

News Review of Current Events

NAVY EXPANSION IS PUSHED

Congress Gets Busy with President's Defense Program... Complaints of "Little Business" Are Heard

Edward W. Pickard
SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK
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Rush Defense Plan Bill

LEADERS in congress lost no time in carrying forward the national defense program which President Roosevelt had offered in a special message. Legislation to authorize the expenditure of \$800,000,000 in naval construction was introduced immediately in both the house and senate, and steps were taken to provide the additional requirements of the army. It was predicted the house would pass the expansion bill by the middle of February.

Chairman Carl Vinson of Georgia called together his house naval affairs committee and began hearings on the measure, certain that it would be reported favorably with little delay.

The President in his message recommended:

That the present naval building program be increased 20 per cent. That congress authorize two additional battleships and two cruisers during 1938.

That congress authorize \$9,800,000 for additional anti-aircraft equipment.

That congress provide for better establishment of an enlisted reserve for the army.

That congress legislate to prevent profiteering in war-time and to equalize the burdens of possible war.

Among his recommendations the President also included appropriations for experimental smaller vessels; for army ammunition and for the manufacture of army equipment.

Opposition to the bill in the house was expected to come from certain members from the middle western states. Tinkham of Massachusetts also didn't like the program, saying it was one of offense, not defense, and that the President was preparing to get the United States into the League of Nations.

Senators Vandenberg of Michigan and Frazier of North Dakota demanded that Mr. Roosevelt make public the foreign policy he expects to follow behind increased armaments.

New Fleet Commander

ADMIRAL CLAUDE CHARLES BLOCH, new commander of the United States fleet, assumed his duties at San Pedro, Calif., replacing Admiral Arthur J. Heppburn. In the colorful ceremonies Admiral Bloch made a brief address, saying: "I wish to emphasize to the officers and men of the fleet that our only justification for being is to be ready to fight."

"We have fine ships and, knowing you men as I do, I know that you will continue your hard work and unselfish devotion to duty so that our navy always will be ready and second to none."

U.S. Avoids Entanglement

REPRESENTATIVES of Great Britain, France and Russia in the League of Nations council meeting in Geneva were ready to adopt a resolution to aid China by sending her war munitions, but awaited the co-operation of the United States. The scheme was proposed to Washington informally, and was as informally rejected after President Roosevelt had conferred with Secretary Hull and others. Mr. Hull indicated our policy would not be changed and that America would take no leadership in aiding China.

Turn of Little Business

CALLED to Washington from all parts of the country by Secretary of Commerce Daniel C. Roper, some 500 representatives of "little business" undertook to formulate a recovery program for submission to President Roosevelt. Mr. Roper and his assistant, Ernest Draper, took part in the preliminary discussions, and since the President could not receive all of them a small committee was named to take their proposals to the White House.

According to reports from the capital, the President desires legislation for federal financing of small industries to stimulate business. This would require the creation of a new government agency unless the power were granted to the Reconstruction Finance corporation.

Three chief complaints of the small business men are: The undivided profits tax has prevented them from accumulating a "rainy day" surplus.

The capital gains and losses tax has frozen capital and prevented the encouragement of new enterprises. Monopolistic practices are pre-



Admiral Claude Charles Bloch, shown above, has assumed command of the United States fleet, succeeding Admiral Heppburn. The transfer was made at San Pedro, Calif.

senting increasing hazards to their successful operations.

Congress and the administration already are busy with steps to correct these alleged abuses.

Big Business Scared Again

MEANWHILE big business—and the country generally—was discussing with considerable apprehension the declaration by the President that industry must reduce prices and at the same time keep wages up. An immediate result was the crash of prices on the stock exchanges, the decline reaching as high as 7½ points. Commodities declined in sympathy with stocks.

"If industries reduce wages this winter and spring," the President said at his press conference, "they will be deliberately encouraging the withholding of buying—they will be fostering a downward spiral and they will make it necessary for their government to consider other means of creating purchasing power."

Many congressmen, Democrats as well as Republicans, took issue with Mr. Roosevelt's logic and economics, pointing out that industries lack the resources to keep wages up on a falling market because their funds have been depleted by the undistributed profits tax.

Row Over Coal Prices

MINIMUM prices for coal and marketing regulations fixed by the national bituminous coal commission have aroused a storm of complaints. Resentment was especially strong in Illinois, which, though ranking third among soft coal producing states, is not represented on the commission.

