The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

WNU Service

DIPLOMATIC TWIST

WASHINGTON.—Fate has a way of playing pranks with the most carefully laid plans of diplomacy, and it has given two queer twists to Roosevelt's diplomatic appointments.

One was when he thought he was putting 70-year-old Wilbur J. Carr on the shelf by making him minister to the then secluded country of Czecho Slovakia, but found instead that he had sent Carr to the hottest hot spot in Europe.

The other was when he sent Mrs. J. Borden Harriman to the peaceful and obscure capital of Norway, where a lady diplomat could make few mistakes, but recent events find Daisy in the middle of the war zone—and enjoying it.

Furthermore, and according to a state department which is definitely

MRS. J. BORDEN HARRIMAN
A 'quiet' post in Norway?

prejudiced against lady diplomats, Mrs. Harriman is doing an excellent job—in fact, a much better job than some of our other ministers plenipotentiary.

Mrs. Harriman also is 70 years old, though few people who have ever watched her tireless energy would ever guess it. In those 70 years she has seen more riders come and go on the Washington merry-go-round than almost any other dowager of capital society.

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Scrambled Dinner Parties.

"Daisy," whose real name is Florence Jaffray Harriman, became famous during the Harding, Coolidge and Hoover administrations as a lone Democrat who lived only for the pleasure of baiting the reigning Republicans. She made them like it.

Her deliciously scrambled dinner parties became legendary. She invited naive and unsuspecting Republicans, placed them beside such rapier debaters as Sen. Tom Walsh, Sen. Burton Wheeler and Charley Michelson, then after dinner, pushed back the chairs and made them go to it.

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She Fought Roosevelt.

It was a political paradox that having kept Democratic enthusiasm flaming during the lean and hungry years from Harding to Hoover, Mrs. Harriman at first should have been unrewarded by the Roosevelt administration.

There was an interesting reason for this. Daisy had been an ardent opponent of Franklin D. Roosevelt before the 1932 convention. She had worked vigorously for Newton D. Baker, and led a faction of the District of Columbia delegation in voting against Roosevelt at Chicago.

So when Roosevelt adopted the policy of awarding his "B. C." (Before Chicago) friends, Daisy was out of luck. She remained out of luck for five years, despite many efforts by powerful friends to win her an appointment in the Roosevelt fold.

Finally, thanks to the persuasive influence of Sumner Welles, Roosevelt relented. Daisy Harriman was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Norway—a quiet and unimportant post to which it was considered safe to send a woman.

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Will Rogers.

Will Rogers has been demoted. His statue no longer stands in the rotunda of the Capitol.

A few days ago the statue was moved out of the rotunda, and was not even given space in the adjacent Statuary hall.

In this hall, where only one figure is admitted from each state, Rogers was second comer to Oklahoma's famous Indian, Sequoia, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet. Rogers was placed in a corner in the narrow hallway leading to the house wing. He has not lost his smile and his slouch, but he has lost the center of the stage.

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POLITICAL CHAFF.

New England, New York and New Jersey G. O. P. leaders are receiving letters from Midwestern colleagues warning that to win the farm vote the party platform must contain a farm plank similar to that proposed in the recent Glenn Frank report. The Iowa state central Republican committee thought so highly of the Frank plank that it is circularizing a speech by A. M. Piper, of the Council Bluffs Nonpareil, lauding the suggestions in it. . . .

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS • • • •

British-Norse Forces Combine In Attempt to Drive Out Nazis; King Haakon Rallies His Army

(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

New Routes to War?

If Scandinavia is to be the battlefield for World War Two, the routes shown on this map must be used by British expeditionary forces traveling to meet the enemy. Nazi air raiders may travel the same routes on bombing missions to England.

'NORDICS' VS. NORDICS:

CONSPIRACY AND TREASON

Invasion of Norway by Nazi forces was effected by the highest type of conspiracy and treason, according to special information revealed by the Chicago Daily News. According to this source, Oslo and other important Norwegian seaports easily fell into the hands of the invaders because of a gigantic conspiracy that included bribery, extraordinary infiltration, and treason on the part of a few important Norwegian defense officials.

