

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C.
MUSSOLINI NEEDS VICTORY IN GREECE

Upon the outcome of the war in Greece depend several things besides the question whether Hitler pushes on to Suez. Probably the most important is the war's effect upon the Italian people—especially in case of set-back or defeat.

For a long time, U. S. intelligence reports have indicated that Italy was the Achilles heel of the Axis and that the Italian people were none too enthusiastic about their partnership with Germany. Basically, the Italians always have sided more with Britain than with Germany. For years they had distrusted Germany, and for an equal number of years had done business with Great Britain.

Furthermore, the war has put a severe economic pinch on the Italian people. In return they have had no great victories and conquered no important territory. Hitler has been able to show new conquests to arouse the enthusiasm of the German people, but Mussolini has had nothing to show except Albania and British Somaliland.

Even the much-heralded advance of Marshal Graziani in Egypt now has bogged down on the sands of Sahara. So Mussolini needs a Greek victory and needs it badly. And if he doesn't get it, observers in Italy believe that dissatisfaction among the Italian people might become so great as to lead to a new dictator in Rome.

Note—Because of her vastly superior air force and more modern army, the odds are very much in favor of an Italian victory. Outcome of the war, however, depends on how much aid Greece can get from Britain, which cannot risk taking too many troops away from its Egyptian defenses; also whether Jugoslavia and Turkey come in.

HULL'S WORRIES

Deep absorption in the Greco-Italian war caused Secretary Cordell Hull to muffle his lines in delivering his speech on foreign affairs for the newsreels.

Hull was supposed to speak three "takes," with a pause between the second and third. Instead he stopped after the first and began staring into space.

Recalled to the business at hand by the cameraman, he snapped his finger and exclaimed, "Sorry, I guess I've ruined everything for you boys. Would you mind starting over again?"

"Not at all, Mr. Secretary," grinned Tony Muto, Fox Movietone lens-shark. "But you sure had something on your mind."

"It's that situation in Greece," explained Hull. "I've been so concerned with it all day that I forgot for a moment that you boys were taking my picture. I promise to do better next time."

MAIL BAG

S.G.C., New Albany, Ind.—Roosevelt's speeches during the last part of the recent campaign were written by Judge Rosenman of New York, Irving Brant, and Robert Sherwood, famous playwright. However, Roosevelt's speeches, after being written in rough draft by others, are rewritten by himself. The Philadelphia speech was largely his own.

E.P., Springfield, Mass.—Secretary of State Hull did not attack John L. Lewis in his speech before the Press club, though it is true that a criticism of Lewis was contained in the original draft of the speech. When Frank Waltman, G.O.P. publicity chief, protested Mr. Hull's right to address the Press club, the secretary of state removed all political references from his text and merely discussed foreign affairs.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

The plan still is in the discussion stage, but top-rung New Deal economists are seriously proposing that the WPA be abolished and replaced with a large-scale public works program for national defense.

The army is preparing for any eventuality no matter where it happens. It has quietly purchased over 7,100,000 yards of mosquito netting. Areas chiefly plagued by mosquitos are Alaska, Newfoundland, Greenland and Latin America.

Senator Charles McNary is one of the nattiest dressers in congress, also the best baker. The Oregonian loves to bake beans over an open fire, using bacon, molasses, sherry and 11 hours of simmering.

Out-going Vice President Jack Garner is the only man in history to have his picture hung at both ends of the Capitol. An oil painting of the former speaker hangs in the house lobby, and another portrait, by Howard Chandler Christie, has just been put up in the senate lobby.

Friends are kidding Henry Wallace about being disqualified for the job of vice president because, unlike Jack Garner, he does not "strike a blow for liberty." After eight years in Washington, Wallace does not drink.

At luncheon together the other day were Charlie Chaplin, Walter Winchell, Ernest Cuneo and Assistant Secretary of State Adolf Berle. Remarkd Cuneo afterward: "I was a mere ego in a whirlwind of super-egos. I practically had to blow a whistle to insert one word in the conversation."



GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

Washington, D. C.

DEFENSE FACTS

How much is rearmament, or actual war, or both, going to cost us; and when and how shall we pay for it? Nobody can answer accurately, because nobody can foresee the course of such a war. We must have total defense. No matter what it costs, we shall somehow have to pay for it—we or our children's children. Certain as is that conclusion, there should be at least the attempt to let our people look in the face of the facts. There has been none.

The administration has just announced that the war department, since July 1, has awarded contracts in excess of 4.5 billions and the navy about 4.2 billions, total 8.7 billions. "And for all defense purposes more than 10 of the 16 billions voted by congress to reinforce defenses have been obligated."

This is confusing because the difference between 8.7 billions for armament and 10 billions for "defenses" is 1.3 billions, for which the exact use is not specified. Some cities are insisting the federal government rebuild their street systems "for national defense." Several other more nearly boondoggling spending projects are being called "national defense." Finally, the figure 16 billions voted by congress to reinforce defense is a floater that checks with no forthright appropriation I can find. This kind of reporting is pretty much razzle-dazzle.

Furthermore, the report is almost meaningless, because, as quoted in the A. P. dispatch, "prospective delivery dates for most items are a closely guarded military secret? They are unlikely to be any secret to our prospective enemies. The trouble with our whole preparedness program over the past few years was the failure to let our own people know the truth.

The last war schedules are no true yardstick today, but here is the way they ran as reported by the secretary of the treasury. In round figures, 1917, 1.2 billions; 1918, 12.3 billions; 1919, 17.5 billions; 1920, 5.2 billions; 1921, 3.8 billions—total 40 billions, notwithstanding that the war ended in November, 1918.

What these figures prove is that reporting the placing of contracts with no information as to delivery dates, is no realistic indication of progress at all but, on the contrary, is highly misleading. They also give some idea of a rapid acceleration of the mounting cost of industrial war production and the difficulty of checking it when the necessity has passed.

BLOCKING INFLATION

I don't like to clutter up a column with figures, but it is absolutely necessary that our people understand the subject of government spending and inflation. The following little table shows exactly what inflation did to war costs to all belligerents in the World war. It compares what the war would have cost all if the 1913 purchasing power of the dollar had remained unchanged, or exactly how inflation worked to multiply war costs.

Country	Cost in Currency Dollars (600,000 omitted)	Cost in "1913" Dollars	Ratio Per Cent
U. S.	26,593	12,212	217%
Associated Powers except U. S.	78,528	21,259	369%
Central Powers	41,774	12,428	336%
Total for all belligerents	146,895	45,899	320%

This is the evil we must avoid this time. Nothing government can do in raising taxes or cutting expenses can have a fraction of the effect to "pay as we go" and reduce the burden of war on everybody compared to what it can do to prevent this curse.

Remember, I am talking not merely about the increased cost of raising the armed forces. Many times more billions of increased cost may have to be paid by Americans for the necessities of life.

