

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW REARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C. BRITISH WILL TRADE ISLAND

Some of the most important conversations ever to take place with Great Britain in 150 years have been transpiring behind the scenes recently.

As this column has pointed out on several occasions, the support most desperately needed by Great Britain as of this moment is destroyers.

To this end, conversations between representatives of the two governments have taken this course: **If the United States will supply Britain with destroyers and small motor-torpedo boats, then the British will transfer to the United States any island possessions it desires any place in the Western hemisphere, and will also permit the United States the use of land, air and naval bases on any territory which it controls.**

In addition to this, the British have told American plenipotentiaries that the United States can write its own ticket. In other words, if this country wants other concessions from Britain in return for naval support, it can have them.

These terms, transmitted to members of the Roosevelt cabinet and to high Roosevelt advisers, have been received most favorably. This includes the Republican members of the cabinet, Secretary of War Stimson and Secretary of the Navy Knox. In fact, the opinion inside the administration has been unanimous.

However, the President himself has been loathe to move.

POLLS UNRELIABLE THIS YEAR

Psychological Corporation, one of the leading public poll organizations of the United States, is warning clients privately about the reliability of public opinion polls under present unsettled conditions.

Psychological Corporation is headed by Dr. Henry C. Link, who is the originator of the "P. Q." or Personality Quotient, and other psychological tests. He is also connected with a number of national business concerns, including U. S. Rubber, Lord & Taylor, and Gimbels department store. Psychological Corporation set up the original Fortune poll and has conducted numerous polls in its own name.

Despite its long experience, however, P. C. will not conduct polls of general public opinion this year. Reason for this is that the war and public reaction to it have set up such rapid cross currents of opinion as to make established polling methods unreliable.

P. C. will continue to make any poll for which its services are employed, handling each job according to the individual requirements. But on polls where the war enters as a factor, or in regard to political opinion, P. C. will undertake them only on condition that definite predictions will not be made because of incalculable rapid shifts of opinion.

On polls not involving these factors, which it will conduct as it has similar ones in the past, P. C. makes no reservations. But it definitely is hedging on political polls and is frankly telling clients so.

GERMAN PARTNERS

Despite the intervention of Arthur V. Davis, chairman of the Aluminum Corporation of America, the justice department is going ahead with its grand jury proceedings against that company and the giant German chemical cartel, I. G. Farbenindustrie, for alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law in the production of magnesium.

Magnesium is an alloy even lighter than aluminum and is used in the manufacture of airplanes. It was in such demand by Germany for Hitler's airplane program, that Germany paid cash for American magnesium, even when she was desperately hard up for exchange.

Mr. Davis came into the Justice department and offered all sorts of co-operation to the government. But the department's anti-trust experts figure that it is too late. They have taken the position that when an American company co-operates with Germany to restrict production of an important metal, it hampers national defense by discouraging American industry in peacetime.

The magnesium industry, they figure, should have been developed sufficiently during peacetime so that it could be expanded very rapidly now in an emergency.

It is also their contention that the restriction of magnesium production in normal peacetimes discourages airplane manufacturers from experimenting with this very important alloy and learning to make full use of it.

So the grand jury investigation, now in progress in New York, will continue.

ON CAPITOL HILL

That 41-page symposium of news articles and editorials on Jim Farley that Sen. Carter Glass, aged economy-minded Virginian, inserted in the Congressional Record cost the taxpayers \$1,845. The insertion was the largest ever placed in the Record.

Albert H. Losche, 14-year-old senate page, has joined the ranks of Washington authors. He has published a book of his senatorial experiences under the title "Washington Memoires."

GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

United Press

A VISIT WITH WILLKIE

COLORADO SPRINGS.—It puts a columnist on a spot to be invited by a presidential candidate to give his (the columnist's) views on public questions to be taken or rejected as the candidate sees fit. It is a spot because a newspaper man's job is to take—not give—opinions, and to use what he can glean to inform the public. In this reversal of roles, I can't be talking about Mr. Willkie's views, as disclosed in two long sessions here, because he has to be absolutely fair to the press, and that means no favorites or exclusive interviews. I can't for another reason, which is that he is my friend and talks in as complete confidence as a man would indulge in with his own brother.

