The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

RETREAT TO AMERICA

Washington, D. C.

One reason for the international pessimism now pervading the White House is the course which an allied defeat would be almost sure to take.

Roosevelt's military advisers have pointed out that the British Isles, if attacked, are certain to cave in, or at least to be given such a battering that the government will flee to Canada.

The British fleet will try to save something from the debacle, and the most natural place for it to go will be Canada and the British island possessions in American waters—Jamaica, Bermuda, the Bahamas.

In other words, if the British government is defeated at home, it will try to save just as much as it can and rally together the rest of the far-flung empire—Canada, Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand.

When and if this happens, especially if the remnants of the British fleet come to American waters, then American neutrality is going to be put to the biggest test in history. If German airplanes follow, the United States may have a hard time staying out of war.

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NO BOLTER

Seeing them together you'd never know that the President and Jack Garner have just concluded a series of hot primary scraps. The one expression that best describes their personal relations is "affectionate."

Whatever their political differences, the two men genuinely like each other. Illustrative of this was their conference the day California balloted to decide between a Roosevelt third term or a Garner anti-New Deal delegation.

Roosevelt kidded Garner about his impatience to hurry back to Uvalde to fish and Garner kidded him back.

"Tell you what we'll do, Jack," said the President. "You come with me to the dedication of the Great Smoky Mountains park and then I'll accompany you to Uvalde for a few days' fishing. What do you say?"

"It's a deal, Capt'n," grinned the vice president.

To intimates, Garner does not deny being disappointed at his poor primary showing. He admits quite frankly that he expected to do a great deal better. But he evinces no bitterness, is philosophical in defeat. And he makes one thing quite clear: He will not fight Roosevelt if he runs again.

Garner still is opposed to a third term. But he will not join in any disruptive movement at the Chicago convention and he will not "take a walk" should the President be renominated.

"I've been a party man all my life," Garner says, "and I also believe in majority rule. I didn't bolt Al Smith in 1928 and I don't intend engaging in that sort of thing at this late stage. I will support the party ticket, whoever is on it."

It is possible that Garner, eager though he is to return to the quiet and peace of his Texas home, may go to Chicago. If he does go it will be for two purposes: to preserve harmony, and to help put over House Floor Leader Sam Rayburn, his close friend and 1932 campaign manager, as vice president.

Note—The Senate Ladies, weekly luncheon club of senatorial wives, apparently think that the Garners are finished with public life. And Mrs. Garner apparently agrees with them. They voted to present her with a farewell gift and to leave the choice up to her. She chose a silver candelabrum.

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AMBASSADOR TO ROME

Privately, the state department has been worried over Protestant protests against sending an ambassador to the Vatican; but very much pleased over the way the thing is working out from a diplomatic viewpoint.

Probably the Vatican has the best diplomatic information in Europe. Its envoys know, better than those of other nations, just what is going on in each country. This has enabled Ambassador Myron Taylor to keep the state department better informed than ever before.

One significant development reported back from Rome is the increasing effort of Hitler to crack down on the pope—through Mussolini.

Apparently the dictators resent the newspaper Osservatore Romano, mouthpiece of the Vatican. It is the one newspaper in Italy free of Fascist domination, and as a result, its circulation has increased from 17,000 to 120,000.

One Sunday all copies were seized by Fascist troops.

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MERRY-GO-ROUND

Chin-Fu Woo is urging a third term for Roosevelt. As editor of the Chinese Nationalist Daily, New York, he plans to rally Chinese Americans.

The army has 16 so-called "foreign language students," that is, officers studying foreign languages abroad. The officer learning Chinese is stationed in China and the one learning Japanese is located in Japan. But the officer studying Russian is stationed in New York city.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY ROGER SHAW

German March Toward Paris Marked by Terrific Fighting; U. S. Maps New Defense Plans

