The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C.

ON FLANDERS FIELDS

Germany allows no press reports to tell of the plight of France, but this does not prevent refugees in America from telling what is going on.

A dramatic picture of French life is brought overseas by the secretary of the manufacturers' association of France, M. Robert A. Dordet, who came in by Baltimore, and was not exposed to general press interviews. As told the Merry-Go-Round exclusively, this is his story:

There are no automobiles on the streets of France, because there is no gasoline. Supplies have been cut off by the British embargo and later the German.

There is a shortage of all foods, a complete absence of some. There is no coffee, no tea, no butter, no milk. Winter is coming and there is no coal.

Some of these supplies are normally available in France, but today they are lacking either because of interrupted transportation or because of confiscation by the Germans.

Furthermore, the invasion of refugees—French, Belgian and Dutch—has reduced food supplies. So far, refugees swarming all over the countryside have kept themselves alive on the fruits and vegetables of southern France.

Fall harvesting and planting is further disrupted by the absence of workers. A million French soldiers are held as prisoners, and requests for their release to work in fields and factories have been unavailing. Three times Vichy's Vice Premier Laval went to Paris to appeal to the German high command, and even was refused an audience. Germany was too busy waging war on England to talk about problems of peace.

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COME'N' SEE IT

If certain leading advertising agencies can sell the idea to army brasshats, the boys in camp this winter will see star radio shows—with glamorous movie queens, famous comics, popular crooners and top bands—put on the air.

However, there is considerable difference of opinion among army chiefs on this novel plan. They are agreed that the shows would be a big hit and a morale builder, but some of them question the commercial features of the program.

If one class of sponsors, such as cigarettes or automobiles, are allowed to stage broadcasts in army camps, they contend that others, such as patent medicines, might demand similar privileges and couldn't fairly be refused. They also argue that no commercial performances should be allowed in government posts.

Proponents of the plan retort that this would no more imply government endorsement of the product than if soldiers in uniform attended the same shows in radio stations. Also, that it didn't matter who the sponsor was so long as the show was clean and star entertainment.

Note—Civilian press aides in the war department are strong for the proposal, but their military associates are not.

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A FINE TRIBUTE

Finest recent tribute to a United States senator was circulated behind his back, when 84 colleagues signed a petition asking Roosevelt to appoint Sen. Henry Fountain Ashurst to the U. S. Court of Claims.

There are only 96 members of the senate, and 12 were absent or ill when the petition was circulated proposing this reward for the senator from Arizona. Ashurst has served that state for 28 years since the first day it was elevated from a territory to statehood. He was defeated this year in the Democratic primary, largely because a weak heart prevented him from going home to campaign.

In addition to his old friend, Senator Tom Connally of Texas, the person who helped get the record-breaking total of 84 senatorial signatures for Ashurst was Mrs. Lionel Atwill, daughter of the late Edward T. Stotesbury and sister of Jimmy Cromwell, now running for senator from New Jersey.

When the list was handed to Roosevelt, he remarked: "I wish I could get 84 senators behind me."

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CAPITAL CHAFF

Edward H. McCrahan, World war veteran, has proposed a new army decoration to the war department—a "Good Conduct medal" that would be given to all honorably discharged veterans and draftees.

To block Nazi seizure of Dutch investments in the United States through terrorization of their families and associates, Dutch businessmen in this country have quietly formed new companies that have taken over the assets of the old ones under long-term notes, payable only when Holland regains its freedom. This reorganization has been done with treasury and SEC aid, thus saving about $50,000,000 from Nazi coffers.

Sen. Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts takes his two dachshund dogs for a stroll before bedtime.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS — By Edward C. Wayne

Great Britain Rushes Help to Greece To Assist in Fighting Italian Invasion; First Peacetime Draft Lottery Held; Election Day Ends Spirited Campaign

(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.)

DETROIT, MICH.—To break the "bottleneck" which is holding down production of fighting planes, William S. Knudsen, head of the national defense advisory commission, met here with heads of the auto industry to lay plans for the mass production of planes. Picture shows, left to right: C. E. Wilson, president of General Motors; Edsel Ford, president of the Ford Motor company; Knudsen; K. T. Keller, president of Chrysler corporation; and Paul Hoffman, president of Studebaker corporation.

GREECE:
Invasion

War came at last to Greece. Trouble had been looming for this country ever since the government rejected Italian demands for territory and for a free and unhampered passage of Fascist troops over Greek soil.

Italian motorized units first thrust themselves over the Greek-Albanian frontier in the mountainous borderland that stretches between the two countries. Then came two air-raid alarms for Athens, the Greek capital, and the war was on. Two of the city's major airports were bombed by the Italian planes in the first raids.