The net result from a newspaper man's viewpoint of a 3,200-mile airplane hop to interview Mr. Willkie is just like taking a dish of spinach to a luxurious banquet or being invited to dig freely in a diamond mine with a pair of eyebrow tweezers.

It's a spot, but his Colorado Springs setting on the toenails of the Rockies at Pike's Peak, is one of the most pleasant and beautiful spots on God's footstool, so I think I can survive the mental anguish.

It is telling no tales to say, from observation here and elsewhere, that Mr. Willkie is surely continuing the process of selling himself on sight. Little Mary Pickford, who had lunch with us, went away in raptures. She has marvelously preserved her stature in public respect and adoration—and otherwise. She is going to be a help.

If enough potential crusaders like Mary can meet Mr. Willkie in such circumstances, his lack of an old-fashioned political organization won't count for so much.

There is no question of his appeal and political "It" in personal contacts, whether it is with single individuals or in crowds. He has all that it takes. What remains to be seen, is what he can do on the radio and the content of his speeches. The Republican platform was so indefinite that Mr. Willkie will have to chart the party course almost single-handed. It is some chore!

The Republicans were leading at this stage of the 1936 campaign, but from the very day of Mr. Landon's undistinguished opener at West Middlesex they started on a toboggan slide that left them two states. Mr. Landon's theme was: The New Deal is perfect, but I can deal it better. That left no issue, save one of personalities. As between Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Landon, that was just no contest.

There will be a contest in that field this time. Some people say that in his engaging exterior, Mr. Willkie is just another Roosevelt. Nothing could be further from the truth. The only point of similarity is that they are both pleasant gentlemen. Mr. Roosevelt's charm is that of a cultured actor. Mr. Willkie's is far more roughshod and homely. I believe that most people will regard it as more genuine.

But he is going to need more than that. He will have to make issues far more clear than they are today and convince people that his is the right side.

One handicap of Mr. Landon was that Col. Frank Knox and Ogden Mills were speaking with him—but not the same language.

Mr. Willkie may have a similar problem. Mr. Hoover is going to make at least two speeches. He is a thoughtful, experienced and respected American, but Mr. Hoover's speeches represent Mr. Hoover's doctrine and nothing else whatever. They will be attempts not to sell Willkie, but to sell the present edition of Hooverism—which may be something as different as Knox and Mills from Alfred Landon.

That would be one great handicap and there are many others. However, Mr. Willkie's life habit has been overcoming seemingly impossible handicaps, like getting a Democrat nominated on a Republican ticket. None of these new ones compares with that. Let's wait and see.

TRAINING PILOTS

Unconfirmed stories about the Germans sending partly trained boys to attack in flights, relying on only one or two ships equipped with modern instruments and piloted by really trained leaders may be true. They also may explain the astonishing British claims of bringing down three or four German ships for every one they lose.