Six coal companies started court action in Chicago to restrain enforcement of the price schedule, and Chicago itself contemplated similar action. The cities of Rochester, N. Y.; Cleveland, Ohio; and St. Louis, Mo., complained of high and unfair coal rates and appealed to the courts to suspend the commission's orders.

Democrat in Steward's Seat

GOV. CHARLES MARTIN of Oregon appointed Alfred Even Reames of Salem to serve out the unexpired 11 months of the term of Sen. Frederick Stiewer, who resigned to enter private law practice. Mr. Reames, a lawyer sixty-seven years old, thus becomes the first Democratic senator from Oregon since 1921. He is chairman of the executive committee of the Democratic state central committee. He will not seek to succeed himself in the senate.

John Roosevelt Wedding Plan

JOHN ROOSEVELT, youngest son of the President, and Anne Lindsay Clark are to be married in Nahant, Mass., on June 18. The groom's brother Franklin will be his best man. Rev. Endicott Peabody, headmaster of Groton school, who has officiated at the weddings of all the President's sons as well as that of the bride's parents, and Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, Episcopal bishop of Massachusetts, will officiate.

Following a six weeks' honeymoon the couple will live in a Brookline apartment, as young Roosevelt expects to work in a Boston advertising agency.

Union Controls Canned Music

THE American Federation of Musicians will control the output of canned music (music recorded by mechanical means for broadcast) in nearly 589 radio stations in the country in a new contract between the musicians and the principal recording companies, the chain radio broadcasting companies, and the independent affiliates.

May Split Labor Vote

WILLIAM GREEN, president of the American Federation of Labor, threatened to split organized labor's vote in the 1938 congressional elections by asking for the withdrawal of all federation support for labor's Non-Partisan League.

Charging that the league was "a ventriloquist's dummy for the Committee for Industrial Organization," Green recommended that the federation's executive council order all affiliates to withdraw and cease financial contributions.

Such action, it was believed, may effectively split labor's vote in the 1938 elections, when all congressmen, 32 senators and many state officials face re-election campaigns.

In Washington John L. Lewis declared that thousands of workers now face desperate need, and even starvation, despite the President's promise to let no willing worker starve.

In a letter urging all affiliates of his Committee for Industrial Organization to notify congress that immediate action is needed to provide 3,000,000 work relief jobs for the unemployed, Lewis added: "The administration has taken upon itself this obligation, and the workers of America expect it to fulfill its promise."

Nazi Extol Hitler

NAZI Germany celebrated the fifth anniversary of Chancellor Adolf Hitler's rule with parades, concerts and orations.

Hitler's major accomplishments were described as: Elimination of Versailles Treaty restrictions, putting Germany in a position to drive Jews out of the economic as well as social and political life, suppression of opposition political parties, and breaking Germany's isolation by alliances with Italy and Japan and friendship with Yugoslavia, Poland, Rumania and Hungary.

Still facing the Nazi regime are the questions of possible colonial expansion, improvement of foreign relations and reaching peaceful relations with the Catholic and Protestant Confessional churches.

Jackson Gets Reed's Place

ROBERT H. JACKSON, assistant attorney general, was nominated by the President to be solicitor general of the United States. He succeeds Stanley Reed, whose appointment to the Supreme court was confirmed by the senate. Jackson has been much in the headlines lately because of his speeches attacking business and his avowed intention to seek the governorship of New York.

President's Birthday

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT was fifty-six years old on Sunday, January 30. He and Mrs. Roosevelt decided to have the birthday dinner the evening before, and twenty guests were invited, among them being members of the "Cuff Link club," wearing gold cuff links which Mr. Roosevelt gave them to commemorate their experiences in vice presidential and presidential campaigns, as well as in the days when he was assistant secretary of the navy.

After the dinner Mr. Roosevelt made a brief radio address in connection with the birthday balls being given all over the nation to raise funds to combat infantile paralysis.

Niagara Bridge Falls

THE Falls View bridge at Niagara falls, from which many thousands of honeymooners have looked at the cataract, was crushed by a terrific ice jam in the river and fell into the gorge in a great mass of twisted steel. The bridge had been closed to traffic a few hours earlier, so there was no loss of life.

Younger Service Chiefs

REAR ADMIRAL WILSON BROWN, former naval aide to the President and not yet fifty-six years old, has been named head of the naval academy at Annapolis, to succeed Admiral D. F. Sellers. Mr. Roosevelt said the army and navy, at his suggestion, had adopted a policy of assigning younger officers as superintendents of the military and naval academies. Brig. Gen. Jay L. Benedict, fifty-six, is slated to take command at West Point in place of Maj. Gen. W. D. Connor, who retires February 28.