For eight years the Nazis have quarreled with nearly everyone, but they always stood up for the Nordic race, and for Nordic supremacy. But the Danes and Norwegians are much purer Nordics than the Nazis ever thought of being, and so are the eastern English, eastern Scotch, and eastern Irish. A strong Slavic admixture is evident in most of the Nazi leaders, and rank and file.

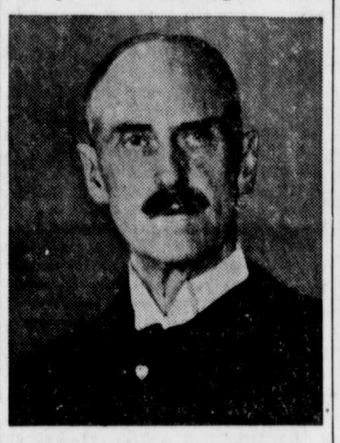
And so, the theoretical "Nordics" went to work on the actual Nordics, by land, and sea, and air. It was all very confusing. English planes would attack German warships in Norwegian ports, and German planes would attack English warships off the Norwegian ports. The losses in ships, and planes, and men, as reported by both thoroughly dishonest sides, were stupendous. Every Norwegian coastal town, up and down a long expanse, became a miniature "front"—at Narvik, Bergen, Trondheim, Oslo, the capital, and at several points elsewhere. The little German garrisons, in the Norwegian port towns, held on by their backteeth, pro tem.

According to latest reports from Stockholm, King Haakon of Norway was rallying his armed forces from a place of refuge in Norway's interior. A royal proclamation was issued calling upon the Norwegian people to "stand with me . . . and guard and fight for Norway's independence and freedom . . . The situation is such that I cannot tell you where myself, the crown prince, and the government are staying . . . God save Norway."

It appeared, currently, that German ship losses exceeded those of the English, and that hundreds, if not thousands, of German soldiers had been drowned as their troop-transports were sent to the bottom.

But neutral Swedish sources poured cold water on the redhot news of spectacular German losses. Winston Churchill was subjected to considerable panning, in England and elsewhere, for his alleged "usual" mishandling of the English fleet, in the face of German tactical success. His political future did not look overly bright. People remembered his high praise of Hitler, in a famous Glasgow blurb of 1937. Home folks began to call him "Winnie the Pooh."

Unhappy Denmark, which did not resist like the Norwegians, began to be treated, by the allies, as a German province. The English seized



KING HAAKON
"God save Norway."

her Faeroe islands, and the Danish dominion of Iceland virtually declared its independence. In North America, misty Greenland is Danish, but it appeared that either the United States, or Canada, might take over that vast tract to the north. President Roosevelt talked about the Monroe Doctrine, and lesser lights defied the Germans to come and take Greenland, which they apparently had not thought of doing.

NAMES *in the news . . .*

Prime Minister Mackenzie King, of Canada, left his "warlike" capital for a snug vacation in our own state of Virginia.

Dr. Paul Ehrlich's name stood extra-high. This human benefactor's chemical cure of syphilis apparently reduced its time-treatment from many uncertain months to a flat five days, and this was reported to be true in 85 per cent of cases tested. Dr. John L. Rice, New York city's health commissioner, seemed especially interested and called a great inter-state conference of public health specialists.

Mlle. Eve Curie, so-confidant daughter of the French radium cure-alls, wondered why the Americans worry about the news of the war, and boasted about the grace of La Paree. She is half-Polish, and genuinely well liked. Also, stylists consider this brainy girl as a real something to write, sartorially, home about.

New York's **Governor Lehman** banned all fireworks in his state, except in experienced hands for public display. Sale, distribution, and possession were barred, to become effective August 1, 1940.

PRESIDENT:

Our President, now in better shape physically, vetoed a bill to automatically deport alien spies, saboteurs, criminals, and dopes. This action aroused considerable annoyance among some native Americans, who are prone to purge the Augean stables at historically chronic intervals.

The President praised highly the Civilian Conservation corps, and wished it a long life, even though the CCC is a child of the depression. Just the same, most Americans, liberal or conservative, approve of the young Conservators, although some pacifists fear it is a first faltering step toward universal military training. Such people, and some others, allege that Roosevelt merges nationalism and socialism in a high-diluted National-Socialist form.