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

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II GERMAN WAR:
III Reich

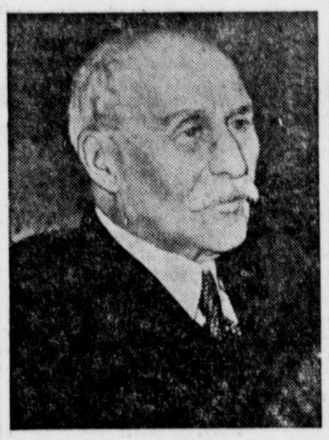
Nothing succeeds like success. The latest Third Reich included Germany, Austria, Czecho Slovakia, Poland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Memel, the Saar. Its friends and allies took in Russia, Italy, Japan, Spain, Hungary. Its sinister "list" seemed to include Switzerland, Jugoslavia, Rumania, and some said Sweden. It was more than Napoleonic—Poland in 18 days; Norway in 21; Holland in 5. So what next? England by parachute? France by tank?

There was serious talk of moving the French government out of Paris—destination unknown. England rounded up another 3,000 Germans and Austrians between the ages of 16 and 60: two-thirds of them refugees from the nasty Nazi terror at home. Some quarter-million English volunteers enrolled to sharpshoot parachuters, and Premier Winston Churchill nervously promised his new constituents blood, and sweat, and toil, and tears—always a clever psychological trick in dealing with dogged Englishmen.

German authorities indicated that the government of any of their "protectorates" depended on how much resistance the "protected" had put up. Thereby, Denmark was getting grade-A treatment, Norway perhaps grade-B, and Poland a very low grade indeed. Holland was expected to get a rating similar to that of the Norse, though perhaps a trifle lower. For the Dutch had fought rather hard.

Belgian Bungle

Brussels, Namur, Liege, and Louvain fell as the Germans pushed ahead in Belgium. (The three big Belgian fortification sites were Namur, Liege, and Antwerp.) The Belgians, on the whole, fought better than the Dutch, but as the Belgic capital surrendered to Hitler, the German invaders were within 75



MARSHAL HENRI PETAIN
A cabinet post for this hero of Verdun.

miles of that not so gay Paree. The Belgian government decamped to a safer spot, Ostend on the channel.

In at least four places, the Germans had pierced the French Maginot line extension, back of the Belgian border. Dr. Robert Ley, the not very Nordic Nazi minister of labor, announced that the German army was performing a "God-given natural mission." The Field Grays, he added, intended to make the world "happy and reasonable." But the French refused to be happy, and the English were certainly not feeling reasonable. In desperation, the English Churchill government began to woo Russia with a "new and more friendly approach"—Russia, the recent "red beast" that victimized brave little Finland. Meanwhile, the United States and the 20 Latin American states went on record with an official denunciation of Germany's invasion of Holland and Belgium. Harsh observers branded the joint resolve as a Uruguayan "publicity stunt." And in France, a cabinet reshuffle found the hero of Verdun in the last World war, Henri Philippe Petain, named as vice premier to Premier Paul Reynaud.

Bull on Spot

John Bull, said critics, was on the spot. The state department warned 7,000 Americans to get out of Britain, and stay out, and ordered them to go to the peaceful, prosperous Irish Free State. It was indicated that a Yankee rescue ship would fish the U. S. refugees out of the emerald Eire. But many Americans refused to leave J. Bull.

Sweden Overmatched

Sweden was nervous as bullying German troops, in Norway, were reported massed on the Swedish border—whence comes more than a third of the German iron supply. But that was not all. The entire Swedish match industry, turning out 90,000,000,000 matches per year, was closing down because it could not export. "Sweden is-or-has no match for Hitler," exploded a wit. But fine Swedish iron continued to pour out of Swedish Lappland.

POTOMAC POWER:
FDR Wants Money

The President told congress, dramatically, in joint session, that he wanted a billion bucks and 50,000 warplanes to defend our country against 3,000-mile blitzkriegs. Two-thirds of the billion were to go to the U. S. army. Roosevelt hinted that it might be nice to raise the legal national debt limit—which is $45,000,000,000. He asked that he be given $100,000,000 in cash, to provide for "emergencies." But an answer, in part, came from presidential possibility Willkie, in an Indianapolis speech. Willkie said that adequate national defense depended on domestic recovery. Meanwhile, the continentalists rallied against the anglophiles and internationalists, in and out of congress. Senators Johnson, Norris and Wheeler—all of them, naturally, pro-ally — were

WENDEL WILLKIE
He has an answer for a tough problem.

especially active against any "1917" wiles. But old Pershing, a big man in 1917, spoke of the "possibility of war," while War Secretary Woodring spoke of our maintaining peace. It was all very confusing. There was even talk of lending some money to the no-pay French and English, but it was only talk.