Australia Celebrates

WITH elaborate ceremonies the Commonwealth of Australia began a three-months' celebration of its one hundred fiftieth birthday as a white settlement. The first fetes were in Sydney, where Capt. Arthur Phillip landed on January 26, 1788, with soldiers and 800 British convict settlers. Representing the United States in the water pageants were the cruisers Memphis, Trenton and Milwaukee.

Lynch Bill Doomed

FIFTY-ONE senators voted against a motion to invoke the cloture rule for the purpose of choking off the filibuster against the anti-lynching bill, and the measure which the southerners were fighting so determinedly was thus doomed to failure.

Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, who had supported the bill and voted for cloture, immediately served notice that the senate had made it impossible for the bill to be passed and that it must be displaced promptly by other legislation.

Floyd Gibbons' ADVENTURERS' CLUB

HEADLINES FROM THE LIVES OF PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF!



"Two Terrible Deaths"

By FLOYD GIBBONS Famous Headline Hunter

HELLO, EVERYBODY:

This is the story of two adventures rolled into one—the tale of a couple of lads who were facing not one death, but two—and right smack up against the task of making a choice between them. And it all came about over a girl who didn't even appreciate the trouble those two lads went to. It's a yarn that packs a couple of surprises—so watch out for them.

James F. Kilcullen of Nutley, N. J., is today's Distinguished Adventurer, and the bird who tells this story. The tale takes us back to June, 1917, when Jim was working as a weaver in a cotton mill in New Orleans, La. That was in the early days of our participation in the World war, if you'll remember, and there was a lot of excitement in the mill among the men who were waiting for their numbers to be drawn by the Draft board.

Jim, himself, was getting pretty impatient with the Draft board. Jim wanted to enlist right away, and there was only one reason he didn't. He had a pal—a young lad of eighteen named Davie—and the pair of them had been buddies for a long time. Jim didn't want to enlist unless Davie went with him, and Davie had a particular reason for not wanting to enlist.

They Went to See Davie's Girl.

Davie's reason was that he wanted to see his girl before he went to war. The girl lived in a little town in Texas, more than three-hundred miles away, and neither Jim nor Davie had enough money to pay the railroad fare. But at last Jim had an idea. He told Davie he'd probably be drafted soon, anyway, and if he wanted to see his girl now was the time to do it. And since he didn't have railroad fare, he'd just have to beat his way on the baggage. Davie's answer to that was that he'd go if Jim would go with him. And that's how those two lads came to start on the trip that came literally within an inch of being the death of both of them.

They told their boss, Mr. Rickman, just what they intended to do. Rickman tried to make them see what a risk they were taking. "But when a chap's in love," says Jim, "he sees no danger. We took a ferryboat across the river to a town on the other side, got a time table at the railroad station and picked the fastest train on the Texas &



The Railway Messenger Was Shooting to Kill.

Pacific. It was a hot-shot to Dallas—solid Pullman except for two mail cars on the front end. It was about eight o'clock of a Saturday night when the train pulled into the station, and as it started to pull out we swung onto the bumpers, between the two mail cars."

The train started rolling, and, boy, how she rolled! Jim says she was hitting a sixty-five mile clip a good part of the time. The hours passed. The train listed and swayed. The two lads knew that to fall asleep or to lose their grip on the hand bars meant instant death, but that didn't bother them too much. They were being plenty careful. It was a tough job, too, hanging on to that swaying train all night long. But, on the other hand, they were making time—clipping off the miles at a rapid rate and that cheered them up considerably.

Messenger Began Shooting at Them.

As day began to break they had crossed the state line and were well into Texas. A few more hours and their trip would be over. "We were in good spirits," Jim said, "and we began congratulating ourselves on our good luck in not having been caught by the train crew or the railroad police. And just then the train began going around a horseshoe turn."

A horseshoe is supposed to be good luck, but that horseshoe turn was bad luck for Jim and Davie. As the train went around the bend they saw a porter standing in the vestibule of the rear Pullman—and that porter saw them. He took one look at them and disappeared from sight. And the next thing those two lads knew, there was a railway messenger standing in the vestibule they stood on, TURNING LOOSE ON THEM WITH A .45 AUTOMATIC!

That railway messenger didn't have any heart. Without the slightest warning he started blasting away at them through the canvas storm hood. "He was shooting to kill," Jim says, "and four lead slugs went through the tail of my coat. Davie, on the other bumper, turned white as chalk. The messenger kept shooting and yelling to us to get off. But the train was out of the curve now and picking up speed. We couldn't jump off without getting killed."

