs for 1941 would be around 60,000,000 tons, leaving only 23,000,000 tons for armament.

This obviously was far from enough. The British alone will have to get at least 18,000,000 tons of American steel this year to keep their war industries supplied.

With several notable exceptions, the steel industry balked at building new plants. It insisted it could take care of all requirements without the 15 or 20 per cent expansion that was urged. In this stand it was vigorously supported by Walter S. Tower, president of the American Iron & Steel Institute, also a dollar-a-year adviser on Stettinius' staff.

But the pooh-poohing of Tower, salaried official of the steel industry, was sharply challenged by Prof. Melvin G. d'Chazeau of the University of Virginia, another Stettinius steel adviser. An outstanding authority without any industrial ties, d'Chazeau urged immediate plant enlargement.

This inner battle raged for weeks, with Stettinius sitting blinking in the middle while deliveries continued to fall further and further behind.

He finally did move after the President took an indirect poke at the steel barons in his message to congress, and the "Big Four" defense chiefs followed him up with their demand that "industry must subordinate its concern over possible future effects of tremendous expansion."

Stettinius acted by passing the buck. He designated Gano Dunn, head of the J. G. White Engineering company, and a dollar-a-year man on his staff, as a "neutral arbiter" to decide between Tower and d'Chazeau.

Dunn is the "impartial" expert who last year slashed a proposed TVA power expansion for defense purposes nearly 75 per cent, and was overruled by direct order of Roosevelt on the insistence of other defense heads.

Some insiders are betting that it won't be long before steel is put on the priorities list and consumer use sharply curtailed. They base this on the fact that even if new plants are ordered, it will take a year before they get into production.

### BUY BRITISH MOVEMENT

Behind the flood of "Help Britain—Buy Something British" window posters, which have sprung up all over the country, is an amazing story of a nation-wide movement started singlehandedly by a young Portland, Ore., advertising man only two months ago.

His name is Robert Smith and the idea came to him when he took out his wallet for a bill to donate to the British relief fund. He noticed that his wallet was tattered, and it struck him that by buying a new one of British make he would be making a definite contribution to England's war resources.

Young Smith figured there must be thousands of others who felt the same way, and decided then and there to call it to their attention. The first thing he did was to team up with a close friend, David Robinson, an attorney and leader in Portland welfare organizations. With Robinson handling organization and Smith promotion the movement gathered strength like a rolling snowball.

In the two months the movement has been under way it has prairie-fired to 28 states with more than 150 local branches. Dazed by the phenomenal success of his idea, young Smith attributes it entirely to the strong feelings of the "average man in the street."

### THINGS DIPLOMATIC

A career in the U. S. Foreign Service begins at \$2,500, plus an average of \$1,000 for rent. Top pay is \$10,000 and rent . . . While there is no requirement that candidates be college graduates, one third of the U. S. foreign service officers are graduates of Harvard, Yale and Princeton . . . About 500 young hopefuls try to get into the service each year; about 30 are chosen . . . A total of 155 foreign service officers are listed in Who's Who. In the foreign service there are but 2 women.

# Walter Winchell

NOTES OF AN INNOCENT BYSTANDER

### The Wireless:

There's no type in the composing rooms that can pack the sting FDR gets into his radio delivery. Frinstance this excerpt from his message to Congress: "We must especially beware of that small group of selfish men who would clip the wings of the American eagle to feather their own nests" . . . Ellin Mackay Berlin was ladylike in her comments about Mrs. Chas. Lindbergh. She called her "a sensitive and gentle woman, bewildered and frightened by skillful German propaganda" . . . The Film Critics' broadcast made us uncomfortable. They praised, honored and gave excerpts from their prize picture, "Grapes of Wrath"—a dramatic tale of starving Americans—while the broadcast emanated from the lush, silky Wainbow Woom! . . . Town Meeting of the Air was a bore when the often-boomed Verne Marshall was flopping. Dean Acheson was merely wonderful.

### The Front Pages:

The Washington papers showed a photo of Rush Holt taking down his Senator's shingle after being defeated for re-election. The photo should go in the schoolrooms, like Washington crossing the Delaware, to illustrate an historical cause for rejoicing . . . A licking does things to the imagination of Fascist editors. The defenders of Bardia were cheered for the "undying glory of delaying the enemy," while the Britons had to take what satisfaction they could get out of winning the battle . . . Dale Harrison, once an AP columnist, will contribute paragraphs to Newsweek . . . John T. McManus offers a good way to keep score on how well the Ratzis are doing in South America. Where "The Great Dictator" finds it tough to get bookings, you can find the busy Berliners.

