

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS BY JOSEPH W. LaBINE

U. S. Scorns Neutrality Policy In Sympathizing With Finland; Russia Moves Against Rumania

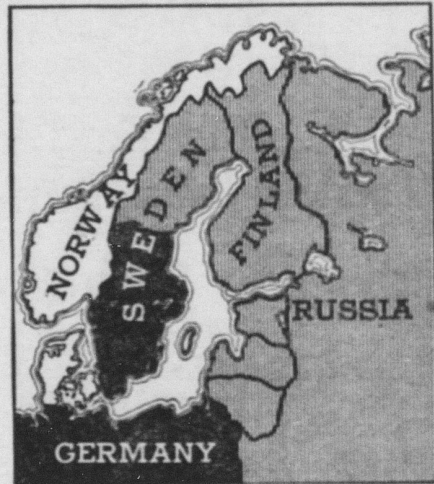
(EDITOR'S NOTE—When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of the news analyst and not necessarily of this newspaper.)
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INTERNATIONAL:

Tears for Finland

This month the Communist party's magazine in Moscow, *Agitator's Companion*, pointed out that "President Roosevelt is more and more siding with the incendiaries of war," that "American imperialists are dreaming of world mastery," and that American business is "sparing no effort . . . to save European capitalism."

This didn't jibe with the Republican party's ideas or with those of America's President, though each was fighting the other over an international red herring, namely, the



Map circulating in Europe shows this to be the division of Baltic and Scandinavian nations planned by Russia and Germany, giving the Reich half of Sweden.

correct U. S. attitude concerning Russia's invasion of Finland. The G. O. P. was obviously making a political issue of Mr. Roosevelt's refusal to recall Laurence Steinhardt, ambassador to Moscow. White House spokesmen argued plausibly that this wouldn't be neutral, but it made little difference: Everybody from the President down was already unneutral, siding with little Finland so boldly that what few isolationists remained were alarmed.

The President publicly condemned Russia's aggression, but indicated nothing would be gained by severing relations. He next talked about a joint Pan-American declaration rebuffing the Soviet, which was merely a political move to offset Republican criticism. Finally, he decided Finland's December 15 war debt payment of \$234,693 ought to be turned over to RFC and expended through the American Red Cross to purchase U. S. surplus commodities for Finland.

Unabashed

Soviet Russia was undoubtedly Europe's most generally disliked power, but it mattered little to the Bolsheviks. Having refused to attend a League of Nations meeting called by Finland in protest over her invasion, the Soviet apparently could choose between quitting the league or being thrown out. Sweden mobilized against the menace. In Denmark's parliament, all members walked out when a lone Communist got up to speak, and a few minutes later a prominent Nazi member suggested that diplomatic relations with the Soviet be broken. Italian planes were rushed to the Finns while Fascist crowds hooted the reds.

But 200,000 troops in the seventh Russian army continued to fight unabashed, puzzled, as was all the world, at how little Finland could stage such a terrific defense.

Meanwhile the diplomatic forecasters were busy. Sweden's Foreign Minister R. J. Sandler, who called the other Scandinavian for-

sign ministers for a defense talk, heard that Nazi Germany was demanding his resignation. This gave credence to reports that the Reich and Russia planned to conquer both Finland and Sweden and divide them as shown on a map being circulated around eastern Europe. (See map.)

If this was far fetched, there was nothing unlikely about a Russian drive into the Balkans. A knowing word (which remembers how Soviet "mutual defense" treaties have made Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania subservient to the Kremlin, and how Finland found herself at war for refusing such a treaty) was not surprised when Moscow's *Communist International* suggested a similar treaty be consummated with Rumania!

This winter, to cut the federal deficit and still provide \$500,000,000 more for defense, congress must save elsewhere. Early to see handwriting on the wall is the department of agriculture, which promptly announced a 50 per cent slash in cotton export subsidies. But Secretary Henry A. Wallace will not stand idle and watch congress wreck his expensive farm program. Meeting at Chicago, the Farm Bureau federation heard Mr. Wallace drop a few hints of what he has in mind.

The general plan: To make the farm program self-supporting to assure its permanency. Possible means include re-enactment of processing taxes (voided by the Supreme court in 1936), the domestic allotment certificate plan, and earmarking all custom receipts (instead of only 30 per cent) for payment of farm benefits. Most broadly hinted plan is a general manu-

facturers' sales tax, which he termed "simply the farmer's tariff." Groups like the Millers' National federation promptly called it a "consumers' sales tax on an essential food," but that didn't solve the problem, either.

