# Weekly News Analysis-U. S. Seeks Peace Safeguards As Bulwark in Case of War By Joseph W. La Bine-



SENATOR JOHNSON, STATESMAN LONG, SENATOR PITTMAN He didn't like . . . but he did like (See CONGRESS) . . . his proposal.

the senate foreign relations commit-

tee, Bryn Mawr college's Professor

Charles Fenwick uttered one of the

month's most sagacious remarks:

"I do not think there is any such thing as neutrality."

are: (1) Sen. Key Pittman's "cash-

and-carry" principle under which

any belligerent could buy all the

war materials it wanted, provided

it paid cash and hauled them away

in its own ships; and (2) Sen. Elbert

Thomas' sanctions plan whereby the

President could designate treaty vio-

lators and cut off commercial rela-

After a week's testimony, jittery

committee members were less opti-

mistic about a Utopian neutrality.

On the Thomas plan, Utah's wizened

Sen. William E. Borah commented

it would lead us into war, in fact,

was a war in itself. Reasoning:

Its "obvious purpose" is to cut off

trade and starve a nation into sub-

mission, which is a choice trick of

modern war makers. On the Pitt-

man plan, California's equally wiz-

ened Sen. Hiram Johnson comment-

ed it would make the U.S. an ally

of such strange bedfellows as Great

Britain and Japan. Reasoning: In

wartime, only these two nations could reach U. S. ports for cash-

In the end, cash-and-carry held most favor. Testified Breckenridge

Long, former ambassador to Italy

state: "I am thinking of what would

be best for the U.S., not what would

help any other country . . . Cash-

and-carry . . . entails no sense of

discrimination by positive act . . .

It more nearly approximates real

neutrality and does not prevent de-

velopment of industry in the U.S.,

upon which we might some day have

Economic. Assistant War Secre-

tary Louis Johnson outlined instan-

taneous mobilization of manufactur-

ing resources in case of war. Pres-

ent status: Of 7,000 industrial items

needed by a marching army, con-

verted private factories could pro-

duce all but 55 within six months.

the remainder in another six

months. Present goal: To cache

supplies to last a 400,000-man army

six months. Biggest problem: To

build reserves of 21 essential na-

tional-defense raw materials which

the U.S. lacks, including aluminum,

antimony, coffee, mica, manganese

Meanwhile, Secretary of State

Cordell Hull reviewed four years of

U. S. reciprocal trade in contrast

to Germany's unorthodox barter

system. His conclusion: From 1934

through 1938 the U.S. boosted com-

merce with trade-agreement coun-

tries by 39.8 per cent; Nazi trade

with the same nations rose only 1.8

per cent. As an instrument of for-

eign policy, reciprocal trade has

been successful. Not so thrilling,

however, were simultaneous reports

on the first two months (January,

February) of the U. S.-British recip-

rocal pact, showing U. S. purchases of British goods had increased while

U. S. exports to Britain dropped un-

der last year. Explanation: U.S.

exports in early 1938 were above

Military. Publicly booked to tes-

tify before the house foreign af-

fairs subcommittee, exiled Col.

Charles A. Lindbergh sprang a sur-

prise by jumping from his steam-

ship to a desk in the war depart-

ment, there to survey all aviation

research facilities available to the

army. Well posted on Russian,

German, French and British air

strength, Colonel Lindbergh will

help the U.S. expand its air facili-

Considered by the U. S., a gov-

ernment commission to explore un-

official American claims in vast

Antartica, where Britain, Germany

and Norway are chief contenders in

a race for potential raw materials.

• Planned for mid-summer release

by the department of commerce, a

1,000-page industrial survey contain-

ing data on all 3,000 counties, every

city of more than 10,000 population,

· Lost, by Pipo, hippopotamus at

and 280 nation-wide industries.

ties under the new defense bill.

Miscellany

World war undersecretary of

and-carry purchases.

and

and tin.

tions with them.

But plans persist, chief of which

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

Without waiting for Adolf Hitler's speech on April 28, President Roosevelt knew what reply to expect from his peace appeal. Benito Mussolini had already given the Rome-Berlin axis' answer in a speech at Italy's 1942 world fair ground. Though Il Duce publicly spurned Mr. Roosevelt's "Messiah-like message," he reminded listeners that Italy would not be sinking millions into a world fair if she planned war. This sounded hopeful, but each day brings less diplomatic leeway to an already tense Europe:

Mediterranean. Internationalized Tangier lies opposite Gibraltar. Observers fear trouble because 40 German warships are now making unprecedented maneuvers in this area, also because Spanish Moroccan troops are massed nearby and thousands of fresh Italian troops are landing in Spain. Cruising nearby are French and British warships, causing Europe to talk about the "greatest naval battle of all times" off Spain's coast.

