## GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

United Features — WNU Service

Washington, D. C.

**'FOR WHAT?'**

What is needed by our war-minded men is some slogan of high purpose like "Make the world safe for democracy." That one is just a little like offering cheese to the mouse caught in a cheese baited trap. He doesn't want any more cheese. So the trial balloons are going up on another one—"Union Now."

I wrote a piece on the ballyhoo for a federation of English speaking peoples. In it I used the expression "Union Now" and said that what is now proposed is to unite us with the British empire under something like the Articles of Confederation under which the 13 Colonies fought the Revolution—which means, of course, in addition to "Union Now," "War Now." I argued that all the "Articles" made was a league of nations proved by both of them and the later international league to be futile and unworkable.

That column drew indignant denials including one from Clarence Strait, the author of "Union Now." These denials complained that the proposal is not to entangle ours with the destiny of other nations in any futile league. No, sir. We are going all the way into an United States of Earth, in which America is to be only one state among many bound, not by weak articles of confederation, but by a document like the Constitution of the United States.

The distinguishing features of that Constitution are—no secession; control in a superstate of interstate commerce, all foreign relations, taxation and spending, the right to make war, to keep troops and ships of war and the denial of those rights and controls to the several states—including the U. S. A.

All right. If I misconstrued Mr. Streit, I am sorry. But I didn't misconstrue the others and I didn't misconstrue Mr. Streit very much. They say, and so I think does he, that this is only an eventual result. Right now all we need is "articles of confederation" with these other nations but (as in and after our Revolution) "as soon as the war is won" under the new confederation, we shall create with them a real federation, on the plan of the American Constitution and rub Uncle Sam out as an independent entity.

It is all consistent. First these people sell us into a war when it isn't necessary and, without waiting for Mr. Hitler to sell our country down the river, they want us to do it ourselves. We commit national hari-kari, dilute our strength with the weakness of the world and dissipate the wealth and advantage our fathers fought and labored to create here, to the four winds of heaven and the five continents of earth.

* * *

**GOVERNMENT CONTROLS**

So my old buddy Leon Henderson told the lumber industry that $50 a thousand was an outrageous price for southern pine, that $25 was enough, that if they didn't get the price down he was going to do something about it—and then stamped angrily not only out of the room but out of Washington.

I think Leon was about 100 per cent right on his facts and intentions—that, somehow, this tendency toward soaring prices must be socked every time it sticks its head up and that, exactly as in World War I, it has already started, among other places, in wholly unjustifiable lumber prices.

But to control this danger, government has got to get in step with itself. Leon must have forgotten that he was not back in his old NRA days, when government could talk to industry as a unit and tell it, as Leon frequently and properly did, to police and discipline itself and, in the public interest, to purge its membership of improper practices. He could do that then because NRA made such joint action by government and any organized industry lawful.

It is lawful no longer. Leon should have a little talk with Thurman. The latter, Mr. Arnold, is trying to put industrial gents in jail—or at least getting grand jury indictments against respectable citizens for potential felonies—if they act as an industry to do, for example, what Leon commanded the lumber industry to do. It is and has been declared by all our courts to be just as flagrant an offense to the anti-trust acts for industrial gents to combine to put prices down as to put prices up. The former practice has proved to be the most effective weapon of the big fellows to slaughter competition of the high-cost production of little fellows in business.

* * *

There is a basic fault here which NRA tried to solve. No other nation condemns outright all industry-wide agreements as "combinations in restraint of trade." All other industrial countries condemn only such agreements as are "not in the public interest." That is a realistic recognition that every principal contract in business is in some respects a restraint of trade. The NRA formula was that such codes should not be regarded as violations of the Sherman and Clayton acts.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS — By Edward C. Wayne

# Churchill Asks U. S. for 'Tools, Not Men,' To Aid Britain in Defeating Dictators; Lease-Lend Measure Passed by House; England-Rumania Split Diplomatic Ties

(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.)

## WANTED:
### *Tools—Not Men*

Great Britain can "finish the job" (of defeating the dictators) if the United States will maintain a supply of the necessary "tools," said Winston Churchill, British prime minister, in a world-wide radio broadcast. He expressed the opinion that American troops would not be needed to insure a victory over the Axis powers.