### The Story Tellers:

The mag illustrations aren't a bad barometer of America's war sentiments. You begin to see the swastika in fiction illustrations. It wasn't long ago, either, that the Satevpost was appealing enough to skip all mention of Germany in the serialization of "Escape." You didn't have to be bright to know where the cruelties took place. Of course, maybe the omissions were the author's . . . Klaus Mann's first issue of Decision is out. S. Maugham, V. Sheean and R. Sherwood are on the editorial board . . . Hitler is caught smiling in a photo in Look. No wonder: He's got his hands around the throat of a helpless little girl . . . Margaret Case Harriman, who is putting Clare Boothe through the wringer for a gossip weekly, was a staff sister of her victim on the old Vanity Fair . . . La Boothe's career can't be very interesting. She's scheduled for only two articles!

### Typewriter Ribbons:

Olin Miller's: The Italians venied, vidied and vamoosed . . . P. Wilson's: A man may have no bad habits and have worse . . . Rob Wagner's: He has no more sense of direction than a string of firecrackers . . . Virginia Faulkner's: Her parents cut her off without a sentiment . . . Anon's: Dictatorship is always an aria—never an opera . . . Q. Reynolds': A long thin line of red tape finally strangled France . . . I. Hoffman's: He had that derelicked look about him . . . Oscar Wilde's: I always like to know everything about my new friends and nothing about my old ones.

### NOTES OF A REPORTER TO HIS EDITOR

Verne Marshall, who offered to take on all comers at Town Hall, had two bodyguards with him. Watch for invite to speak from Joe McNazi's mob . . . Eve Curie due shortly for another lecture tour . . . Wm. P. Lear of Dayton, whose plane was forced down near Jacksonville, is at St. Vincent's hosp there, minus eight teeth plus broken jaw . . . Slapsie Maxie's, in Miami, an overnight smash success. You can't even get into the gambling room. That crowded . . . Singapore Sadie's, backed by millionaires, paid off its publicity agent with a check that bounced . . . See page 35 Radio Guide photo of Hal Kemp, inspecting last recording he made: "Got a Date With an Angel!"

U. S. foreign air travel will be made parallel to the steamship pattern, according to Administration plans. Six great firms to place American aviation in every quarter of globe . . . Have the Washington boys check Luise Rainer's new heart, an attache at British Embassy.

The Windsors have definitely decided to visit New York City in Sept. After spending August on his Calgary ranch . . . His friend, yachtman Axel Wenner-Gren, is bldg a huge harbor at Nassau large enough to dock world's biggest battleship. Also a landing field for planes. About 300 men working on both projects . . . While Biddle's been mentioned to succeed Jackson as Att'y-Gen'l (when Jackson moves up to Fed bench) I hear Fed Att'y Cahill of NY may get Jackson's AG job.

## U. S. Army Men Sail for Newfoundland



These United States army men, specially equipped for cold weather conditions, are having their equipment inspected on board the S. S. Edmund B. Alexander upon sailing from New York for new army bases in Newfoundland. The Alexander is the old S. S. America, which was used as a troop transport in the World war days of 1917.

## Words Fly at 'Lend-Lend' Bill Hearing



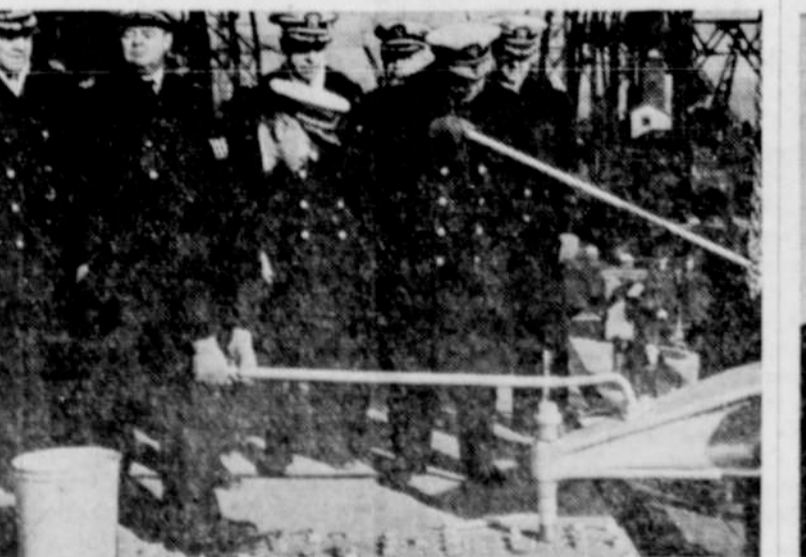
At the house foreign affairs committee hearing on President Roosevelt's "lend-lease" bill, chairman Sol Bloom and Rep. Hamilton Fish, both of New York, bandy words as Fish calls the bill "a dictator's bill." This soundphoto shows, left to right, Representative Bloom, Representative Fish and Representative George E. Tinkham of Massachusetts.