Another possibility: Powerful Portuguese Fascists are rumored working for internal blowup of Dr. Oliviera de Salazar's regime, uniting the entire Spanish peninsula under Nazidomination without risking any international repercussions from an invasion. Thus would Germany get Portuguese colonies in Africa and the East Indies.

With the western Mediterranean in such powder-keg shape, the stage is set for another Munich.

Balkans. Chief public German activity nowadays is to recoup eastern



SALAZAR AND HOMELAND (Map shows Iberian cities being visited by German warships in current mystery maneuvers. Also Tangier, international zone which the Axis may try to seize.)

European losses suffered at Anglo-French hands. With Turkey, Greece and Rumania apparently under democratic protection, Hitler has unsuccessfully invited Rumania to join the Axis powers. Shrewd Franz von Papen, last Nazi envoy to Austria before anschluss, has been named ambassador to Turkey. Meanwhile, Italy has won a reiteration of friendship from Hungary's Premier Paul Teleky and begun bringing Yugoslavia into the Rome orbit.

Triple Entente. Countering these moves is a new effort to perfect an Anglo-French-Russian mutual assistance aid, stymied only by Polish and Rumanian refusal to let Soviet troops cross their soil. As a direct result of the new triple entente, emboldened France has threatened to march if Germany seizes the Free City of Danzig by force. But France knows no such thing will happen; Poland will be frightened into begging the Reich to take it.

## Congress

Self defense is a more basic tenet of U. S. foreign policy than either President Roosevelt's internationalism or congress' isolationism. However it may be accomplished, John Public wants (1) to keep out of foreign wars, (2) to be prepared if he gets into one. Hence, despite optimism over the President's peace appeal to dictators, congressmen, defense chiefs and tradesmen find themselves sizing up America's political, economic and military preparedness for a European war:

Political. Under the neutrality act | Madrid's zoo, 2,000 pounds during as finally amended, congress hopes compulsory fasting necessitated by to keep peace with the world. To the Spanish civil war.

#### Science

In 1934 General Motors dedicated its Chicago World fair exhibit at a banquet where great industrial advances were prophesied, many of which came true. This year General Motors has another exhibit at New York's World fair. Giving another "prophecy banquet," Board Chairman Alfred P. Sloan Jr. culled statements from big U.S. corporation executives, forecasting everything from cities lighted by artificial suns to fool-proof, self-parking auto-mobiles. Other features of tomor-

Truck crops produced in soilless 'bathtubs''; television as vital as radio; chemically produced fuels and foods, with raw materials coming from farms; clothing so inex-pensive it could be discarded when soiled; automatic machinery to perform routine jobs; dustless, air-conditioned homes; daily plane service from the U.S. to Europe at 500 to 600 miles per hour.

Most vital prophecy: Chemical advances which will postpone old

Broadly speaking, proposed revisions in the Wagner labor act would cut the national labor relations board's power and give judicial color to decisions involving employeremployee disputes. No. 1 reason for such amendments is that employers charge NLRB has not only discriminated against capital, but against the more conservative American Federation of Labor in favor of the newer and less orthodox Congress of Industrial Organi-

Called to testify before the senate labor committee, NLRB Chairman J. Warren Madden protested so vehemently against employer charges that committee members were rather certain he favored labor instead of sitting on the fence like most judges. Yet he gave figures to back up NLRB's fairness claim. Exam-



NLRB'S MADDEN Good start, questionable ending.

ples: A. F. of L. and C. I. O. broke even on cases which NLRB dismissed or were otherwise settled without the board's aid; of 94 per cent of cases adjusted without NLRB hearings, 42 per cent were won by employers.

(Simultaneously, Secretary of Labor Perkins released figures showing 1938 had fewer strikes than any year since 1932. Figures: In 1938 there were 2,772 strikes involving 688,000 workers, costing 9,000,-000 individual working days; in 1937 there were 4,740 strikes, 1,860,000 workers and 28,424,000 days' idleness.)

Madden sentiments: "Employers and employees are learning to live together within the framework of industrial democracy." But the next day he spoiled a good impartial start by inferentially defending C. I. O. in a statement charging employers favor A. F. of L. Again plumping for pinkish C. I. O., he held an employer may not legally call a union leader a "communist" because, in turn, courts have often (but not as a general rule) restrained unions from advertising that an employer is unfair to organized labor.