Good Old Garner

There was a tale to the effect that Vice President Garner now admitted Roosevelt's nomination for the Third Term. He said, supposedly, that Roosevelt had absolute control of the Chicago convention, and that was that. But, Texas Jack continued (so they say) that he himself would not run again, because he was opposed to Third Terms for vice presidents, as well as for Presidents. Thereby, he established his consistency, and may have opened the door to a swarm of ambitiously would-be V. P.'s. Roosevelt had at least 431 convention delegates pledged or committed, and was expected soon to possess more than the necessary 548 majority.

U. S. CIVIL WAR:
Down in Looseana

Down in Creole Looseana, there was an American civil war going on. It was being fought out between hard-working units of Uncle Sam's tried and true regular army. Some 30,000 blues were defending the state against 25,000 red invaders from Texas. Somehow (an unusual feature of this La-Tex struggle) the defenders were reported as employing blitzkrieg tactics, and seemed to be forging ahead. There even was a fifth column, to make things perfect. This fifth column (so-called) consisted of local bovines, who licked the insulation of army telephone lines, and thereby committed military sabotage in the first, second and third degrees. In Russia, they'd have fixed 'em! But these fifth-columnar cows of Dixie gained reprieve. As to the battleground itself, Looseana—its new governor, Sam Houston Jones, told 100,000 people at a barbecue that no more Huey Longs would run the state.

ON THE MOVE:

25,000 residents in the Dutch East Indies, definitely were off the move. These were suspects, both German and Dutch, rounded up by the watchful colonial authorities, only too conscious of fifth-column and Trojan Horse tactics. Simultaneously, in New York, great dissension arose when a popular native declared: "The fifth column in this country is headed by that fellow in the White House." At this, the pro-Roosevelts decidedly got a move on.

At Odessa, by the Black sea, Russia has a parachuting doctor, who bails out in a big hurry, to get to urgent cases. He delivered two babies from the air. It was suggested that, next December, German parachute men might be disguised as Santa Clauses.

New York hosiery counters reported a hectic rush for nylon, at $1.35. And, alas, the feminine rush was followed by nylon runs. Or so they said. Macy reported 20 fast-moving women at the nylon counter in the first minute, but there was little or no intra-female carnage.

Wonder-of-the-Week

Here is the latest wonder of the plant world—the "Topato." It is displayed here by its "inventor," George H. Chisholm, superintendent and horticulturist at the greenhouses of the Yonkers, N. Y., estate of the late Samuel Untermyer. Chisholm crossed a tomato and a potato to produce a new non-fattening type of potato, which he has dubbed the "Topato."

ANTI-PARACHUTE:
Penn Patriots

England's new war minister, cute-looking Sir Tony Eden, has been active in organizing local corps of sharpshooters to pick off, willy nilly, invading parachute jumpers from across the channel. Jeannette, in western Pennsylvania, was not to be left behind. It formed a group of "sharpies"—the first civilian anti-parachute legion in the United States. Its members feared that parachute activities might be directed against the Pittsburgh industrial belt, of which Jeannette is a part. "Gauleiters" Brust and Landis, local marksman and local editor, headed the Jeannette parachute-poppers.

S. S. HARDING:
In Memoriam

The former United States liner, President Harding, was sunk by bombs off the Flemish coast of Belgium. She was built in 1921, and her tonnage totaled 13,869. Your correspondent returned on her from the war, last October. The U. S. lines sold her to a Belgian shipping corporation, after American neutrality rules precluded U. S. boating in the war zone. The Belgians renamed the Harding, the Ville de Bruges. So perished the namesake of the leader of the Ohio Gang. But out of death comes life—two brand-new American destroyers were launched in Washington's Puget Sound: the Hughes and the Monssen, both named after Yankee naval heroes, and christened by their widows.

