The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C.

MUSSOLINI NEEDS VICTORY IN GREECE

Upon the outcome of the war in Greece depend several things besides the question whether Hitler pushes on to Suez. Probably the most important is the war's effect upon the Italian people—especially in case of set-back or defeat.

For a long time, U. S. intelligence reports have indicated that Italy was the Achilles heel of the Axis and that the Italian people were none too enthusiastic about their partnership with Germany. Basically, the Italians always have sided more with Britain than with Germany. For years they had distrusted Germany, and for an equal number of years had done business with Great Britain.

Furthermore, the war has put a severe economic pinch on the Italian people. In return they have had no great victories and conquered no important territory. Hitler has been able to show new conquests to arouse the enthusiasm of the German people, but Mussolini has had nothing to show except Albania and British Somaliland.

Even the much-heralded advance of Marshal Graziani in Egypt now has bogged down on the sands of Sahara. So Mussolini needs a Greek victory and needs it badly. And if he doesn't get it, observers in Italy believe that dissatisfaction among the Italian people might become so great as to lead to a new dictator in Rome.

Note—Because of her vastly superior air force and more modern army, the odds are very much in favor of an Italian victory. Outcome of the war, however, depends on how much aid Greece can get from Britain, which cannot risk taking too many troops away from its Egyptian defenses; also whether Jugoslavia and Turkey come in.

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HULL'S WORRIES

Deep absorption in the Greco-Italian war caused Secretary Cordell Hull to muff his lines in delivering his speech on foreign affairs for the newsreels.

Hull was supposed to speak three "takes," with a pause between the second and third. Instead he stopped after the first and began staring into space.

Recalled to the business at hand by the cameraman, he snapped his finger and exclaimed, "Sorry, I guess I've ruined everything for you boys. Would you mind starting over again?"

"Not at all, Mr. Secretary," grinned Tony Muto, Fox Movietone lens-shark. "But you sure had something on your mind."

"It's that situation in Greece," explained Hull. "I've been so concerned with it all day that I forgot for a moment that you boys were taking my picture. I promise to do better next time."

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MAIL BAG

S.G.C., New Albany, Ind.—Roosevelt's speeches during the last part of the recent campaign were written by Judge Rosenman of New York, Irving Brant, and Robert Sherwood, famous playwright. However, Roosevelt's speeches, after being written in rough draft by others, are rewritten by himself. The Philadelphia speech was largely his own.

E.P., Springfield, Mass. — Secretary of State Hull did not attack John L. Lewis in his speech before the Press club, though it is true that a criticism of Lewis was contained in the original draft of the speech. When Frank Waltman, G.O.P. publicity chief, protested Mr. Hull's right to address the Press club, the secretary of state removed all political references from his text and merely discussed foreign affairs.

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MERRY-GO-ROUND

The plan still is in the discussion stage, but top-rung New Deal economists are seriously proposing that the WPA be abolished and replaced with a large-scale public works program for national defense.

The army is preparing for any eventuality no matter where it happens. It has quietly purchased over 7,100,000 yards of mosquito netting. Areas chiefly plagued by mosquitos are Alaska, Newfoundland, Greenland and Latin America.

Senator Charles McNary is one of the nattiest dressers in congress, also the best bean baker. The Oregonian loves to bake beans over an open fire, using bacon, molasses, sherry and 11 hours of simmering.

Out-going Vice President Jack Garner is the only man in history to have his picture hung at both ends of the Capitol. An oil painting of the former speaker hangs in the house lobby, and another portrait, by Howard Chandler Christie, has just been put up in the senate lobby.

Friends are kidding Henry Wallace about being disqualified for the job of vice president because, unlike Jack Garner, he does not "strike a blow for liberty." After eight years in Washington, Wallace does not drink.

At luncheon together the other day were Charlie Chaplin, Walter Winchell, Ernest Cuneo and Assistant Secretary of State Adolf Berle. Remarked Cuneo afterward: "I was a mere ego in a whirlwind of super-egos. I practically had to blow a whistle to insert one word in the conversation."