Escaped With Only Scratches.

Jim saw Davie look first at the storm hood through which the shots were coming, and then at the ground speeding past below. And then, all of a sudden, Davie fell at Jim's feet in a dead faint. By that time the messenger in the vestibule had stopped firing. "Believe me or not," says Jim, "I had one heck of a time holding Davie to keep him from falling off. It was clutching him with one hand and grasping the hand bar with the other. Either God was with us, or the railroad messenger gave a signal, but in a few minutes the train began to slow down. It slowed until it was crawling along at about ten miles an hour, and then, with all the strength I had in me I picked Davie up and heaved him off. Then I followed."

Those lads had had enough of baggage car riding. Neither of them was hurt except for a few scratches. They walked to the nearest town and wired for money to go on as passengers. When they arrived at the town where Davie's girl lived, Davie was a happy boy.

"But not for long," says Jim. "To his surprise, and mine, this 'best girl,' as he called her, had been married for months. He took it pretty hard, and inside of three hours he was on a train back to New Orleans."

But Jim didn't go back with him. And he didn't see Davie again until December, 1931. Then Jim was in New Orleans and went to visit him. Davie had forgotten all about that "best girl." He was married and had a bunch of kids—and he had a job as a RAILWAY MESSENGER!

And I wonder if Davie ever cuts loose with his gun at the hoboes riding on the baggage cars.

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Suitors Must Stand Pain

Suitors in the Egyptian Sudan must be able to "take it" if they would win the hand of a Sudanese maiden. The ability to stand severe pain is the first prerequisite in becoming eligible as a husband. When a girl is unable to choose between two men she ties a sword to each of her wrists, sits between the men and brings the sharp sword points slowly down on their thighs. The man who can endure the most pain wins the girl.

Wedding Ring Customs

There are many customs connected with the wedding ring among different peoples of the world, yet it would seem that all the wedding ring ideas had a common origin, which is shrouded in mystery. Among the Zulus there is a custom, called Khehla, of wearing a ring on the head. It is made of polished wax and worked in with the hair. As soon as a Zulu marries he wears the ring and he discards it only for a time if one of his wives dies.

Historic Hoaxes

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON
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Anti-Brassiere Campaign

WHEN the late Halbert H. Hoard, editor of the Jefferson County Union, approached some of his friends in Fort Atkinson, Wis., with a request that they sign a petition which he had prepared, they didn't hesitate. They knew his paper advocated some very good things and they were willing to help "Bert" along. What they had signed was this:

The undersigned note with alarm the increase in divorces since the nineteenth amendment, the woman suffrage law. We note many more women wearing brassieres than before. We can stand that, but this new fad—slab-sided dresses, flat in front—showing women in the fashion pictures as flat-chested as man, we regard with jealous eyes as an infringement.

We ask that the congress of the United States do its utmost to break down these brassieres as an evil that menaces the future well being of society.

They very soon realized that they had been a little harsh. Their work-aholic told them they "ought to be ashamed" and that they "should mind their own business." But a welfare league in a city nearby took the matter seriously and passed a resolution supporting the campaign.

Then an official of the state board of health issued a statement saying that brassieres caused rickets in babies. Whereupon Mr. Hoard wrote an editorial in which he said:

There are cow-milk-fed babies right in this city that are gasping for breath, the doctor at his wit's end to nourish them properly. They get their milk from a milk can, because monkeys are related, but there are no monkeys around except with the deadly brassieres and few of those are giving milk.

Before the uproar over this matter died down, Halbert Hoard was known from coast to coast as the valiant crusader against the "deadly brassiere"—all because of a hoax which some of his obliging friends helped perpetrate.

Lord Kitchener's Body

IN AUGUST, 1926, all of England was thrilled by an announcement which indicated that one of the mysteries of the World war had at last been solved. This was the mystery surrounding the death of Lord Kitchener, first commander of the British forces in France. A signed article by "Frank Power" which appeared in the London Referee declared that his body had been discovered in a graveyard in Norway.

Kitchener had been lost at sea in May, 1916, when the ship, taking him to Russia on a secret mission, had disappeared and there had been all sorts of rumors about the case. An especially ugly one was that the government, which had wanted to get rid of Kitchener but didn't dare remove him from office because of his great popularity with the masses, had been sent on what it knew would be a fatal trip.

"Power" announced that he was bringing the body back to London. When he arrived there with a coffin, it was immediately seized by the police. When it was opened in the presence of high government officials, it was discovered that the coffin was not only empty, but that it had never held a body.