"But we do need most urgently an immense and continuous supply of war materials . . . and we need to bring them here," continued the British statesman. Then he warned of Hitler's effort to prey upon shipping and coupled this with another warning that the long-predicted German invasion of the British isles might be near.

He spoke of the war soon entering "upon a phase of greater violence," and stressed the possibility of a Nazi thrust in the Balkans.

The British victories in Africa and the shelling of the Italian port of Genoa by the British fleet came in for their share of praise in the prime minister's remarks.

## RUMANIAN:
### *Break*

Day after Churchill's address came word from Bucharest that the British minister there had informed Rumanian Premier Ion Antonescu that Great Britain was breaking diplomatic relations with that country. Britain has been threatening to do this ever since last fall, when Rumania allowed hundreds of thousands of German troops to enter the country. This is usually the last step before an outright declaration of war.

## LEND:
### *Spend and Spend*

The rhyming trio of words describing the British Aid bill, lend, spend, send, reached their first climax when the house passed the measure with a majority of 95 votes and after several amendments, most of them with administration approval, had been placed in the measure.

There was, after all, little curtailment of the President's "all-out" powers in the final form of the measure as the house passed it.

A ceiling of $1,300,000,000 was placed above the bill, but it was made plain that if this is not enough, all congress need do is raise the ceiling.

The time limit placed on the bill ostensibly was two years, but as a matter of fact, it carried on to 1946, through a provision that contracts made on or before July, 1943, could be carried on, but not after July, 1946.

The President is ordered to keep records of what is lent, spent and

*Alf Landon, 1936 G. O. P. Presidential nominee, is pictured as he told members of the Senate Foreign Relations committee they should do nothing that would "trick" this nation into war. In general his testimony favored aid to Britain, but opposed the present Lease-Lend bill.*

sent in the way of aid to warring democracies, particularly, Britain, and must report each 90 days, but there is a special provision that the President may withhold details provided he thinks it in the best public interest to do so.

The Gallup poll found 54 per cent of the people in favor of the bill, 15 per cent in favor with reservations largely covered by the amendments, 22 per cent only, positively against it.

In general, the bill went to the senate little changed from its original ideas but with certain safeguards which the congress felt public clamor demanded. That these safeguards did not hamstring the measure seemed quite positive.

## SENATE:
### *Warming Up*

Many were the signs that the eventual action in the senate will be far more exciting than the brief passage-at-arms which took place in the lower house.

Just as Lindbergh had been the chief anti-administration testifier before the house committee, so he was before the senate foreign relations group.

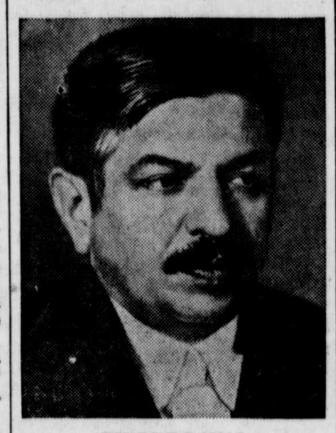
Yet his statement before the latter seemed much better prepared, much more restrained, better thought out than his previous two expositions of his premise that "Britain can't win, therefore America shouldn't stick her neck out."

There was little doubt in administration circles that the bill would pass senate as well as house, and create in this nation a huge arsenal for Britain. But indications were that there would be a bitter fight before all was over.

## FRANCE:
### *At Crossroads*

Most sensational crisis of recent months confronted France, with Laval the big issue.

The crisis was brought to a head when Germany, after Laval's ouster from the Petain Vichy regime, de-



**PIERRE LAVAL**
*"The Big Issue.*

manded his return to power as a price for continued German-French collaboration.

What the German ultimatum was had not been published, but it obviously included a virtual abdication of Petain from power, with Laval to be given practically dictatorial powers, with Petain in a puppet position of authority.

To this Petain evidently had countered with a proposition which retained him as chief of state, with Laval in charge of domestic problems and Admiral Darlan in charge of the French navy and foreign affairs.

The issue, at least to most observers, was a renewal of Germany's anxiety to get hold of two things—the French fleet, and a base for naval and air operations in Africa from which to bolster Mussolini's beaten legions.