The Greek government officially announced that Great Britain was sending her 'unlimited support" in her resistance to the Italian invasion. From London came word that England's pledge to back up Greece would be immediately fulfilled and a special session of the British war cabinet was quickly called to consider the outbreak of this new war.

Italian sources claimed that the Greeks had been guilty of "provocations" and before the outbreak of actual hostilities, Rome had issued an ultimatum demanding the right for Italian forces to occupy Greece.

England's aid for her new "ally" would logically come in the form of air and naval forces operating from Egyptian bases, informed sources in London said. British men-of-war were immediately steaming out of these bases toward Greek ports, early war bulletins indicated.

What effect this new theater of military operations would have on the decision of the Turkish and Russian governments to cast their lot with either side thus became an important diplomatic question. Turkey's attitude would more than likely depend on how much aid Great Britain would give Greece and upon news of Russia's behavior in the present crisis.

CAPSULES:
Lottery Party

Selective service officials in Washington put all the numbers from one to several thousand in opaque blue capsules; trotted out a blindfold that had been a museum piece since the World war, and the notables of the nation drew them out of a fishbowl, just as was done in 1917.

Every effort was made to make the capsule party as near like its ancestor as possible.

It was the identical blindfold; supposedly the identical fishbowl (though there was some uncertainty about this) they were the same capsules, the same numbers.

And just to make everything perfect, there also was Lieut. Charles R. Morris of Elizabeth, N. J., who dropped down to the nation's capital to complete the picture.

He is the man who blindfolded Secretary of War Baker at the time No. 258 was drawn in 1917.

Lieutenant Morris even stirred the capsules with the same paddle that they were stirred with before.

Selective service headquarters announced the classification of the entire group would proceed, but that the first roll call would probably be small—about 20 per cent of the quota of trainees being summoned in the "first draft."

National Guard generals, after they'd talked things over in Washington, agreed it was improbable that trainees would "get off" with just one year in the army. Said one:

"The emergency probably will not be over in a year—and if it isn't, the army is going to find that they can't make real, efficient shock troops in 12 months. I don't expect either guard or draftees to be back home after a year."

STRETCH DRIVE:
Political Race

Few elections within memory have seen such a "stretch drive" as the two candidates put on while the 1940 race neared its end, with the "big surprise" (to voters of one side or the other) waiting at the "wire" November 5.

The Republican big guns unlimbered, with Dewey, Al Smith and John L. Lewis furnishing the major explosions. Al and his brown derby stepped into the picture against the man who nominated him.

Dewey went "all out" for the man who trimmed him at Philadelphia; and John L. Lewis deserted Roosevelt and jumped clean overboard from the ship of New Deal state, to sink or swim with Willkie.

New features on the political scene were the vanishing of the Literary Digest poll, and the appearance of Dr. Gallup and a half-dozen smallfry copyists, now seeing the thing from one side or another.

Wisecrackers said the "election Galluped along to the finish."

The closing days of the campaign were marked by more booing, yowling and cheering in movie theaters during newsreel political "shots" than the oldest resident could remember.

PRESSURE:
France Gives In

The yielding of the Vichy government to Hitler's demands brought the war to a new crisis, as Britain prepared for a possible naval onslaught on the French fleet at Toulon and other bases. It was believed the new fight might make the 10-minute battle at Oran seem like a picnic.

Pierre Laval's star was in its ascendancy, Paul Baudouin leaving the French cabinet, a move in which British statesmen could find little comfort as Laval is even more anti-British than was his predecessor.

Russia continued to teeter on the brink of trouble in the Balkans. Soviet leaders were invited to participate with the Axis powers in an epochal conference over the final disposition of the lower Danube in consonance with Europe's New Order. Yet Britain continued diplomatic pressure on the Soviet in the hope of keeping Russia a potential aid to Turkey and Greece in the Balkans.

Nazi air pressure relaxed for a couple of days. Londoners got a little bolder about their shopping, and suddenly daylight raiders jammed sticks of bombs into crowded streets. There was great slaughter. Italy proudly announced her planes were taking part in the London bombings.

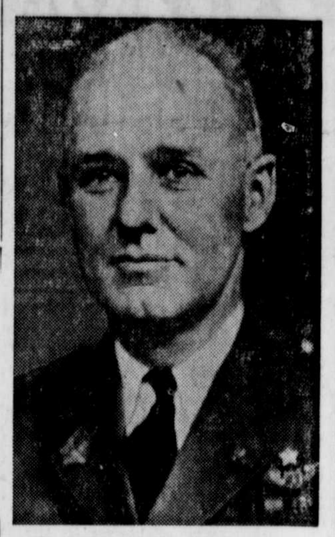
Radio and press reports from Berlin admitted heavier raiding by British bombers. Chief development in the air was the use of the new type Nazi fighter-bombers, and the report that the R.A.F. was going to bring out a new model plane to combat them. Air losses by both sides were far below those reported in previous attacks, however, and ground casualties also were diminished, although property damage was heavy. British photos showed much destruction in their own country, and meager German reports admitted that Hamburg was hard hit.