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BUSINESS:

Pledge

After two days of denouncing the New Deal in convention speeches, the National Association of Manufacturers adopted a "platform of American industry" which was notable first because it was a consensus of U. S. industrial leadership, and second, because it was only mildly critical of the New Deal. Points: (1) to labor, the association pledged the highest income possible, a healthful environment, security, sickness and accident protection; (2) on collective bargaining, a defense of the worker's right to choose his own union, smattered with mild criticism of the national labor act; (3) to consumers, a pledge to seek greater value of products; (4) to investors, clear reports of stockholders and maintenance of a sufficiently strong capital structure.

POLITICS:

Dewey Sendoff

Overnight America learned it had a potential presidential candidate to oppose Franklin Roosevelt, should he seek a third term next year. At Princeton, N. J., a Gallup poll was released showing New York's District Attorney Tom Dewey trailing 46 per cent to 54 per cent in a mythical race with the President. Significantly, most Rooseveltian support came from low income and relief classes, but it was equally significant that the President had more strength than in a similar "trial heat" last May. Carefully avoiding premature commitments, the Gallup summary warned that anything can happen between now and election.

Not too enthusiastic was the national reception to Tom Dewey's opening campaign speech at Minneapolis. Hinging his entire argument on a forgotten and unimportant Rooseveltian comment that "our industrial plant is built," Candidate Dewey challenged: "Shall it be said that new America is matured and completed and overbuilt and incapable of further expansion and new achievements? . . . I say no, with resentment and anger."

Wisely, he left unsaid any opinions on how he would solve problems of agriculture, labor, business, finance and unemployment. But observers hoped he would not be silent too long.

ASIA:

Blunder and Pressure

Busily scattering diplomatic onslaughts in every direction the Japanese government found its "new order" program for the Orient obstructed by two Chinamen: (1) Wang Ching-wei, popular candidate for puppet Chinese ruler, who blunderingly blasted peace talks with the U. S. by printing four anti-American articles in his newspaper; (2) old Marshal Wu Pei-fu, "China's only honest war lord" and probably the Japanese government's real candidate for plan the most: He died.

Evidently deciding to make the most of Wang's blunder, Tokyo forfeited the American friendship she had made by agreeing to pay U. S. claims for property damage in China. Using pressure tactics, the foreign office indicated displeasure over increased American naval strength in the Pacific, indicating that Japan may wax friendly with Russia unless the U. S. changes its tune.

RELIEF:

Hunger in Ohio

Toledo's schools were closed and 20,000 relievers lived on limited rations. Dayton and Akron also felt the pinch. In Cleveland, where 16,000 were even deprived of the white flour and apples formerly given them, somebody noticed that garbage collections were smaller. Part

MAYOR BURTON

Ohio's unhappiest man.

of this problem was dumped in the lap of Gov. John W. Bricker, who promptly dumped it right back. When New York's Mayor Fiorella LaGuardia asked him to take care of the "starving people," the governor suggested that he clean up his own back yard. In Washington, WPA Administrator F. C. Harrington denied the governor's accusation that Cleveland's acute problem "is due at least in part to political manipulation of WPA."

The most unhappy man in Ohio was Cleveland's Mayor Harold H. Burton, who got a blunt refusal when he asked the governor to call a special legislative session to deal with the relief problem. The final blow came when his city council demanded that he restore "full relief" immediately to single persons and childless couples, who were cut off "so that children might eat."

Moaned the mayor: "If anyone can tell me where to get the money, I'd like to know."

Bruckart's Washington Digest

Delegation of Authority to So Many Agencies Seen Dangerous

Clause in Act Hands Over to Unelected Officials Right To Say What Congress Meant in Language of Law; Makes Many Little Dictators.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART

WNU Service, National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON.—Subcommittees of the house committee on appropriations have started consideration of the various bills through which money is supplied each year for running the federal government. Among the first measures was that appropriating money for the so-called independent offices. These are the agencies that operate at loose ends, so to speak, run their own shows, make rules and regulations which have the full force of regular laws and otherwise conduct themselves as they see fit.

The head men of each of these units of government—and there are 46 listed in the one appropriation bill—are named by the President of the United States. They are not elected by the people. The nearest approach to direct responsibility to the citizens is that appointment of the head men must be confirmed by the senate. Senate consideration, however, is limited only to the top executives. Scores of policy-making officials beneath the first rank are picked without taxpayers having any sort of say-so.