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS — By Edward C. Wayne

Air and Naval Raiders Harass British As Greeks Hold Off Italian Invasion; Hitler-Molotov Talks Yield Little News; Dies Asks Funds for 'Sabotage' Probe

(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.)

GRECO-ROMAN:
Round One to Greece

There seems little doubt any longer that the Greek victory over Italian forces has been as nearly complete as any action could be so early in a war. Fascist forces were reported fleeing from Koritza, setting fire to their supplies in this, the main base of the central attack.

Italian stories that only 362 men were killed in the campaign hardly gibe with eye-witness reports by reputable correspondents of two things—huge piles of bodies in the mud of the Pindus mountain passes—huge concentration camps filled with Italian prisoners of war who are being widely quoted.

Their reports of Italian attitude toward the war so encouraged England with the opportunity of dealing a crashing blow to Fascist morale that she sent big bomber squadrons to Taranto and smashed a goodly part of Italy's fleet.

DICTATOR METAXAS
Rough going for Italy.

Italy denied much damage except to one ship, so British sent over observation planes, took pictures, and reported the details. Two capital ships apparently permanently put out of action, four other smaller ones.

Stories of the Greek successes over the Italian forces further were borne out by the tone of Italian broadcasts and dispatches, telling of "reorganization" of the Italian drive; appointment of a new commander; also the Greek reports of attacks inside Albanian territory.

Credit for the Greek victory was given to several factors: Greek knowledge of the terrain; enterprise of guerrilla bands; skill with the bayonet, and surprise machine-gun and artillery attacks on enemy columns in difficult mountain passes, plus sudden onslaughts of bad weather; also Premier John Metaxas has been watching fellow-dictator Mussolini for some time.

Add to this stories from prisoners that they had no heart for the war and had been promised a relatively bloodless invasion, and one got a pretty good picture of the opening of the Greco-Roman war.

There were no surface signs that Italy was quitting, however, but might be steaming ahead for a more determined effort.

BRITAIN:
Feels Heavy Blows

The war has become more bitter for England, with Germany heavily increasing aerial attacks on cities, raining bombs on London and industrial centers like Coventry.

British, ever frank in admitting losses, reported Coventry in ruins, thousands slain and wounded. London damage was said to be terrific.

Losses at sea are staggering, and a raider on the loose in mid-Atlantic smashed into at least one large convoy. Germans first announced entire convoy sunk, along with Rangitiki, armored merchantman, and Jervis Bay, an auxiliary cruiser, which were protecting other ships.

Apparently this claim was made when numbers of SOS signals were heard and then news of convoy suddenly ceased. But British finally came through with the news that of 39 ships, 9 were missing, and later two of them showed up.

Naval hero was the commander of the Jervis Bay which boldly steamed to meet her stronger enemy, forcing raider's fire on herself, and permitting convoy to scatter.

Scandinavian skipper in convoy was so stirred by such bravery that he refused to flee to any great distance, returned to scene hours later, and had pleasure of picking up 65 survivors, many wounded.

Jervis Bay went to the bottom of the ocean with her gallant commander, who had one arm shot away during the engagement.

Over England, German bombers are using a new technique, making more difficult still the task of anti-aircraft fire and the work of fighters. They fly over the country in waves, traveling single file, which Indians discovered centuries ago was a good defensive formation.

First raider drops its bombs, and succeeding ships get a view of scene below in the glare of the first explosions and see better when and where to let go. Flying is done at 30,000 to 35,000 feet.

In many cases, however, British report bombing is done on "time tables" when there are cloud formations, the bombers flying certain mathematical distances from flying fields and then letting their cargoes go without any aim whatever.

That Britain is generally feeling the pinch was seen by reports of further restrictions in rationing. However, nothing as drastic was reported as the apparently authentic dispatch from Berlin that dog meat was made legal human fodder.

DIPLOMATS:
Home and Abroad

Diplomats, both domestic and foreign, came into their own as far as the spotlight was concerned.

In Berlin they buzzed about the capital like flies; Molotoff, (for whom bombs have been named) arriving with 33 guards and associates; lesser lights from Italy and the Balkans hovering about the outskirts of the main Hitler-Molotoff talks, with even a sprinkling of Japanese lurking about where they wouldn't have to rub elbows too closely with the "hated Russians."