YANKEE JAW-POWER:
We Can't Bite

America is not short on manpower, but it was announced that Americans are short on jawpower. Forty-five years ago, the average Yank could bite 171 pounds-worth. But in 1940, the Yank, degenerated, can only bite 125 pounds-worth. Soft food, alas, has done it. Take the average Eskimo, lucky fellow. He has, it is said, a good strong bite of 300 pounds-worth. This is called "chewing-force."

NAMES
. . . *in the news*

The woodchopper of Doorn, Holland, figured again in the news. The ex-kaiser was skirted by the Nazi invaders, guarded and ultra-courteously treated. This was to keep the still monarchist army officers—East Prussian Junkers — contented and happy. Gossips have had it that the ex-kaiser, deeply religious and anti-revolutionary, is mildly pro-ally and intensely loyal to his kindly refuge of Holland. It was said that Prussian Wilhelm nearly fled to England with Dutch Wilhelmina!

Known as the "right hand" of Generalissimo Ferdinand Foch in the last World war, French Gen. Maxime Weygand, now 73 years of age, is named commander-in-chief of the Allies in their present conflict with Germany. He comes to the Western front from the Near East where he was in top command and replaces General Gamelin. Born in Belgium he became a French citizen and was head of the army from 1931 to 1935.

Dorothy Thompson, columnist, urged that the Republican party support Roosevelt for a third term. George Sokolsky, columnist, strongly opposed the urge of Miss Thompson. He said that war under Roosevelt would turn these United States into a totalitarian unit. Both columnists write for the New York Herald Tribune,

A Long Island cat, Tessie, adopted a baby hyena, name unknown. The hyena babe belonged to Frank Buck's well-known jungle camp, and Tessie was nursing it, along with five bona-fide kittens.

GENERAL JOHNSON Says:

United Features — WNU Service

BIG JOB FOR INDUSTRY

Washington, D. C.

The President's speech on armaments was excellent oratory and a great show. The stage-management was intended to impress Mussolini.

Congress should act promptly, but the business of bum's rushing a billion dollar bill through without looking at it is the same old stuff—especially since it gives the President a couple of hundred million lump sum and sight unseen.

There is no need for any such haste as that. The money can't be gotten into action in the rush that it can be appropriated.

It is doubtful if the navy money can begin to be spent within the year of its appropriation.

This situation could be remedied, but not with the present system. The President gave no indication of any change in his present attempt to combine in himself the powers and duties of secretary of state, war and navy.

Indeed, the requests for personalized appropriations indicates he intends to carry it still further. He is fitted neither by training nor ex-

Next?
—Kirby in N. Y. Post.

perience to do this present job and he has far too much to do already.

If we have not enough plant and shipbuilding capacity, the job is to go out and create them.

That is purely an industrial job and nobody in the administration is equipped to undertake it. If we have not enough machine tool equipment, the task is to set up a system of priorities—right now.

If we fear any shortages of tin or rubber, we ought to begin now conserving them for defense. A large percentage of our normal use of both comes from reclamation. We should begin restrictions on the unnecessary use of both and stop at once the wastage of tin and rubber scrap.

All these suggestions are merely by way of example. There are scores of other ways to get this job done quickly and far more economically than it has been done or than there is any prospect of doing it.

If our whole problem is, at this stage, industry—now just as much an arm of national defense as the army or the navy, it is a job of industrial strategists and tacticians, just as much as the army needs generals and the navy needs admirals.

They do not exist in government. I would as quickly consent to entrusting it to a soldier, sailor or politician, as I would let one of them cut off my leg, or ask an industrialist either to do that amputation or to run the army.

We can get the job done, but not merely by appropriating money—no matter how much noise we make about it and not with the present men and organization without expert industrial advice and direction.

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WAR AND INDUSTRY

What is the matter with the stock market? Was it Josh Billings who first said: "Congress is a ass." Superficially it would seem that no group of more or less independent individuals can be "a ass," but there is such a thing as a mob mass mind—especially in panicky times. When it appears and begins to work it is a frightful knock on the average run-of-mill donkey to compare mob intelligence to that of an ass. It is far below that.