It is well to recall just here that each of these agencies was legally created by congress. That is, laws were passed which established the several boards, bureaus, commissions, administrations or whatever other names they have. Many of us believe there are too many of them, that the federal government is messing around in too many different fields. Yet, the fact remains that these agencies do exist and consideration of them and their powers seems timely since the appropriations to run them are being examined now.

The laws by which these agencies were created are, in general, sufficiently specific to define their jurisdiction. The thing that causes trouble for the country, however, is one little paragraph that was included in each bill by which the particular agency was given life. That paragraph reads, in effect: authority is hereby given for the promulgation of such rules and regulations as the agency deems necessary for administration of this act.

Makes Many Little Dictators Instead of One Big One

That is the rub. That one section of law gives to these arms of the federal government power that even the most highly trained lawyer can not fully calculate. On the surface it seems safe enough, since the law's terms are definite, but what the provision actually does is to hand over to groups of unelected officials the right to say what congress meant in the language written into law. And, most important of all, when congress began to delegate such authority years and years ago, it began to build up within the federal government a form of dictatorship. The condition differs from the dictatorship of Hitler and Stalin only in the fact that there are dozens of little dictators instead of one big dictator. In the one appropriations bill which I mentioned, there may be even a thousand little dictators—if one considers all of the head men, the bureau chiefs, the division officials, the hard boiled lawyers who think their job is to persecute rather than enforce laws.

I am quite sure that the above paragraph does not fully set forth all of the possibilities. The outline thus given, however, ought to be sufficient to awaken citizens to the dangers inherent in continued delegation of authority to various branches of the government. It calls attention to the sad fact that nothing at all has been done within the government to correct probably the most dangerous trend in official administration.

Perhaps, I ought to qualify the statement that nothing at all has been done within the government. There was a feeble attempt some years ago out of which it was hoped there would be some corrective program emerge. A committee was named and, as far as I have been able to run down the facts, it managed to hold a few meetings. The story is that the meetings became so earnest on one or two occasions that mention was made of the purposes of the committee. But they were soon forgotten and the committee gradually succumbed to creeping paralysis.

Delegation of New Power to Executive Officers Goes On

Through all of the years, therefore, there has continued to be a delegation of new power to executive officers of the federal government. It is nearly as bad in the state governments. Moreover, through all of the years, officials of these agencies—being human—have continued to reach for and obtain more power than was ever intended to be in their hands. There is no mushroom that can grow faster than a federal agency, once it gets in proper soil and temperature. It is well to remember, also, that there

are many types of mushrooms that are poisonous.

All of this brings us to what the American Bar association is trying to do. It brings to the front seat efforts made by a special committee of the association by way of getting legislation through congress to fence in these boys and girls on public payrolls so that the rank and file of citizens have a chance.

The special committee is headed by Col. O. R. McGuire, who lately resigned as an attorney in the General Accounting office. Colonel McGuire saw the black death approaching, and he believes the disease of granting more and more power to executive offices of the government is surely going to reach the vitals of our republican form of government unless drastic medicine is given.

I am not prepared to say that the bill which Colonel McGuire almost single-handedly pressed before congressional committees is the proper corrective measure. There have been loopholes found in it, plenty of them. There has been opposition to it from among members of the national lawyers' group. Doubtless, other weak spots will be found. But it must not be said that the principle of checking the vicious trend is wrong; and it seems to be an opportune time for real work to be done. The American Bar association is big enough, its members have brains enough, its membership has power enough, to force something through congress. Whether it is the McGuire bill as it stands, a modification of that or a completely rewritten measure, the bar association had better assert itself in the interest of the public.

Lawyers Objects of Barbed Darts From the President

The American Bar association and lawyers generally have been subjected to barbed darts from President Roosevelt. On one pretext or another, Mr. Roosevelt has put tacks in the seats of lawyers' pants ever since he entered the White House. Fundamentally, that criticism always has been based in the President's belief that lawyers were not working in the public interest. Here, then, it seems to me, is a fine opportunity. Inasmuch as the association's governing body meets early in 1940 and inasmuch as 1940 is a year of national elections, why, I ask, does not the bar association get busy? Why not demand of the candidates for the house of representatives and the senate a pledge that they act on some legislation that will partially restore a representative form of government as distinguished from the thousand little dictators now running our federal machinery?

And in connection with what may be done in seeking a solution for the problem, I want to suggest a rather simple method. Let congress create a joint committee of representatives and senators who would be empowered to pass upon all of these rules and regulations that are issued in the countless offices of government. Not only the 46 independent teachers' pets, but all arms of the federal government having the right to set up enforcement powers.