Darlan and Petain took a firm stand that neither of these German objectives would be granted, not in answer to German demands, but in press statements and in messages to Admiral Leahy, American ambassador who had just arrived on the Vichy scene.

The issue became critical when Laval summarily refused to accept the posts offered him, flatly throwing down the gauntlet, and as Laval was ostensibly backed up to the full by the German reich, it became a simple question of whether French-German collaboration would end, and that Free France would be on the spot, or whether the fleet and the African base would be surrendered as a sad aftermath of unsuccessful war with Germany.

None knew what the outcome would be, but it seemed certain that if France agreed to surrender the fleet, or made a move to do so, it would be the signal for further outbreaks of British naval action against the war vessels of her erstwhile war partner.

What would happen should Petain stand firm, not even the wildest speculation could reveal.

## HIGHLIGHTS . . . *in the news*

**Moscow**—Russians have branded as "hysteria" a story said to have emanated from Mexico that the Soviets are planning to invade Alaska. The story was that when Britain is knocked out of the war, Russia and the Axis will collaborate in attacks on North and South America, the Soviets going after Alaska and the Axis after South America and Central America.

**Vichy**—A broadcast report that Petain and Darlan had fled from Free France to Africa proved false. British and French sources traced the story to the German Transocean News Service.

**Hollywood**—Hedy Lamarr, a native of Vienna, wants her screen name made her legal name. She was christened Hedwige Eva Maria Kiesler, and was born Nov. 9, 1914.

## Congress 'Ghost'

*Margaret Russell, Pamphleteer, is shown in death's-head mask and black shroud as members of the House of Representatives saw her when she electrified the Lease-Lend bill hearing by suddenly appearing thus and screaming in the house gallery. Interviewed later, she said: "I wanted to dramatize for the women of this country that death will be the victor."*

## DEFENSE:
### *Program on Spot*

The lend-lease bill fight served to place in bold relief public criticism of the progress of the general defense program. In some states cantonment construction at army camps was so far behind that National Guard regiments, called out for national service, were forced to start their year of training in their home cities, for lack of facilities to house them.

While senators and other witnesses in Washington were castigating the war department for the lack of proper defense equipment, William S. Knudsen and his defense construction staff were going ahead and publishing occasional figures showing what plane production was accomplishing.

In January, for instance, 296 war planes, many of them trainers, were built and delivered, and it was revealed that this was more than had been completed in a whole year of ordinary production.

Yet, as soon as such figures were released, they formed fodder for new attacks, as it was pointed out that most of this production was being sent to Britain.

There was no sign of a diminution of labor trouble, with strikes bursting forth or threatening as fast as the NLRB and other conciliation forces of the government got one quelled.

Latest to threaten was a strike of 750,000 workers on the nation's Class 1 railroads, who were preparing to vote on a demand by 14 brotherhood organizations for vacations with pay.

In the meantime, plant construction was speedily going ahead all over the country, a $300,000,000 contract for merchant marine shipping was given out, and Knudsen reported that he saw signs of an extremely rapid increase in the output of planes in the near future.

## ITALIAN:
### *Armies Whipped*

A most definite and complete defeat had been handed to the Italian armies in Libya, completing one of the most dramatic phases of the European war and writing a strange page in modern history.

For only a few short months ago Winston Churchill had told the house of commons that they need not expect anything in Africa but a British delaying action. He said:

"Our forces there are outnumbered from five to ten to one. We must expect discouraging reports from all the African fronts."

Sure enough, the Italians moved ahead into Egypt, they threatened the Suez canal, the British fell back to Marsa Matruh, and all looked quite as black as Churchill had painted it.

Suddenly, for a never-to-be-explained reason, the Italian advances stopped, and were not resumed.

Just as suddenly General Wavell ordered a "test-tube" attack to try out the strength of Italy's position. An advance was started which still was sweeping all before it, with every important town in Cyrenaica captured, the armies of Graziani shattered and in full flight, and the British moving rapidly in on Tripoli.

Four hundred and fifty miles of Mediterranean coastline was in British hands, and if the Reich wanted to send aid to Italy, it would have to be through a French base—at least that was the conclusion drawn from the Franco-German crisis.