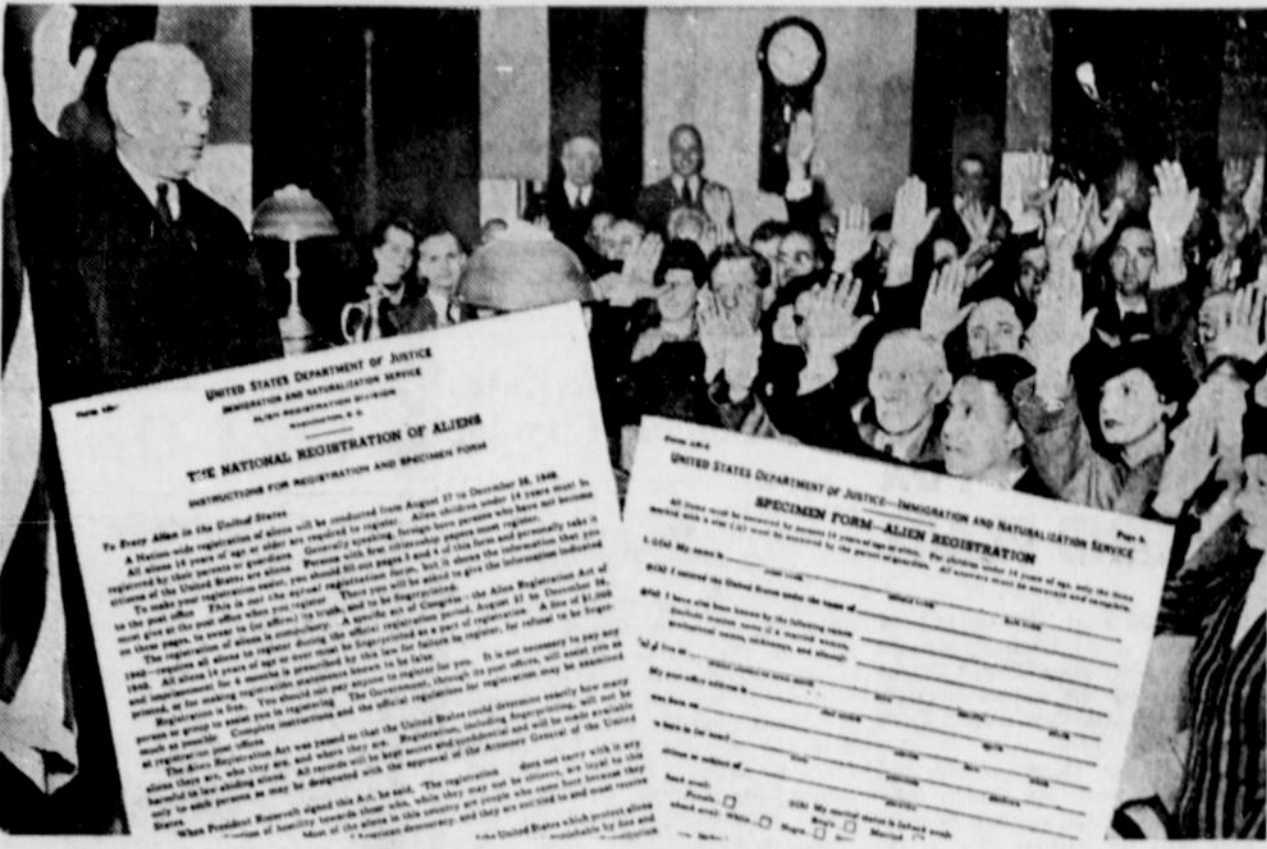
That is too expensive a policy, and we certainly do not want to risk cities, ships, convoys—not to mention young lives and costly planes—on that kind of training.

The Civil Aeronautics administration is exerting great efforts to get some interest and primary training into young men by subsidizing older pilots to train them—at so much a head—for eight hours with dual control. Then the kid goes up solo.

After that he has 22 hours—altogether 30. He isn't supposed to be a pilot, but to have had his primary training—\$325 worth.