This country's safety just at this stage depends not nearly so much on its army, its navy, or its air force as it does on its industries. They are going to have to go to work overtime not only to supply our defensive needs but to take up the burdens of formerly competing nations, now cut off by war in supplying the needs of the world. Happily or otherwise, it will create a boom.

This nation has not yet begun to function on the industrial side of building up defenses. This administration remains allergic to consequences and continues to shoot craps with destiny. The current dumb statements that we can't get for two years the pitifully insufficient armament yet asked for, are an insult to industry.

To say that the greatest and most efficient industrial system in the world can't do this job for us is to confess ignorance of that system. Our first step is to recruit some industrial brains.

Sportlight

By GRANTLAND RICE

AT LEAST three American league clubs have a chance to pile in on the unhappy Yankees this season and apply the intercostal chive. The main trouble they face is within their own camps—not within the Yankee corral.

These clubs are Cleveland, Boston and Detroit. Afflicted by certain definite weak departments, all three may blow the big spot, which consists largely in mowing the Yankees down after four years of complete power.

What are these weak spots?

No. 1. Cleveland, with one of the best ball clubs in the league, has too many temperamental stars or near stars. This isn't the fault of manager Oscar Vitt.

Rollie Hemsley

Cleveland has an able catcher in Rollie Hemsley — also one of the best pitching staffs in baseball, headed by Bob-by Feller. Cleveland has a good infield, with a star shortstop —a good outfield.

But Cleveland also has at least four ball players who don't belong in team play—at least four men who are hard to handle, who haven't one-fifth of the spirit that Brooklyn carries.

If these four men only could understand the true spirit of winning competition—even if they only could realize they are trying to throw away over a hundred thousand dollars in world series money—Cleveland would have a shining chance to win after 20 years in the wilderness, far away from the milk and honey.

The Other Two

No. 2. Red Sox. The Yawkey-Cronin team has the infield and the outfield. It has the scoring punch. It has a great combination around short and second. It has Jimmy Foxx and Ted Williams.

But the Red Sox haven't a first-class catching staff and they lack pitching strength. Their main dependence is a 40-year-old left-hander who has been around 16 years.

Experts tell me that Joe Cronin, a fine fellow and a fine manager, is no marvel at handling pitchers. This may, or may not, be true. Maybe he doesn't have the pitchers.

Joe Cronin

But there is a distinct art in working your pitchers correctly. Uncle Wilbert Robinson was a past master. Uncle Will McKechnie of the Reds is another. But they are few and far apart.

No. 3. This brings us to Detroit's Tigers. They have all the scoring dynamite a ball club needs. They have pretty fair pitching. But they have a second-division infield—a spotty infield well below any normal pennant showing.

Detroit can go out and get the runs. But before the season is over the Tiger infield will show too many gaps to match their run-making offensives.

And that factor will be all-important in determining final club standings. If the Tigers' infield defensive power was on a par with their hitting ability, the final records likely would be different.

So these pennant weak spots against the staggering Yankees include these:

1. Cleveland—too much inside dissension and trouble.
2. Boston — lack of battery strength, always a vital need.
3. Detroit—a rickety infield.

The Big Change

What about the Yankees? Their main control in the realm of rule, in the kingdom of conquer, has been balance. They have great catching, good pitching, a star infield, a fine outfield — defensive and offensive strength just about evenly matched.

They came home in poor condition for two reasons—bad weather in the South and a killing spring training tour that covered most of the map below the Mason and Divot line.

They also had four years of easy success back of their fifth charge. Each man on the club had banked $25,000 in world series cash since 1936.

They left a big opening for some well-rounded challenger, but if they win this time it will be largely because their main opponents had too many soft and spongy spots.

Demaret and the Next Open

Swinging along to another sport, they are asking now whether Jimmy Demaret will be another MacDonald Smith, another Horton Smith, another Harry Cooper, another Henry Picard—great golfers who have never won a National Open championship.

If Jimmy Demaret is close to his game he is capable of winning any title or crown. His is the star of the pack today, the best I've seen for the needed combination of brilliancy and consistency.