It long has been regarded as a prerogative of congress to inquire into the operations of the executive branch of the government. Congress has been jealous of that prerogative, as it should be. If it would create such a committee as I have suggested, therefore, it would be a means of preventing the evils of a million rules about which congress now has nothing to say and it would restore to congress, as the elected representatives of the people, the authority which it has foolishly given away. And if there needs to be face-saving on badly drawn laws, congress would be able to do that without having to admit that it is, or has been, wrong.

Even Lawyers Stumped at Meaning of Many Documents

An exposition of all of the phases of such a problem as government rules and regulations is extremely difficult. Comparatively few lawyers in Washington can understand all of the intricate language and purposes of the piles of printed documents that emerge every day from federal agencies, and these lawyers, or many of them, have devoted lives to constant study of such stuff. Imagine for yourself, therefore, what a fix you, untrained in law, would be in if you attempted to fight your own battles with an arrogant, self-appointed interpreter of federal policy.

One of the many reasons why I am stressing the necessity for correction of this condition at once is that our government has expanded so rapidly in the last six years. Where there were rules and regulations affecting only business a few years ago, there are now great volumes of rules and regulations affecting you and me, as individuals.

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

BABY CHICKS

BRED FOR PRODUCTION: Ducks
RAISED FOR PROFIT: Chickens
SOLD BY MAIL: Turkeys
STARTED CHICKS: Pullies
MILFORD HATCHERY: Rockville, Md.
Pikesville P. O.

FEEDS

NOKAKO MOLASSES CONCENTRATE
is a stock conditioner. Easy to handle.
MOLASSES FOR DAIRY FEED
60% HOG RATIONS
40% POULTRY MASH
GRAIN MEAL • Ask Your Dealer
UNION RENDERING CO., Mfr. 2425 W. Franklin
BALTIMORE, MD.

POULTRY BIOLOGICS

BIO-CHEM FOWL POX VACCINE
Lagrange's Pox Vaccine—100, 110, 120, 130, 140
W. D. Stained Antigens—50 tests, 80, 100
ASK YOUR DEALER TO WRITE US
BIO-CHEMICAL PRODUCTS CO., 15 So. Gay St., Baltimore, Md.



QUICK QUOTES

BUSINESS INDEX
"THE only real index to recovery is jobs."—United States Representative Joseph W. Martin Jr.

Quick Action for SORE THROAT FROM COLDS NOW!

Amazing relief of painful symptoms begins in a big hurry when you use Bayer Aspirin this way

Follow these 3 steps as pictured



Both aches and raw throat relieved this convenient way. Saves hours of discomfort.

At the first sign of sore throat from a cold follow the directions in the pictures above—the simplest and among the most effective methods known to modern science to get fast relief.

The Bayer gargle will amaze you—easing throat rawness in a hurry. And the Bayer Aspirin taken internally quickly relieves the other painful cold symptoms. Try this way. You will say it is unequalled. But when you buy be sure you get the fast-acting Bayer product you want. Ask for Bayer Aspirin by its full name.

GENUINE BAYER ASPIRIN

Evil Habits
Where evil habits are once settled, they are more easily broken than mended.—Quintilian.

CONSTIPATION? GARFIELD TEA

Go easy on yourself! Gently, mildly, more intestinal "softener" and of the way with a cup or two of Garfield Tea. The fragrant juice of 10 herbs make a pleasant tea that loosens clinging wastes, helps relieve constipation the old way. 25c-10c of drugstores.

FREE! Write for GENUINE FREE SAMPLE to Garfield Tea Co., Dept. J-4, Bklyn., N.Y.

Culture's Effect
The value of culture is its effect on character.—Maugham.

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... Upon presentation, you and your party will be accorded the privilege of obtaining accommodations at the following minimum rates for room & bath:
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ONE OF NEW YORK'S FINE HOTELS
Two Restaurants—Famous for Good Food
43rd STREET (Just East of Times Square)

NAMES ... in the news

Joseph P. Kennedy, U. S. ambassador to Great Britain, arrived via transatlantic clipper for conferences which may help determine parts of the U. S. foreign policy.

Al Capone, former Chicago gang lord recently released from Alcatraz, was placed under the care of Dr. Manfred S. Guttmacher, prominent psychiatrist.

Fritz Kuhn, German-American "bundesfuhrer" convicted of stealing his organization's funds, was given 2 1/2 to 5 years at Sing Sing prison.

Irene Castle McLaughlin, once an international dancing star, dropped her suit to divorce her sportsman husband, Maj. Frederic McLaughlin.