## Warriors Hailed by Greeks



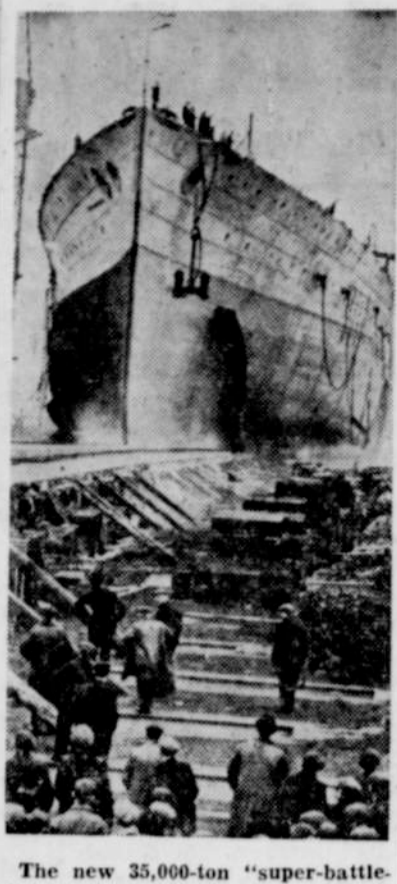
Wild with joy over their country's successes against the Italians, the populace of Athens, Greece, gives a rousing reception to Greek and British soldiers home from the battlefield. The British fighters have British and Greek flags. The Greeks are grateful to the British for the aid they have given them in Albania, where Il Duce is still in reverse.

## Start Whittling on 45,000-Ton 'Big Stick'



Assisted by Capt. J. J. Broshek (left), Rear Admiral Clark H. Woodward is shown setting in motion the machine that drove the first rivet in the keel of the 45,000-ton battleship Missouri at the Brooklyn navy yard. The Missouri, expected to be completed in 1944, will be a sister ship of the Iowa. They will be the largest ships in the U. S. navy.

## For Britain



The new 35,000-ton "super-battleship," Duke of York, sliding down the ways of Clydeside yard, London, after being christened by Queen Elizabeth. The vessel will mount ten 14-inch guns and have a speed of over 30 knots.

## Visits White House



Joseph P. Kennedy, resigned U. S. ambassador to Great Britain, shown as he talked with members of the press shortly after visiting the White House in "lend-lease" bill hearing.

## To Puerto Rico



Pictured here is Guy J. Swope, auditor of Puerto Rico, who has been nominated by President Roosevelt to succeed Admiral William D. Leahy as governor of Puerto Rico. The appointment is subject to confirmation by the senate.

## With British Embassy

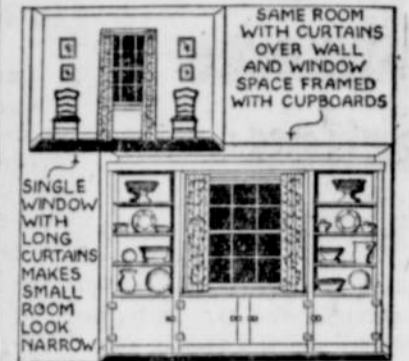


Miss Craig McGeachy at her desk in Washington, D. C., the first woman ever attached to the British embassy here. She represents the ministry of economic warfare.

## Accenting the Width Of a Narrow Room

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

ON A Thursday afternoon the south end of a certain dining room was as shown here in the upper sketch. The following Monday it appeared as shown below. Cupboards had been added to display china and give storage space, yet the room actually seemed wider and more spacious than before. The transformation was made by the handy man with no tools



but a hammer, saw and screw driver plus the aid of his willing helper with needle, thread and paint brush. The new curtain treatment, shown in the sketch, made the window seem wider and the strong horizontal lines of the cupboards also helped to create an illusion of width. The cupboards were eight inches deep and made of one-inch lumber with doors of plywood for the lower part.

NOTE: Mrs. Spears' Books 1 and 3 are full of other practical ideas for making and hanging curtains. Each book has 22 pages of pictures showing you how to modernize and beautify your home. Send order to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS  
Drawer 10  
Bedford Hills New York  
Enclose 20 cents for Books 1 and 3.  
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## INDIGESTION

may affect the Heart  
Gas trapped in the stomach or gut may act like a hair-trigger on the heart. At the first sign of distress smart men and women depend on Bi-Lo's Tablets to get gas free. No laxative but made of the fastest-acting medicines known for acid indigestion. If the FIRST DOSE doesn't give relief, take a second bottle to us and receive DOUBLE Money Back, too.

To Have Lived  
Happy he, who secure within can say, Tomorrow, do thy worst, for I have lived today.—Dryden.

## Relief At Last For Your Cough

Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

## CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

Go Forth Fearless  
Go forth to meet the shadowy Future without fear and with a manly heart.—Longfellow.



Moving Nature  
Nothing stands still in nature but death.—Emerson.

## Watch Your Kidneys!

Help Them Cleanse the Blood of Harmful Body Waste  
Your kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as Nature intended—fail to remove impurities that, if retained, may poison the system and upset the whole body machinery.  
Symptoms may be nagging headache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of pep and strength. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.  
There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. Doan's have been winning new friends for more than forty years. They have a nation-wide reputation. Are recommended by grateful people the country over. Ask your neighbor!

## DOAN'S PILLS

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