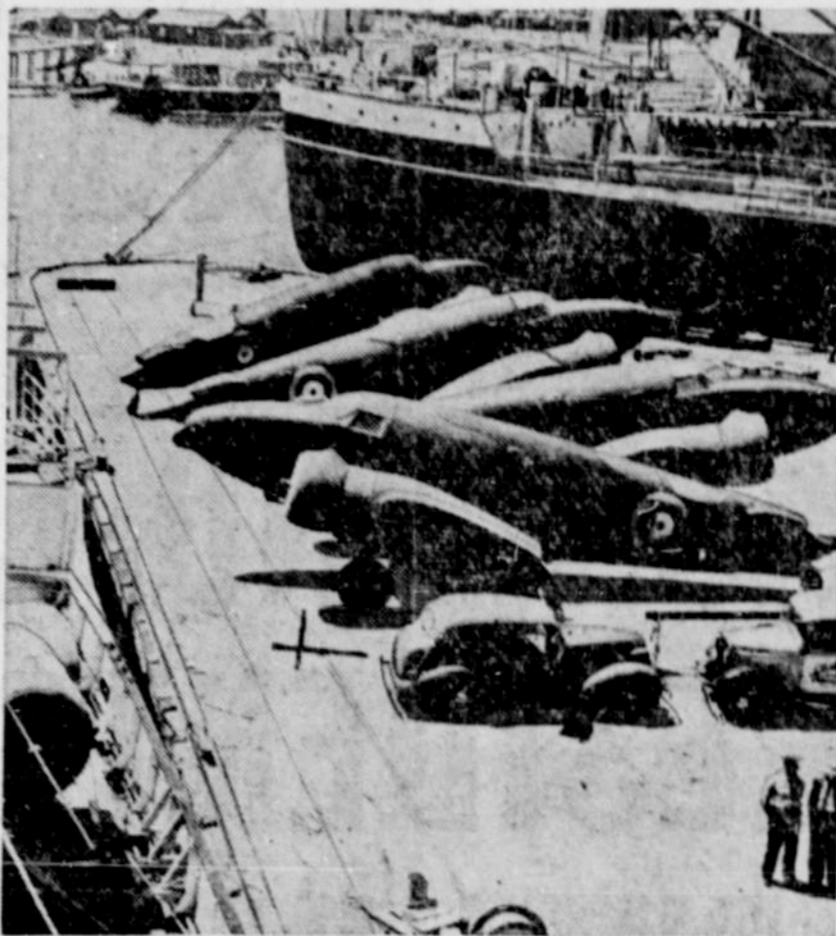
How can it be prevented? There are several indirect aids and one very direct control. Inflation starts with the development of shortages in various fields. In war, price is no deterrent. Defense material must be had. So frantic bidding begins. It must be stopped before it starts, or not at all.

Since shortage in the face of desperate needs is the cause, that is where the cure lies.

"Priorities" provide the first aid. This means simply that some steering committee lists the most urgent needs and says to all suppliers: "These needs come first. Regardless of any higher price offered, you mustn't supply anybody else until these are satisfied, except with our consent in case of hardship." This helps prevent inflationary bidding.

A second aid is increased production of the shortage items, even at the expense of less necessitous demands, such things as shifting plants, supplies, machine tools and other machinery.

U. S. Bombers for Great Britain



Lockheed Hudson bombing planes being loaded aboard ship at Los Angeles for transportation to England, where they will play their part in Britain's battle for survival. Lockheeds have won high praise from the R. A. F. First used exclusively as patrol ships in the coastal command, they are now used as fighters, bombers and for reconnaissance.

Mass Funeral for Coventry Victims



Radiophoto showing scene during the funeral of 172 of some 300 persons killed in the all-night air raid on Coventry, England. The victims were buried three deep in a common trench-like grave, while anti-aircraft guns fired at a lone German raider overhead. Mourners are seen filing past the coffins, which were flag-draped.

Nazi Bombs Hit London Orphanage



The top age is three at this London orphanage which was recently hit by a Nazi bomb. The bomb exploded only 10 feet from the babies' dormitory, and, very fortunately, there were no casualties. The children are here pictured playing in the shadow of the orphanage ruins, quite unaware of their narrow escape from death.

Argentina Asks \$50,000,000 Loan



Photo shows members of an Argentine delegation to Washington for the discussion of a \$50,000,000 loan regarded necessary to sustain the increasing flow of exports to Argentina, which are much heavier than Argentine exports to the United States. L. to R., Dr. P. Prebisch (Central Bank of Argentine); D. Espil, Argentine ambassador; Sumner Welles, U. S. acting secretary of state; E. Grumbach (Central Bank of Argentine); C. Prado, of the Argentine embassy, and R. Verrier (Central Bank of Argentine).