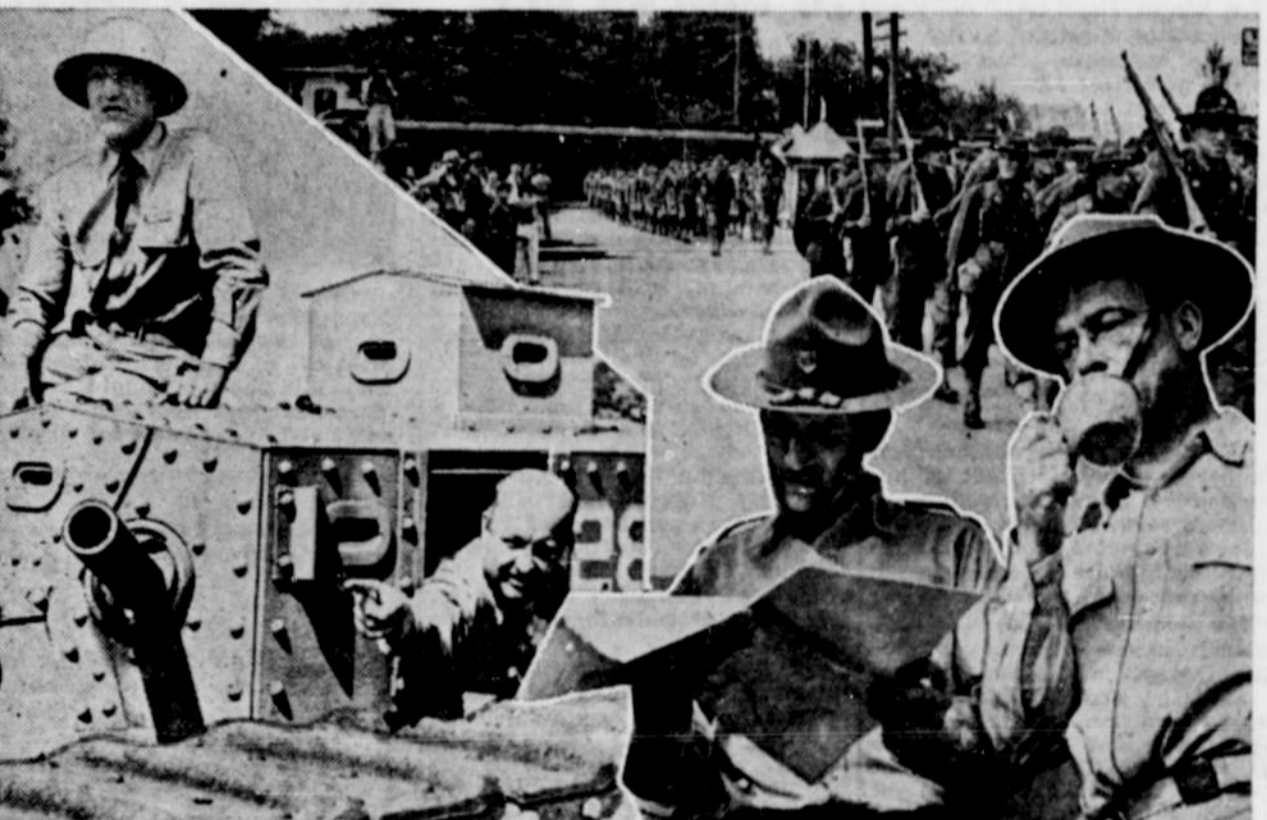
Will the army and navy entrust its expensive military ships to these boys? Almost certainly no.

U. S. Government Registers 3,500,000 Aliens



More than 3,500,000 aliens residing in the United States will begin registering with federal authorities throughout the country beginning August 27. The registration period will require four months to complete. Every alien will be fingerprinted and required to answer a questionnaire to test his attitude toward American institutions. Above is shown a registration form and a scene in a federal court room in which aliens are swearing allegiance to the United States.

Army Engages in Nationwide 'Blitzkrieg' Games



Greatest nationwide peacetime maneuvers in history are mobilizing 310,000 members of the regular army, the National Guard and the reserve in the East, South, Middle West and West. Uncle Sam's fighting forces are being trained in the latest technique of blitzkrieg warfare. Above are shown typical scenes in the war games which bring into play mechanized "panzer" brigades, airplanes, motorized divisions, tanks, anti-aircraft corps, mobile infantry and other arms of service.

World's Youngest Mother to Visit U. S.