It was another case of the mountain laboring and bringing forth a mouse—at least as far as the dispatches went, though there may be,

AMBASSADOR KENNEDY
Talk out of turn?

and probably is a lot under the surface.

Out of it all has come to the public eye only the broadest platitudinous pledges:

Germany (with her Italian axis partner somewhat in the background) promises various powers that, if they are good, they will get something.

Germany and Italy will rule Europe.

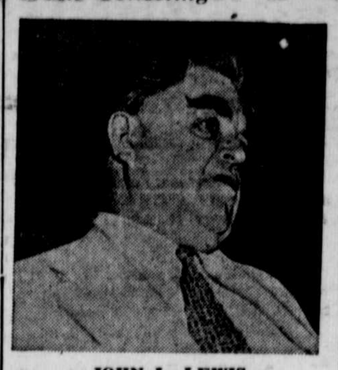
Russia will get expansion room anywhere she wants as long as it doesn't interfere with European situations. Diplomats took this to mean at least a part of India and also perhaps Iran and portions of Turkey if she misbehaves.

Japan will get the rest of Asia, at least the southeastern part, and Russia and Japan are urged to get together at once about the rest of it.

In this country two diplomatic names stood out. Kennedy and Bullitt. The former was surrounded by a halo of rumors that he would resign following his "talk out of turn" in Boston. While denying much that was in the Globe interview, he continued to preach along about the same general lines, omitting his references to the death of democracy and the advent of national socialism in the United States.

Bullitt was being as signally rumored as Kennedy's successor. All he would say was that he wanted to resign to "speak and write" about conditions, and that the President had asked him to remain in public life, and that he was considering the matter.

LABOR:
Green 'Collecting'



JOHN L. LEWIS
Mr. Green 'collects'.

The American Federation of Labor quarrel with the C. I. O. was rapidly reaching its climactic stage with the President of the United States announcing that the achieving of a permanent labor peace as an aid to the defense program would be one of the first agenda of his administration's third term.

William Green, collecting the spotlight as a result of his championship of the Roosevelt candidacy, immediately responded that he was willing to make a peace sans Lewis.

John L. Lewis was given a roaring demonstration as the C. I. O. unionists gathered for their third annual convention in Atlantic City. At the opening of the meeting he told delegates he was "stepping down" as their leader and he urged a "new unity" for the organization. Lewis had declared he would resign if President Roosevelt were re-elected.

All commentators agreed, however, that labor peace would be a very good thing if as and when it could be achieved.

SABOTAGE:
And Mr. Dies

Three explosions shattered powder plants in one hour; a crane fell over in a shipyard; a bridge fell apart on the West coast; fire attacked other plants, and the cry of "sabotage" was raised in the land.

The G-men, private and public detectives and Dies committee investigators have been running around at full speed trying to make miniature Black Toms out of each of these, or trying just as hard to disprove that they had anything to do with foreign agencies.

Mr. Dies, however, asking a million dollars of government money for a full probing of the situation, said he was going to publish a "white paper" giving names, addresses and full details of all the foreign consular agents, Russian, Japanese, German and Italian who are engaged in subversive activities, and whom he blames by implication for the chain of occurrences of damage and disaster to industry.

He recalls other events, like the war department fire which nearly destroyed the U. S. code books, and promises that he'll follow the smoke and find the fire.

Friends of the Dies committee pointed to the logical character of his hypothesis, that the Axis powers and partners would be very glad if disaster should overtake U. S. defense preparations, seeing that Mr. Roosevelt has promised Britain a fifty-fifty share in the whole job.

WAR OF THE WEEK:
Siam vs. Indo-China

Vichy announced Siam (Thailand) had gone to war with Indo-China which brought to a new front a miniature war which nevertheless will bring a very real death and destruction to the populations of the countries involved.

The Siamese, a dark brown race of small stature, are of Japanese and totalitarian leanings. The Indo-Chinese, larger and yellower, are one of the orphans of the Battle of France.