Accepted, by former Czech President Eduard Benes, leadership in a movement to restore Hitler dismantled Czecho-Slovakia from headquarters in Chicago.

Sailing from New York on May 17, Fred Snite Jr., world-famous infantile paralysis victim, to visit Shrine of Miracles at Lourdes, France, despite European war scares.

## **QUIZ**

If you read Weekly News Analysis, nese questions will be easy: Identify: Breckenridge Long; Paul Teleky, Oliviera de Salazar, Franz von Papen.

- There were (more) (fewer) labor strikes in 1938 than in 1937. What nation plans a world fair
- Name three strategic raw materials which the U.S. lacks. How may cities be lighted in the future?
- What famous transatlantic flier now works in the U.S. War de-• U. S. exports to Britain in January and February, 1939,

were (higher) (lower) than U. S. imports from Britain? What European nation's independence is being threatened un-

expectedly by Italy and Ger-What country owns Tangier?

## Bruckart's Washington Digest

# Signs of Impending Trouble for National Labor Relations Board

Advocates of Amendment of Wagner Act Grow More Vociferous: Law Itself and Its Administration Cause Widespread Criticism; Some Expert Stalling.

> By WILLIAM BRUCKART WNU Service, National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

few years ago that any politician, seeking a harvest of votes, would rather have cut off his right arm than offend organized labor. In a close fight, the labor vote held the balance of power. Labor unions forged ahead with remarkable force.

But labor started fighting within its own ranks and there came the C. I. O. Rather, John Lewis, the leader of the mine workers, got ambitious and broke away from the old established and respected American Federation of Labor and gave birth to the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

So, many politicians, including President Roosevelt, turned to C. I. O., because it was modern, streamlined, aggressive. It appeared, for a time, that C. I. O. was going to be the big power among the workers. Having that advantage, C. I. O. went to town, as the football players say. Its strength was manifest in congress and under the impetus of C. I. O. force, Senator Wagner, the New York Democrat, brought forth the national labor relations act, under which the national labor relations board was appointed and began functioning.

That much is history. But now there are signs of impending trouble for the national labor relations board. With its main support, the C. I. O., having its troubles in collecting dues, and with the peace efforts of President Roosevelt who sought to get union men of the United States back in one organization having failed dismally, the labor board is up against it. In fact, to summarize the situation in the homely expression of my boyhood home: it looks like the swashbuckling, defiant calf is just about ready to choke itself because of too much rope. It may not happen in this session of congress, but it will happen before long. Why? The answer is that organized labor, as represented by the Lewis faction, made the same mistake as greedy big business frequently makes. It beit could chew. The reaction has to resist.

#### Demands for Amendment of Labor Act Grow Noisier

Advocates of amendment of the Wagner labor act have been knocking at the door a long time. Recently, the knocking has resembled sledge hammer pounding. A very large number of senators and representatives have heard it.

As a matter of fact, it was Mr. Roosevelt's efforts to get A. F. of L. and C. I. O. back into a single national union that has delayed the moves in congress looking to amendment of the labor law. C. I. O., having stood by the President when he was a candidate and having fought for his cause time after time, was entitled to the President's services as a peace negotiator. Many persons thought there would be a happy reunion, but there was no chance at all from the very outset of the negotiations, and the affair did nothing to lift Mr. Roosevelt's prestige, especially in the rural areas where C. I. O. and sit-down strikes have much the same mean-

While the administration's plans for a union reunion were slipping, there came that sensational verdict by a federal court jury in Philadelphia which assessed \$700,000 damages against the sit-down strikers in a hosiery plant. The damages were assessed directly against the men who did the job, and thus for the first time a responsibility, as well as a right, was given to labor. The right to strike long has been established and labor must guard it; never before, however, had there been a court determination that liability also exists if damage is done.

It is unnecessary here to review what the labor relations board has been doing. Time after time, it has been accused of dancing to the bagpipes played by C. I. O. The American Federation of Labor, among other critics, has charged it with rank C. I. O. favoritism. The board does not consist of persons capable of winning very much respect. True, I believe they have very alert and fast-moving minds, but I cenact help regarding them as without any trace of judicial temperament. Without doubt, the country would be better off had all three members been ousted months ago.

