

\$300,000 Grain Elevator Fire



This spectacular picture was taken just as a billow of white hot flame blew off the top of a United States Grain elevator, in Chicago, during a \$300,000 fire, of mysterious origin. More than 350,000 bushels of corn were destroyed. Furnace-like heat melted steel girders like butter and drove back firemen.

Warned by U. S.



Japan's Ambassador K. Nomura, after a conference with Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles, expressed the hope that U. S.-Japanese relations would get "better and better." Welles, however, said he told Nomura, that Japan's actions in Indo-China were a threat to U. S. "security."

The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND
DREW GEARSON & ROBERT AGLEN

DEFENSE 'INCIDENTS'
Out of 26 major "incidents of damage" in defense plants last month, military intelligence authorities have evidence that 14 were caused by sabotage. The other 12 were accidents.

Of the 14 sabotage cases, four were fires and 10 were mechanical damage. Two are attributed to Communists; the others to Nazi agents. There is no indication that Communists and Nazis worked together.

Since the outbreak of the Russo-German war, the Communist party line has somersaulted. The current dictum is, no interference with defense output. It is significant that since the Nazi attack on the Soviets there has been a sharp decline in strikes.

However, intelligence agents report that the party has made no change in its policy of propagandizing soldiers and sailors. This is being pushed as vigorously as before, although with little success. In fact, party generals are so dissatisfied with results that they recently ordered labor unions dominated by Communists to help their campaign by offering their halls as soldier recreation centers.

Japanese Consulates.
Another significant development in subversive influences relates to the Japanese.

Since the expulsion of the Nazi and Italian consulates, intelligence officers have found that the Japanese consulates in Los Angeles and Seattle have become the chief clearing houses for espionage on the West coast. Japanese residents are sending in a constant stream of reports on airplane production, ship movements and other military information.

The recent arrest of two Japanese spies in Los Angeles caused a flurry in Japanese quarters, and a number of Japanese rushed to Washington, apparently to place themselves under the protection of their embassy. Others hotfooted for Mexico, which may mean they are planning to shift spy headquarters to Mexico City.

SECRET NEW AAA CZAR
American Farm Bureau and National Grange moguls are smart politicians. Although their bill to create an independent, five-man board to rule the AAA has not yet seen the light of day on Capitol Hill, they are already greasing the way by canny wooing of possible opponents.

Latest to be "propositioned" is Rudolph ("Spike") Evans, ambitious head of the AAA, who might be a vigorous foe of their scheme to gain control of his own agency. The farm leaders have sent word to Evans that they will back him for chairman of their proposed board if he will go along with them.

An inner group of 11 decided on this move at a secret pow-wow during the recent conference in Chicago of the Farm bureau, Grange and National Co-op council on the defense emergency.

The master minds also accepted Walter Randolph of Alabama as the Farm bureau's selection on the boards, pledged themselves to take whomever the Grange picked, and agreed to allow this hand-picked trio to name the other two board members.

The plan is very pat, but the mystery is where Roosevelt and Secretary Claude Wickard fit into the picture. Under the law the President appoints board members, and on agricultural selections he naturally would consult Wickard. Apparently, the Grange and Farm bureau manipulators propose to do the picking and force Roosevelt and Wickard to go along.

No Chance.
Actually, the five-man board scheme has no chance of getting anywhere this year.

Not yet even introduced, it faces such a long battle when it does appear that months will elapse before it goes through the committee process. Further, there are indications that certain Farm bureau moguls privately don't want the legislation considered at all this session.

According to Farm bureau insiders, Earl Smith, Illinois big-gun, and Francis Johnson, Iowa chief, secretly want to make it a political issue in next year's congressional election. Militant New Deal foes, they are said to believe that a lot of GOP campaign hay can be made in the rural districts by raising the cry of "give the farmer control of the AAA."

How much control he would have is shown by the fact that the boys already have made sure that they would do the controlling.

MERRY-GO-ROUND
Frank Grillo, secretary-treasurer of the United Rubber Workers, is slated for membership on the anti-discrimination committee that President Roosevelt is planning to set up to eliminate bars against Negroes and other minority groups in defense industries.

On the desk of Lawrence Fly, scrappy chairman of the Federal Communications commission, is one of those little plaster busts designed for temperamental people to smash—when they lose their temper.

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Son of Red Dictator Captured by Nazis



Jacob Stalin, the eldest son of Russian Premier Joseph Stalin, is shown (arrow) in a German prison camp. He was captured near Ljosno, Russia, with a number of other officers and soldiers taken by German panzer forces under the command of Gen. Rudolf Schmidt, according to a Nazi communique.

Nazi Leader



Gen. Erwin Rommel, commander of German forces in Africa, who succeeds Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel at the Russian front, according to the Moscow radio.

The Marines Have Landed



This photograph was made at Jacksonville, N. C., during marine maneuvers—first time—between army-navy and marines on beach landing practice. Transports unloaded armored cars and troops carrying equipment, etc. Photo shows marines going over the side of transport into landing boats.

'Unlimited Army'



Arrow indicates Gen. George C. Marshall, army chief of staff, as he appeared before senate military affairs committee asking congress to authorize a draft army of unlimited size. He spoke of the "grave national peril."

Pay Day for Dollar-a-Year Men



Here are some of the 262 dollar-a-year men in the defense program on their recent "pay day." Total of all payments was only \$126 to the 262 workers as many of them had not worked a full year and could not receive their "total" salary. Distributing checks above (center) is Edward Stettinius, priorities director.

Another Number



Secretary of Navy Frank Knox is shown drawing the second number in the second peacetime draft lottery. The number was 98. First number was 196.

Don't Blame Me
It isn't chivalry that makes a man consult his wife about every deal. He wants somebody to blame if it goes wrong.

Deadly Poison
Professor—What is the most potent poison?
Student—An airplane; one drop and you're dead.

Thermometer Gossip
Freezing—What a fuss folks make over zero.
Temperature—Yes, and he's such a cipher at home.

Cool Weather on the Farm
Rooster—What on earth are you doing down there in the cellar?
Hen—Well, if it's any of your business, I'm laying in a supply of coal.

Twice as Bad
Boogy—They say a bachelor is a man who has been crossed in love.
Woogy—Yes, and a married man is one who has been double-crossed.

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