NAMES
. . . in the news

KING CAROL—frantic in totalitarian Spain, feared that Lupescu will be extradited, appeals to the United States to save him and his party. He received a 90-minute visit from his aunt and a bitter "dressing down."

JAMES BUTLER — chain-store millionaire and New York racetrack owner, was killed falling off a horse.

New Air Chief



WASHINGTON, D. C.—Here is Major General George H. Brett, who has been made acting chief of the U. S. Air Corps to succeed Major General Henry H. Arnold. General Arnold has been advanced to the newly created post of Deputy Chief of the war department general staff.

POLICY:
U. S. Stands Firm

Successive steps of the "peace offensive" against Britain were (first) the boiling of the Balkan pot; (second) the effort to get Spain to bottle up the west end of the Mediterranean or to lend herself to it; (third) the inducing of France to complete her surrender and to hint that the United States would be asked to act as intermediary.

Counter-moves in this foreign policy war were these: (first) Churchill's talk in French to the French people urging them to stand firm, and assuring them that Britain would win the war; (second) the United States' warning to France that if she lined up with the Axis she need look for no help in case of famine; and (third) the flat statement of Secretary Hull that the United States will take part in no such peace move.

Thus it was made plain to Europe and Americans alike that there is to be no softening of the United States' foreign policy. Pan-America added its bit to the picture by announcing itself ready and equipped to take over French colonies in this hemisphere.

These include French Guiana, Guadalupe and Martinique, the latter interesting because French naval vessels are sequestered there; also an undetermined number of American planes shipped there earlier in the war and intended for French use on the continent. They're still in their crates.

Britain had swiftly, while this foreign policy "test-tube" work was going on, declared herself as "in the war to stay" and "ready to listen to no peace talk" from any quarter "on German terms."

In the meantime, contracts have been let, and work has started on the new American naval and air base at British Bermuda, first of a series.

SALESMAN:
Hitler Busy

The armored train that carries the Nazi Fuehrer on his traveling salesman job of talking France and Spain and Italy into his way of thinking has been making more mileage.

It has rolled into France, also "somewhere in the Pyrenees" and its chief passenger has had his talks with Franco and Laval.

The result of the French trip is known, but not its details, which were withheld from publication, and "will not be given to the press," according to both British and Nazi sources.

Few photos of the meetings were made, but they show the same picture as that at Brennero—long lines of helmeted soldiers presenting arms on both sides of the steel-armored train; batteries of anti-aircraft artillery training guns and binoculars aloft; blinds of the train windows pulled down; Hitler and his conferee striding up and down.

MISCELLANY:

Prince Roger Starhemberg used to own 30 castles in Austria. He overthrew the little Austrian democracy in early 1934. First, in 1923, he served Hitler. Later he fought him. Now, Prince Roger is serving England. He is a lieutenant of De Gaulles. He was being, amid a storm, investigated by parliament. Prince Roger is a close friend of Fritz Mandl, former Austrian munitions king, who was one of Hedy Lamarr's husbands.

Funny things happen in Reno. John E. Lichtenberg tried to fix up a mistake in his registration for the draft. Now, he finds he has two numbers—a pair of them. They misspelled the Lichtenberg name, so on the second try, he got a second number. He has a number with each card. They said he had two shooting-irons in the fire.

Meanwhile, Clarence A. Dykstra, new director of the selective military service, assured the country there would be "no possible favoritism" in calling up 800,000 men for military training.

WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

(Consolidated Features—WNU Service.)

NEW YORK.—Close in, in the critical diplomatic huddle at Ankara is our John Van A. MacMurray, ambassador to Turkey. A veteran career diplomat, Mr. MacMurray might have been a star reporter. He has a gimlet mind and is a diligent digger and researcher. While our state department may not have much to say about what happens in Turkey and the Balkans, it will surely have the record, when it all becomes history.

Our Ambassador To Turkey Is a Grim Fact Chaser

As minister to China, Mr. MacMurray studied the country and its people so diligently that his friends said he began to look like a Chinese. There was the matter of likin, or Chinese import taxes. No other western diplomat had worrried much about them. Mr. MacMurray completely surrounded them.