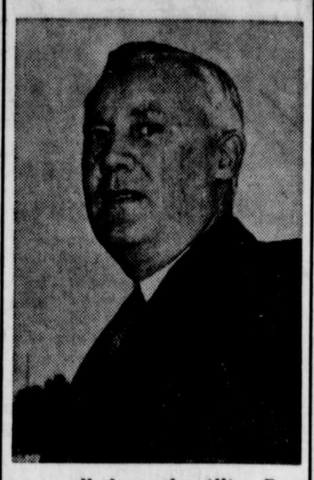
The President conferred with New York Governor Lehman at the Hyde Park hideaway, and did not ask Vice President Garner to a White House legislative conference. This was unusual, and appeared to be a slap at Texas Jack, who is an anti-Third Termite, and a rival of Roosevelt in avowed terms. Texas Jack, however, is singularly nonsensitive to such digs, and went his own sweet, "poker-playing" way.

LABORITIS:

John L. Lewis, czar of C. I. O., took a beating on the Jersey front. There, the laborite Non-partisan league took a vote and plumped for Third Termism, even though the big chief is against it.

The Utility Workers Organizing committee in New York city demanded that Mrs. Elinore M. Herrick be fired by the much-beaten National Labor Relations board. The NLRB, however, refused the urge, did not send her to St. Helena, where her opponents thought she belonged.

SWEDEN WILL FIGHT



. . . all three, the Allies, Russia and Germany, if necessary to maintain her neutrality, according to Alexis Wenner-Gren, Swedish industrialist, pictured above as he arrived in Miami from Nassau. Star negotiator in the recent Russo-Finnish peace treaty, Wenner-Gren brought his yacht from Nassau to forestall seizure by the British in the event Sweden became embroiled with Britain. Said he, "We (Sweden) are going to fight for our neutrality. We may have to fight all three."

MEXICANA:

Apparently, our troubles with Mexico will never cease. If iron is the curse of Sweden, oil is the equivalent curse of Mexico. Secretary Hull, growing more impatient, denounced the seizure of American possessions below the Rio Grande, in a note demanding immediate arbitration of Yankee claims for compensation and a "just" pay-off. And, as usual, the Mexicans took the Hull volley, not sitting down, but decidedly standing up. They know, smartly enough, that with their Argentine friends, they are the perfect fly in the ointment to the so-called Hull-Roosevelt good-neighbor policy, at which so many laughed in Lima, 16 months ago.

The Mexicans, who have no good-neighborly illusions, turned out in masses to defy Uncle "Sam-Hull," while the Mexican press fired off thunderbolts of what Americans would call July 4 oratory. In Mexico City, with its magnificent climate and location, President Cardenas, No. 1 Indian of the Americas, with 50,000 others, watched 20,000 anti-Americans march in defense of their country, as they put it. Cardenas, generally quite sincere, said it was the most moving sight he had ever seen.

And that was not all. Just to clap the climax and out-maneuver the maneuverers, the Mexican federal council of conciliation and arbitration demanded that some 17 American and other foreign oil companies, cleaned out by the Mexicans two years back, should pay their former proletarians roughly $20,000,000 for a "severance" fee. This hurt aplenty.

WAR TRADE:

Harry Hopkins' commerce department announced that the value of American exports had gone up some 33 per cent during the first six months of the war abroad. Partly, of course, it was airplanes, which certainly are a profitable sale any time, anywhere. Trade to Europe was up by 27 per cent; to Asia, up 33 per cent; to Canada and Latin America, up 47 per cent. It is to Canada, direct, that most of the aircraft go. The Japanese against China and the Russians against Finland have done quite well with their useful imports from the United States!

MISCELLANY:

The Dies committee had another fearsome fuss with six workers-of-the-world, so-called, who would not answer questions or give away their fellow Communist members. The six came up in batches of three, the second batch more bothersome even than the first. The irritated house of representatives voted "contempt" citations. Red-minded Earl Browder, jailed for a passport fraud, was subpoenaed, with 19 others, regarding the passport racket.

General Francisco Franco, "rebel" Spanish dictator, indicated that he and his country intended to be neutral and stay neutral, despite the intense indignation felt, over Norway and Denmark, in Spanish America.