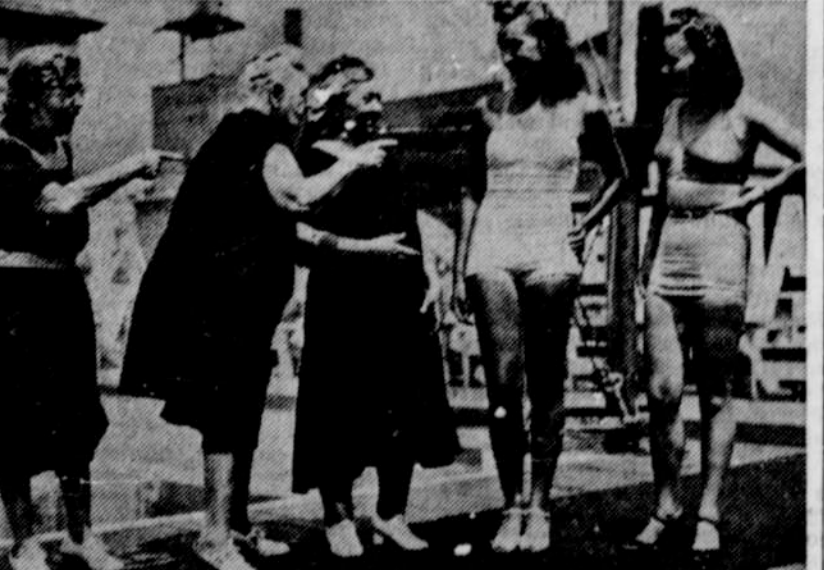
Lina Medina, aged five, the world's youngest mother, with her 15-month-old son Jerry, who, it is reported, will journey from Lima, Peru, to Chicago to undergo an investigation of her strange case by scientists and medical authorities. The young Peruvian mother will celebrate her sixth birthday on September 23. She has attracted world-wide attention among scientists and laymen.

Japanese Agent



Tiaki Matuda, naval attache at the Japanese embassy in Berlin, who is visiting in Washington before he leaves for Tokyo to report to his government.

Grandmas Deride New Beach Styles



Three grandmothers, entrants in the Grandma Bathing Beauty contest at Coney Island, N. Y., tell what they think about the modern swim suits worn by Lee Standard (left) and Rose McLaughlin. The grandmothers are, left to right, Mrs. Ernestine Stern, 68, Mrs. Helen Heddassus, 81, and Mrs. Elizabeth Kaiser, who won the contest.

Modern Weapon



Because of an equipment shortage, soldiers participating in the St. Lawrence county, N. Y., war games have to use "war weapons" that are weapons in name only. Sergt. Edward Reville swings into action with a beer can barrage.

Efficient Linen Closet That's a Step-Saver

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS
EVERY Homemaker knows how many steps could be saved if table linens could have a special closet in the kitchen or pantry. In one home that we know of space for such a closet was going to waste all because cupboard doors or drawers would conflict with the door shown here in the small sketch. At the right you see how that space became an efficient linen closet after all—complete even



to a smart laundry bag for soiled napkins and table covers. The high compartment has a door of plywood. Below this are shelves with a curtain on a shade roller. The curtain runs up and down between the shelves and the scalloped board that frames the closet, as shown at the left. This board is 1/2 inch thick and four inches wide. The scallops were marked by drawing around a teacup and were cut out with a jig saw.

NOTE: As a service to our readers Mrs. Spears has prepared a series of homemaking booklets. No. 5, just published, contains 32 pages of clever ideas fully illustrated and a description of the other numbers. To get your copy send order to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS
Drawer 10
Bedford Hills New York
Enclose 10 cents for Book 5.
Name
Address

Electoral College

The United States Constitution provides that congress "may determine the time of choosing the presidential electors and the day on which they shall give their votes." By the act of congress the date the electors now meet to canvass the popular vote for President and vice president is the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December.

The President and vice president are not officially declared elected, however, until a joint session of congress is held on January 6, three days after congress convenes, at which the electoral vote is canvassed.—Pathfinder.

DIARRHEA

DUE to dietary indiscretions, change of drinking water or sudden changes in weather can be quickly relieved by Wakefield's Blackberry Balsam. For 94 years a household remedy. Sold at all drug stores. Be sure to ask for genuine

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BLACKBERRY BALSAM
Compound

Gentle Joy

Joy descends gently on us like the falling dew, and does not patter down like a hail-storm.—Richter.

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 backache, 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 nationwide reputation. Are recommended by grateful people the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

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TEACHING A CHILD VALUE OF PENNIES

A child of a wise mother will be taught from early childhood to become a regular reader of the advertisements. In that way better perhaps than in any other can the child be taught the great value of pennies and the permanent benefit which comes from making every penny count.