He is the world's greatest authority on the subject. When he left his post in China after five years, he had compiled two stupendous volumes on the general theme of "Rights and Obligations of China From 1894 to 1919." These were only small details of his encyclopedic roundup of knowledge of the Far East. That being the case, they shifted him. Which is a reminder that this writer has a friend, a career diplomat, who learned Chinese and amassed such information in eight years in China, and was shifted to Geneva last year to be replaced in Peking by a young man starting from scratch.

With all his grim fact-chasing Mr. MacMurray has, like all good diplomats, a touch of Dale Carnegie about him—that is, he makes friends and influences people. He has a charming, ingenuous smile, when his adding-machine mind is out of gear, and he has been happily placed in the gold-lace maneuvers of our diplomacy.

He was born in Schenectady in 1881, educated at Princeton and Columbia and entered the diplomatic service as secretary of the legation in Siam in 1907. He became head of the far eastern division and minister to China in 1925. In 1930 he became minister to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, and minister to Turkey in 1937. Many big issues of international politics seem to have gone the way of Chinese likin, and of Estonia et al, but whatever they are, or were, Mr. MacMurray knows about them.

WHEN Capt. Henry Harwood defeated the Graf Spee pocket battleship, off Montevideo last December, the home office flashed a message in which he learned he was a knight and an admiral. "Thank you, boys," he wigwagged to his three British cruisers, as a sporting gesture in which he gave credit where it was due. He had had 37 years in the navy without a swing of the spotlight in his direction. But the victory over the Graf Spee started songs in the Drury lane musical halls about "Hadmiral Ennery Arwood"—a natural—and now he's almost the ruler of the king's navee because he took the measure of the big Graf Spee. It doesn't quite scan, but he gets the job as assistant chief of the naval staff, and member of the board of the admiralty.

'Hadm. Arwood' May Yet Inspire Kiplingese Lines

It was as a lad of 14 that he first climbed the rigging of the old wooden training ship Britannica. He moved on up through routine grades and in the World war was a torpedo boat lieutenant. In the years between wars, he was with the fleet in South America, China and the Mediterranean, known as a courageous and resourceful officer, but never in the headlines or in the British Who's Who.

He is thickset, square-jawed and ruddy of countenance, planted on the bridge as though he had taken root there and meant to stay. This war hasn't inspired any clanging, inspiriting Kiplingesque lines, but Admiral Harwood may yet touch them off. Ashore he has spent much time in staff training. He has two sons in their early teens, who expect someday to "climb the rigging like their father used to do."

AS A "man against death" Dr. James Ewing has been in the trenches for years in the world war against cancer. A medal is conferred by the New York City Cancer committee for "outstanding work during the year in the campaign to control cancer."

He is director of the Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases, a world leader in the battle against the scourge of modern times. He voices hope, but ruthlessly limits his conclusions to demonstrable fact.

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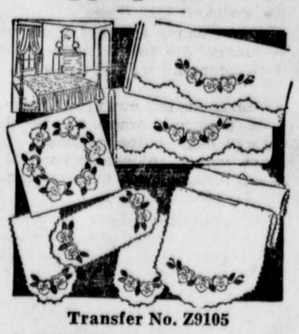
Bedroom Ensemble of Appliqued Pansies



Transfer No. Z9105

A NEW note is attained in this captivating pansy bedroom ensemble. For, besides the usual scarf, vanity and pillow slip motifs, there is a circle of pansies just right for a quilt block.

Yellows or lavenders, of course, would be most suggestive of real pansies, but any pastel to harmonize with your bedroom could be used. The illustration indicates be used. Use applique or embroidery.

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Briefly—from this one transfer, Z9105, 15c, you can make a complete group of linens for the bedroom—and a lovely matching spread. Send order to:

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A mild laxative and carminative. At all druggists. Send for Free Sample and Walking Doll. Mother Gray Co., Le Roy, N. Y.

Go Around

Better go around than fall into the ditch.

THE TRUTH SIMPLY TOLD

Today's popularity of *Doan's Pills*, after many years of world-wide use, surely must be accepted as evidence of *satisfactory* use. And favorable public opinion supports that of the able physicians who test the value of Doan's under exacting laboratory conditions. These physicians, too, approve every word of advertising you read, the objective of which is only to recommend *Doan's Pills* as a good diuretic treatment for disorder of the kidney function and for relief of the pain and worry it causes.

If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove waste that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole body suffers when kidneys lag, and diuretic medication would be more often employed.

Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warn of disturbed kidney function. You may suffer nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—feel weak, nervous, all played out.

Use *Doan's Pills*. It is better to rely on a medicine that has won world-wide acclaim than on something less favorably known. *Ask your neighbor!*

DOAN'S PILLS

YOUR ASSURANCE

The buyer's assurance is the advertising he or she reads in the newspaper. That is the buyer's guide. It tells the prices one must expect to pay. Let the seller who tries to charge more beware!