The war is another diplomatic outgrowth of the movement of Japan in southeastern Asia, and brings just one step nearer to the Philippines the Tripartite Powers.

AMERICAN SCENE:
In Brief

¶ The United States has freed credits for Martinique, French possession in the Indies, and will allow the purchase of $50,000, mostly in foodstuffs. The move is the first in a series by the U. S. to create a better relationship, — to insure against the Nazis getting hold of U. S.-built planes on the beach there.

¶ Signs of differences of opinion in high circles on national defense were noted. There was a continuance of the controversy over the Garand vs. the Johnson automatic rifle. Knudsen said he thought the auto industry might throw itself into plane manufacture with speed and efficiency. Some leading auto men joined plane makers in disagreeing with him sharply.

¶ British moves to get extension of U. S. credit for war purchases were started in this country, with every evidence that the effort will meet with the approval of the administration.

¶ The duke of Windsor, in first of 14 interviews with Adela Rogers St. John, purporting to tell the story of his abdication and his love for the duchess, blames President Wilson for the present war, saying that a ruler of a country cannot compete with foreign diplomats. Wilson, he said, should not have attended the making of the Versailles pact.

Foreign Jottings . . .

Four Nazi vessels, heavily loaded, sailed from Tampico, Mexico, for European ports. Only one was heard from. She was the Phrygia, which "committed suicide" by scuttling rather than surrender to British and Canadian war vessels. She was hardly outside Tampico when caught. The other three were said to have headed back and to be lurking outside the harbor bar.

The British used 2,000-pound aerial torpedoes in sinking the vessels of the Italian fleet at Taranto, they reported. The planes fly low to the water, drop the torpedoes pointing at the ships. It's a dangerous job.

Americans returning from occupied France report bribery, gasoline bootlegging and the existence of a "black bourse" for dealing in foreign exchange.

GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

United Features — WNU Service

Washington, D. C.

DEFENSE FACTS

How much is rearmament, or actual war, or both, going to cost us and when and how shall we pay for it? Nobody can answer accurately, because nobody can foresee the course of such a war. We must have total defense. No matter what it costs, we shall somehow have to pay for it—we or our children's children. Certain as is that conclusion, there should be at least the attempt to let our people look in the face of the facts. There has been none.

JOHNSON

The administration has just announced that the war department, since July 1, has awarded contracts in excess of 4.5 billions and the navy about 4.2 billions, total 8.7 billions. "And for all defense purposes more than 10 of the 16 billions voted by congress to reinforce defenses have been obligated."

This is confusing because the difference between 8.7 billions for armament and 10 billions for "defenses" is 1.3 billions, for which the exact use is not specified. Some cities are insisting the federal government rebuild their street systems "for national defense." Several other more nearly boondoggling spending projects are being called "national defense." Finally, the figure 16 billions voted by congress to reinforce defense is a floater that checks with no forthright appropriation I can find. This kind of reporting is pretty much razzle-dazzle.

Furthermore, the report is almost meaningless, because, as quoted in the A. P. dispatch, "prospective delivery dates for most items are a closely guarded military secret? They are unlikely to be any secret to our prospective enemies. The trouble with our whole preparedness program over the past few years was the failure to let our own people know the truth.

The last war schedules are no true yardstick today, but here is the way they ran as reported by the secretary of the treasury. In round figures, 1917, 1.2 billions; 1918, 12.3 billions; 1919, 17.5 billions; 1920, 5.2 billions; 1921, 3.8 billions—total 40 billions, notwithstanding that the war ended in November, 1918.

What these figures prove is that reporting the placing of contracts with no information as to delivery dates, is no realistic indication of progress at all but, on the contrary, is highly misleading. They also give some idea of a rapid acceleration of the mounting cost of industrial war production and the difficulty of checking it when the necessity has passed.

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BLOCKING INFLATION

I don't like to clutter up a column with figures, but it is absolutely necessary that our people understand the subject of government spending and inflation. The following little table shows exactly what inflation did to war costs to all belligerents in the World war. It compares what the war would have cost all if the 1913 purchasing power of the dollar had remained unchanged, or exactly how inflation worked to multiply war costs.