The whole affair was a publicity stunt for a new moving picture on the life of Kitchener in which "Power" whose real name was Arthur Vectis Freeman, and others were interested. Instead of profiting by it as they had hoped, a government investigation which was immediately launched and popular indignation over the hoax, did them considerable damage and discouraged further publicity stunts of that kind.

"Rare Old" Newspapers

IF, WHILE going through an old trunk in the attic, you find a copy of the Ulster County Gazette, published in Kingston, N. Y., in 1800 and containing an account of the death of George Washington, don't get excited and hurry away to tell the local newspaper publisher about your "discovery."

The chances are about 999,999 out of 1,000,000 that it's a "facsimile copy" of the Gazette of that date and thousands of them have been reprinted and distributed as souvenirs. It was first done back in 1828 in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence but most of them were produced for the Philadelphia centennial in 1876.

Naturally, in the course of time the paper becomes aged and yellow and brittle. So in that respect it's "old." But it's neither rare nor valuable, unless you can find someone who is buying "fake antiques." Even then he won't give you much for it.

The only known "genuine" copy of this famous paper is now in the Library of Congress. All of the thousands of others which bob up from time to time are reprints. Another "original" may be found some time. But it's very, very doubtful!

On the Shannon

One of the more enterprising towns in Ireland is Carrick-on-the-Shannon. This town in Leitrim is famous historically itself, and close by are other towns noted for their literary associations: Elphin, in County Roscommon, the birthplace of Oliver Goldsmith, and Keadeu, near which Turlough O'Carolan, the last of the Irish bards, lies buried.

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

BABY CHICKS

Tennessee Chicks—From fine blood tested flocks—all breeds. Write for catalog and price list. Jones Hatchery, Gallatin, Tenn.

TIPS to Gardeners

Selecting Garden Flowers

AMONG the easiest flowers to grow are nasturtium, allysium and California poppy. Try them if you have not had much flower-growing experience.

If you want brilliant color in your garden with a minimum of effort, grow petunia and zinnia. They require a bit of care early in the season, but when established they grow luxuriantly, and nothing provides more color. Use portulaca for colorful edging along walks or drives.

Quick blooming flowers, according to Gilbert Bentley, flower expert, are the nasturtium, Virginia stock, zinnia, sunflower, bachelor's button and allysium.

For a window box, petunia, nasturtium, lobelia, ageratum, pansy, annual phlox and verbena are effective.

Even though you may have experienced trouble with wilt and rust ruining asters and snapdragons, you still may grow those flowers. There are rust-resistant strains of snapdragon and wilt-resistant strains of aster.

Pass Themselves Up

And men go abroad to admire the heights of mountains, the mighty billows of the sea, the long courses of rivers, the vast compass of the oceans, and the circular motion of the stars, and yet pass themselves up.—St Augustine.

"WARMING" ACTION EASES CHEST COLD TIGHTNESS

Ease the tightness and pressure of your chest cold tonight with the thorough counter-irritant and vaporizing action of Penetro, the only salve which has a base of old-fashioned mutton suet together with 113% to 227% more medication than any other nationally sold cold salve. Rub with stainless, snow-white Penetro—both children and adults. Large Jar Penetro, 35c.

Solitude Essential. Solitude is as useful to the imagination as society is wholesome for the character.—Lowell.

SAY "LUDEN'S" BECAUSE BUILDING UP YOUR ALKALINE RESERVE helps you to resist colds LUDEN'S Menthol Cough Drops 5¢

Victors in the End The universe is so made that truth and justice alone can endure.—James Anthony Froude.

CATCH COLD EASILY?

Greenville, S. C., J. L. Key, 401 Easley Bridge Road, says: "I was suffering from a weakened condition, my appetite was poor, and I had one cold after another. Dr. Fierco's Golden Medical Discovery soon had me eating regularly and feeling stronger and better in every way." Buy it in liquid or tablets from your druggist today. See how vigorous and how much stronger you feel after using this tonic.

Not by Reason Alone We know the truth, not only by the reason, but also by the heart.—Blaise Pascal.

Constipated? REGULAR AS CLOCK-WORK Nujol Many doctors recommend Nujol for its gentle action on the bowels. Don't confuse Nujol with unknown products.

INSIST ON GENUINE NUJOL. Cap. 1937, Union Inc.

666 checks COLDS and FEVER first day LIQUID, TABLETS, SALVE, NOSE DROPS Headache, 30 minutes. Try "Rub-My-Tummy"—World's Best Laxative