Rear Admiral S. M. Robinson, U. S. N., said that he thought England's big battleships were more important tactically than Germany's planes and submarines, and so testified before a senate committee of would-be military experts.

The 17 anti-Semitic Christian Frontists continued on trial at New York. They were accused of wanting to overthrow the U. S. government. Dennis Healy, chief prosecuting witness, told how he took notes on his carefully starched cuffs at Front meetings, and treated the worldly Frontlings to drinks and meals at U. S. government expense. "An old czarist trick," said one New Yorker. Before Mr. Healy collapsed from nervous strain, he said the Front talked of shooting a dozen congressmen, of making retired General Mosely dictator.

GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

United Features — WNU Service

THE NEW WAR

It is too early to begin drawing either military or political conclusions from the sudden outburst of action in Scandinavia. It was not anticipated in the writings of the military experts that I saw, but that the action taken by both sides had been carefully planned and prepared for is obvious.

You can't block up the territorial waters of a neutral by mine fields in three separate areas, the extreme two of which are 500 miles apart, without plenty of preparation—or do it in a day. You can't launch such an assault as has been made on Denmark and Norway any more rapidly.

It is curious that the allies would have so clearly invaded Norway's neutrality on the exterior route when the disappearance of ice on the interior route will so soon make that

IN OSLO AIR RAID SHELTER —"The rights of neutrals are only what they have the strength to make them."

mine-sowing activity superfluous. There must have been another reason.

In other words, while both preparations were kept secret from the world, they were not kept secret from either belligerent to prevent the other from knowing and acting instantly upon their revelation.

It is too early to blame Denmark for not resisting Hitler's "protective" invasion. On the face of current reports, she could only have crucified her country—as Finland and Poland did.

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'AMERICANISTS'

The most cockeyed reaction to the outburst in Scandinavia is that it sets the "isolationists" back on their heels. It doesn't even bear on the question.

I hate sloganeering labels, yet I would rather be called an "Americanist" than an "isolationist"—although I sincerely believe that they are the same thing and, if they are, "what's in a name?"

My suggestion is addressed to the amateur military kibitzers who insist in our taking partners in this dance of death and who call people of my opinion "isolationists" because they believe in arming our own dugout to whatever extent is necessary and staying in it.

My suggestion is that these people proudly label themselves "interventionists"—and, since they glory in their opinions, be proud of the descriptive title which far more aptly distinguishes them than the word "isolationist" describes our train of thought.

It is absolutely fair to label them as "interventionists," but maybe it isn't fair without distinguishing between two clear classes of them. One group presses for American intervention on purely idealistic grounds. They are the do-gooders. They want to send other people or other mother's sons or other people's money into this bloody shambles to maintain "decency" on earth.

Even that statement might, on the surface, seem to carry an element of unfairness. Some of them are willing to embark themselves and their own sons on such a crusade. But whatever unfairness springs from this is only superficial. There is ample opportunity for this kind to do this right now. All they have to do is to go across the Canadian border and enlist.

But most do-gooders and "great liberals" are not considering personal sacrifice. They get, if they do not seek, the crown of public approval of their bleeding hearts without bearing any cross or personal sacrifice to achieve it. They want to make "government" do it—which means to make everybody do it whether agreeable or not.

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Seizing Denmark doesn't get the Germans any closer by air to objectives in Britain than she is already but a seizure of Bergen in Norway would. If this push had been toward Holland, its object would have been much clearer. Air bases in Holland would threaten the whole west coast of England. But this move to the north does not of itself threaten Holland.

Germany with a superior land and air force can probably afford a Scandinavian expeditionary force better than the allies can.

HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONS

When furniture knobs or handles become loose remove the bolts from the knobs and insert rubber washers similar to those used on water faucets. Replace the bolt. The knob will then be firmer.

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Never salt fresh meats when frying. Salt tends to extract the juices and hardens these meats.

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When washing or ironing, put a thick rug under your feet and you will find you do not tire so easily.

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Geraniums like a fairly heavy soil and must be potbound to flower well. They will invariably refuse to bloom if kept in a large pot.

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The cut surface of a lemon will remove marks made by matches on painted walls.

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Before polishing furniture, first go over it with a piece of cheesecloth wrung out of hot water, then apply polish. This gives excellent results.

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