Tears U. S. Flag



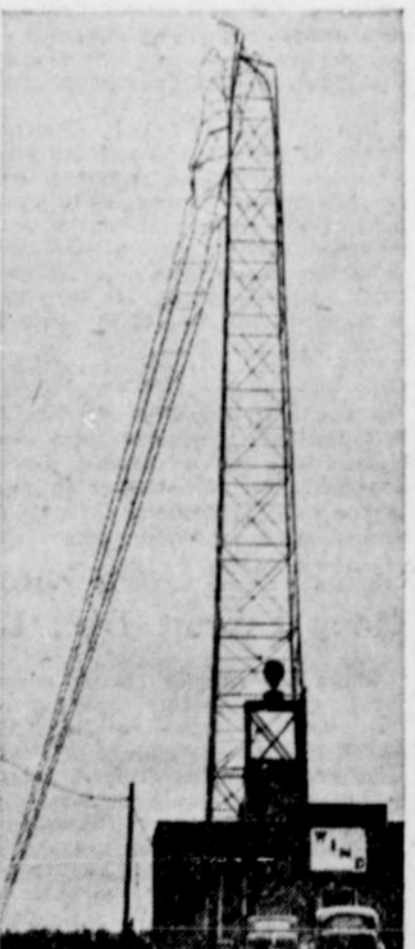
Miss Helga Scluter, 20 years old, of Southart, N. J., pictured at her home reading a book, after her indictment for tearing a United States flag.—Soundphoto.

Journey's End



A member of the gun crew of the S. S. Samaria removing ammunition from behind the ship's six-inch gun, when the vessel docked in New York after a perilous ocean crossing.

Gone With Wind



The \$15,000 radio tower of station W-I-N-D, which was broken in half by the terrific gale which did millions of dollars of damage in the South and Midwest.

Tagged



BARBARA R. COX

Under navy department plans for a 24-hour watch over defense secrets employees were photographed for identification card, as above.

Set of Shelves From Spools and Can Lids

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

THE other day I went to a Hobby Show and there, hanging on the wall with a blue ribbon pinned on it, were the spool shelves from SEWING Book 3! Of course, I searched out the proud girl who had made them, and she told me that she had also made the end table of spools that is in Book 5. I felt most as proud as



she did. All her friends are saving spools for her and her urgent need at the moment was, "something to make for Mother for Christmas."

Here is my suggestion. An adorable set of three corner shelves made of a lid from a tin candy box, one from a cracker can and a coffee can put together with wire, spools and two beads. These shelves were painted cherry red and hung up with a brass hook to hold salt and pepper shakers, vinegar cruet, and other things for making salads. Any homemaker will think of a dozen places where this handy set of shelves could be used. All the directions are here in this sketch.

There is time to make the hanging book shelves in Book 3, or the end table in Book 5, before Christmas. If you mail your order for these booklets today. Send order to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS
Drawer 10
Bedford Hills New York

Enclose 20c for Books 3 and 5.

Name

Address

It Seems That Woman Passenger Was Bit Hasty

"Conductor," demanded the imperious-looking woman, as she paused on the platform of a crowded streetcar, "I told you to let me off at Rasput avenue!"

"But—" began the conductor. "Don't make excuses. I know about your not being able to remember where everybody gets off. I've heard that before!"

"But—" "You may be sure," interrupted the woman, "I shall report you!" She alighted, and the car started again.

The conductor touched his cap and called to the woman being left behind: "Sorry, but Rasput avenue is a mile farther on!"

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

Doubt First To believe with certainty we must begin with doubting.—Stanislaus.

IN SAN FRANCISCO

ENJOY REAL LUXURY Distinguished in name and service; finely appointed rooms... all with bath. Ideal downtown location.

RATES from \$2.50
Twin Beds from \$4
Family Rooms for Four... \$4

HOTEL Maurice
POST NEAR JONES

CREATING NEW WEALTH TO ORDER

Advertising creates new wealth by showing people new and better ways of living, and as it creates new wealth it contributes to the prosperity of everyone touched by the flow of money which is set up. In this way, don't you see, advertising is a social force which is working in the interest of every one of us every day of the year, bringing us new wealth to use and enjoy.