### Act and Its Administration Causes Widespread Criticism

It is, perhaps, as much because of the terrible administration of the law as from the inequities of the loosely drawn law itself that the criticism has been so widespread. Hundreds of cases, coming before the board, have left employers with personal losses as a result of onesided determinations. Labor unions, affiliated with the American Federa tion of Labor, have repeatedly asserted they could not obtain justice if the C. I. O. figured in the situa-

WASHINGTON .- It was only a | tion. In any event, there are now senators and representatives sponsoring a hatfull of amendments to the law, and a large number of these amendments are being promoted by the A. F. of L. lobby at the capitol.

There is one amendment, for instance, that proposes to disband the present three-man board and supplant it with a five-man board. That, of course, is the political maneuver to get rid of people with whom congress is disgusted. The amendment is by Senator Walsh, Massachusetts Democrat.

Senator Walsh also has introduced several other amendments, one of which, in particular, is worth noting. It would attempt, at least, to eliminate "prejudicial delays." That sounds rather academic. It is, however, important because, according to the A. F. of L. explanation, delays by the board have worked, or have been used, to the advantage of C. I. O. If the C. I. O. was not sure that it had a majority, according to the other union, rather thinly disguised reasons for delays were brought up. Then, C. I. O. organizers would start their drives.

Whether the A. F. of L. charges are true and whether the criticisms of employers have been justified, it remains as fact that C. I. O. is now opposing amendment to the act.

#### Hearings Are Delayed by Various Stalling Maneuvers

Supporters of the law in its present form and defenders of the board as it is now made up succeeded for example in delaying hearings on amendments to the act for more than a month. They urged Senator Thomas of Utah, committee chairman, not to hold hearings while peace negotiations were in progress. They insisted that it was unfair to embarrass the President in his attempts to restore unity in the labor movement, and argued that hearings would bring bitter statements into print. Mr. Thomas yielded to the plea for delay, but eventually the pressure for action became came arrogant; it bit off more than | too strong even for the Utah senator

And the friends of the law were right when they anticipated bitter words. Senator Wagner in his testimony spoke rather blatantly about critics being unacquainted with the purposes of the law. He felt, too, that there was no need for haste about changes. He rather hinted that there were some Ethiopian gentlemen in the woodpile, but failed to put his finger on them. He simply was standing pat about the whole

A little later, however, the C. I. O. people named the terrible "conspirators" who wanted the act changed. The American Federation of Labor had "conspired" with the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. There was the fine unseen hand, the Chamber of Commerce, big business, personified. It was the guilty party; it was speaking for the employers who want to grind poor workmen into the dust, destroy unionism, wreck the families of the wage earners-or so the C. I. O. shouted. Well, as far as I am concerned, I fail to see why the C. I. O. picked the Chamber of Commerce. It is so thoroughly discredited that it hasn't had any influence at the capitol in 10 years. Why anyone should think that the Chamber of Commerce could have started a movement as strong as the present demand for change of the labor act is quite beyond me. But that was what the C. I. O. charged. It may have been what Senator Wagner

#### Say Changes Would Benefit Neither Labor Nor Industry

Finally, the labor board itself appeared before the senate committee and announced it had an "open mind." Its mind was so open that it submitted a document of 360 typewritten pages, analyzing the proposals for changes and arriving generally at the conclusion that the proposed changes were no good. substance, the board said that the bulk of the changes being pressed 'would benefit neither labor group, nor would they be of help to indus-Most of all, in the labor board's mind, the amendments would "conflict with the basic purposes of the act."

Thus, as the hearings were concluded and the committee seeks to do some deliberating on its own account, labor finds itself still fighting within itself, lacking direction and one could almost say, lacking purpose. It is too bad that there must be the same greed, the same thirst for power within the ranks of workers as there is among political leaders and heads of governments. Those fellows who play the game of politics can lose their jobs and the country is none the worse. But when political labor leaders play their games and lose, the pawns are the workers who have no means of protection.

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# SAFETY TALKS

### The Careless Male

It appears that the male of the species is more careless than the

Of every 100,000 males in the United States, 119.6 were killed in accidents during 1937, reports the National Safety council. Only 51.3 of every 100,000 women

suffered accident deaths.

## Painful Shaving

Shaving in the South Sea islands until recently was a painful process. The operation was performed by means of a shark's tooth set in a wooden handle. With this crude instrument, native barbers literally sawed off the beard, but in case the victim had a tender skin his hair was singed off asare the pin feathers of a plucked chicken.-Washington Post.



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