Country	Cost in Currency Dollars (000,000 omitted)	Cost in "1913" Dollars	Ratio Per Cent
U. S.	26,593	12,212	217%
Associated Powers except U. S..	78,528	21,259	369%
Central Powers ...	41,774	12,428	336%
Total for all belligerents	146,895	45,899	320%

This is the evil we must avoid this time. Nothing government can do in raising taxes or cutting expenses can have a fraction of the effect to "pay as we go" and reduce the burden of war on everybody compared to what it can do to prevent this curse.

Remember, I am talking not merely about the increased cost of raising the armed forces. Many times more billions of increased cost may have to be paid by Americans for the necessities of life.

How can it be prevented? There are several indirect aids and one very direct control. Inflation starts with the development of shortages in various fields. In war, price is no deterrent. Defense material must be had. So frantic bidding begins. It must be stopped before it starts, or not at all.

Since shortage in the face of desperate needs is the cause, that is where the cure lies.

"Priorities" provide the first aid. This means simply that some steering committee lists the most urgent needs and says to all suppliers: "These needs come first. Regardless of any higher price offered, you mustn't supply anybody else until these are satisfied, except with our consent in case of hardship." This helps prevent inflationary bidding.

A second aid is increased production of the shortage items, even at the expense of less necessitous demands, such things as shifting plants, supplies, machine tools and other machinery.

HOUSEHOLD QUESTIONS

Try combining clams and cooked corn. The flavors go especially well together and are delicious made into soups, stews, croquettes or cakes (mixed with mashed potatoes and deep fried).

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To reheat cereal, place in double boiler and stir while cooking. This is better than adding water, which tends to make the cereal lumpy.

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Egg stains on table linen should be soaked in cold water before laundering because hot water sets such stains.

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The next time you make a pumpkin pie, when pie is nearly done, cover top with marshmallows and return to the oven for 10 minutes. It gives a different flavor to the pie.

3 Simple Steps SPEED UP COLD RELIEF

Action begins in a short time. No long hours of painful discomfort.

Follow Directions in Pictures

1. To relieve headache, body discomfort and aches, take 2 Bayer Aspirin Tablets and drink a full glass of water.

2. For sore throat from cold, dissolve 3 Bayer tablets in ½ glass of water and gargle.

3. Check temperature. If you have a fever and temperature does not go down—if throat pain is not quickly relieved, call your doctor.

This modern way acts with amazing speed. Be sure you get BAYER Aspirin.

At the first sign of a cold follow the directions in the pictures above—the simplest and among the most effective methods known to modern science to relieve painful cold symptoms fast.

So quickly does Bayer Aspirin act—both internally and as a gargle, you'll feel wonderful relief start often in a remarkably short time.

Try this way. You will say it is unequalled. But be sure you get the fast-acting Bayer product you want. Ask for Bayer Aspirin by the full name when you buy.

BAYER

GENUINE BAYER ASPIRIN

Helpful Antagonist

He that wrestles with us strengthens our nerves, and sharpens our skill. Our antagonist is our helper.—Burke.

KENT BLADES — OUTSTANDING BLADE VALUE 7 for 10 Cents — CUPPLES CO., ST. LOUIS, MO.

Human Pity

More helpful than all wisdom is one draught of simple human pity that will not forsake us.—George Eliot.

Isn't This Why You Are Constipated?

What do you eat for breakfast? Coffee, toast, maybe some eggs? What do you eat for lunch and dinner? White bread, meat, potatoes? *It's little wonder you're constipated. You probably don't eat enough "bulk."* And *"bulk"* doesn't mean the *amount* you eat. It's a *kind* of food that forms a soft "bulky" mass in the intestines and helps a movement. If this is your trouble, may we suggest a crunchy toasted cereal—*Kellogg's All-Bran*—for breakfast. All-Bran is a natural food, not a medicine—but it's particularly rich in "bulk." Being so, it can help you not only to *get* regular but to *keep* regular. Eat All-Bran *regularly*, and drink plenty of water. Made by Kellogg's in Battle Creek. If your condition is chronic, it is wise to consult a physician.

WNU—4 48—40

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