This was not the entire extent of the British victory, however, for in Eritrea the Italians were taking a terrific pounding, not only from the British but from disgruntled natives, and in Ethiopia Haile Selassie had returned, and with help from Somalis and his own rejuvenated army, and with the British standing by with planes, was making a strong effort to recapture his kingdom, taken from him at enormous cost by Italy only a few years ago.

The British effort to knock Italy out of the war appeared to be progressing swimmingly.

## The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

DREW PEARSON & ROBERT ALLEN

WNU Service

Washington, D. C.

**INDO-CHINESE BASES**

Public attention has been so closely riveted on the war in Europe and upon the Lease-Lend debate that alarming developments in the Far East have escaped almost unnoticed.

This is the fact that the Japanese are now within definite striking distance of Singapore and the Dutch East Indies; and that Berlin has been urging Japan to become the aggressor in the south Pacific in order to divert American attention away from Europe.

No one knows better than the German foreign office that the American people are skittish about having two oceans—both Atlantic and Pacific—churned up at once. So German attempts to persuade Japan to focus American attention on the Far East are nothing new.

Absolutely new, however, is the fact that the Japanese are in a much more strategic position to take over the Malays and the Dutch East Indies—two regions vital to the supply of American tin and rubber.

For what the Japanese very quietly have done is to occupy the powerful French naval bases of Saigon and Cap St. Jacques in French Indo-China.

In gauging possible war in the Pacific, one should remember that distance is all-important. A Japanese fleet cannot cross the Pacific to attack the United States without great risk, because of distance. Nor could it have attacked Singapore, previously, without grave risk, because the distance from there to Japan is almost as great as from Japan to Honolulu.

Now, however, with the French Indo-Chinese naval bases in her possession, Japan is in a far better position regarding Singapore and the Dutch East Indies than she would be regarding California if she occupied Hawaii.

It still will not be a walkaway for Japan to take these British and Dutch possessions, because they are well fortified. However, the job is now about 50 per cent easier.

Strategy which U. S. naval experts expect Japan to follow is to begin the attack at the moment Hitler begins his long expected invasion of England.

* * *

**'MADE IN JAPAN'**

Recently, in a test of equipment at an army airfield, four parachute flares were shot from the ground. They opened beautifully, but only three ignited. The fourth was a dud.

Several soldiers dashed out to salvage the parachute. They are seldom recovered, because being made of paper they usually burn up in the flare when they reach the ground. The failure of the dud flare to ignite saved this one.

But on retrieving it, imagine the soldiers' surprise to find on the 'chute the interesting little stamp: "Made in Japan."

The salvaged flare was one of a lot of 3,000 purchased several months ago from an Ohio company. Ordnance officials admit they knew the 'chutes of the flares were imported from Japan, but assert they were forced to use them because at that time no U. S. firm made the articles. They say they have now stopped the use of Japanese 'chutes in new flares.

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**QUARTERMASTER CAMPS**

Here is good news for some lucky draftees!

Within a few weeks, the army will announce the establishment of two placement camps to train likely selectees for the Quartermaster corps. First of their kind since the last war, they will be located at Camp Lee, Virginia, and Fort Frances E. Warren, Wyoming.

Selectees with experience as auto mechanics, electricians, blacksmiths, truckers, machinists, painters, radiator repairmen, sheet metal workers, storage battery experts, tire repairers, tool makers, upholsterers, and welders will stand the best chance of getting assigned to these camps for a three-month course in army buying, maintenance and transportation methods.

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**CRACKING PEACE FRONT**

Meanwhile, the isolationist front of the strongly pacifistic Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is cracking.

Miss Emily Balch, one of the revered founders of the organization, has tendered her resignation from the executive board because she disapproves of the anti-British aid stand of Miss Dorothy Detzer, secretary of the league and one of the most effective lobbyists in Washington. Miss Balch strongly favors "all-out" aid to Britain.

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**MERRY-GO-ROUND**

Able young assistant to the attorney general Matt McGuire is headed for a judicial appointment, probably the vacancy created by the recent retirement of Justice Petyton Gordon of the U. S. district court for the District of Columbia.

Presidential Secretary Steve Early has on his desk a brown bottle of vitamin pills, a gift of Joe Tumulty, former secretary to Woodrow Wilson. Says Tumulty: "I wish they made vitamin pills when I had your job."

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