

Lead,
ROOSEVELT

L. J. - Sunoco.

Mon, Nov. 2 '42

President Roosevelt today asked Congress for another law to give him special war powers. He wants authority to suspend all the federal laws which might interfere with the free movement of war supplies, also with people into and out of the country. Mr.

Roosevelt

~~He~~ made it emphatic that he wants this authority only for the duration.

The laws he means fall into two classes:-

Customs and immigration laws, for one. For the other, laws which limit the buying or use of articles not made in America or the transportation of supplies in non-American ships.

"We must have," explained the President, "a maximum and integrated war production not only at home and in Canada, but in every country of the United Nations. Speed and volume of war output have become more than ever before in our history the

primary conditions of victory. These efforts," he said, "are being impeded by tariffs, import duties, customs and other regulations, or restrictions of any character which prohibit delay or otherwise impede the free flow of necessary munitions and war supplies. These," Mr. Roosevelt said, "should be suspended or otherwise eliminated for the duration of the war."

PRODUCTION

A reorganization of the War Production Board. This was made official today by Production Chief Donald Nelson. He has ~~revised~~ revised the operating methods of the Board so as to put to work every bit of critical material in the place where it will do the most good. It was announced that this plan will cut out all non-essential production, military and otherwise.

The plan was described by Ferdinand Eberstadt, Vice-Chairman of the Board, to more than a hundred newspapermen. Under-Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, several other officials, and seven of the nation's top production leaders, were also present. This is to be known as the Control Materials Plan. The idea is to produce at the right time materials which can achieve the maximum impact upon the enemy at the time and place designated by the armed forces. It is expected that this plan will achieve a good deal of

necessary good in cutting red tape.

The Requirements Committee of W.P.B. will allot all controlled materials to seven different agencies. Those agencies include the Army, the Navy, the Maritime Commission, the Aircraft Schedule and Unit, the Lend-Lease Administration, the Board of Economic Warfare and the ^{Office}~~Board~~ ~~Army~~ of Civilian Supply.

These agencies will in turn allot materials to contractors who are making essential goods. These contractors in turn will ~~split~~ split what is allotted to them among their sub-contractors and suppliers.

This new plan will be put into effect gradually, it was explained, but will be in full swing by July First of next year. It will be applied first to the making of the most essential items like planes and ships. Vice-Chairman Eberstadt said one effect of this plan will be to ~~force~~ ^{force} the seven

agencies to schedule their needs seven months in advance and enable the War Production Board to keep more effective control over the production effort.

Donald Nelson was asked whether ~~xxxxxxx~~ this would answer the charge made by Wendell Willkie, the charge that the Chinese and Russians are dissatisfied with the flow of war material from the United States? Nelson replied that this "would depend upon the urgency of the moment. The thing we must do," he repeated, "is to produce the maximum impact on the enemy. If this can be done through Russia and China, we will do it that way."

Good Evening, Everybody:

As you no doubt have heard half a dozen times today -- and the newspaper headlines are shouting it -- seven Japanese warships were damaged and more than a hundred planes destroyed in the great naval and air battle of October twenty-sixth. We were told almost nothing about it while it was going on, except that it was crucial; and no one could foretell the outcome. Well, the figures revealed by the Navy today remove all doubt about the size and importance of the battle.

But, as Secretary Knox said, that was only one round, and we must not be over-optimistic about it. It appears to have been what a boxing referee would call a decision on points. The American forces having the edge, because they now have control of the waters

around the Solomons. The Japs having withdrawn their huge fleet, a considerable part of which is now badly crippled.

As for our marines and our army infantry camped on and around Henderson Field, ~~ix~~ on Guadalcanal, ~~xx~~ they are still heavily outnumbered by the Japanese forces that were poured onto the island. In fact, all that our forces actually hold of Guadalcanal is a small patch of land including that vital airfield.

The Navy had more good news today -- concerning the sinking by our submarines of seven more Japanese vessels, plus three others damaged, including a converted aircraft carrier. That is, entirely aside from the great sea and air battle of October twenty-sixth. In addition to the converted aircraft carrier our submarines bagged two large Jap tankers, one large combination passenger and cargo ship, one medium-sized cargo vessel, and two small cargo ships. Also this latest score tells of one destroyer damaged, one

medium-sized Jap tanker damaged, and one converted tanker set ablaze. The Navy adds that none of this had been previously reported.

A still later story from the Navy tells of our Marines and Army lads launching another attack -- with strong bomber support. One wave of Marines advanced two miles with comparatively few casualties.

It appears that Boeing Flying Fortresses are pacing the foot troops in their advance; and the lads on the ground have crossed the Matanikau River, which runs between the airfield and the Japanese positions.

As the prelude to the advance, wave-after-wave of American fighter planes and dive bombers blasted the Jap positions. In fact they completely silenced the enemy artillery, and the Japanese began to move back.

There is one figure concerning all this recent fighting that is most impressive:- Since August seventh

our forces in and around Guadalcanal have destroyed more than five-hundred-and-twenty Japanese planes!

NEW GUINEA

In New Guinea also the Allied fighters are advancing. The Australian jungle troops have driven across the middle of ~~xxx~~ southeastern New Guinea and ^{have} begun a flanking movement against the Japanese at

Kokota. If ~~General~~ MacArthur's men can drive the Japs

out of there, they will have an important airfield. ^{and}

^{that} ~~It~~ would solve the difficult problem of supplying the Allied forces on New Guinea.

As the map ~~will~~ show ^s you, New Guinea at that point is only a hundred and twenty miles wide. The Australians have advanced over mountain trails that connect Port Moresby with the northeastern coast. They are now within three or four airline miles of Kokota and swarming down the northern slopes of the Owen Stanley Range.

in New Guinea

The main advance ^{is} being helped out by

Australian commando units which are raiding Japanese

bases and causing much damage. ~~One of the latest was on the Hun Gulf in the area between Lae and Salamaua.~~

But Kokoda will not be easy to capture.

There is every reason to believe the Japanese will make a strong stand there. They are pouring reinforcements by air into Buna, Lae and Salamaua.

RUSSIA

52

The fighting in Russia now seems to be an all-out fight for oil. Those rich petroleum fields of Transcaucasia. Hitler obviously is doing his utmost to capture them before it's too late. If the Reds can keep the Germans from getting through those passes in the Caucasus before winter sets in, the Allies will be strong enough next year to keep them out forever.

That's the story. That's the way all the military observers figure this Fall campaign. And the present desperate efforts of the Nazis bear them out.

Which doesn't mean the Nazis have entirely given up hope of capturing Stalingrad this year. But ~~they~~ no longer do they seem to have any idea of pushing on to ^{the} ~~the~~ Caspian. For if they did, they now would leave their left flank unprotected against the armies of Marshal Timoshenko, the Red armies that are still pressing toward Stalingrad from the Northwest.

The way the picture looks now, according to some experts, Stalingrad and Egypt are the two horns of the principal Axis attack. But that the Caucasus, in between them, is the real prize they are battling for.

Today the most desperate fighting is raging to ^{the} ~~the~~ north of that vital mountain range.

--o--

3

As for Egypt, there no longer seems to be much hope there for the Axis. For the British not only have Rommel's Afrika Korps stopped, but they seem to be pushing it back. And the fighting there ~~has~~ is turning into a battle of ~~mutual~~ annihilation. The British appear to be more concerned with killing as many Germans and Italians ^{as possible} than with capturing positions. The idea being that if they can keep on killing Nazis they will increase the strain on the Axis forces in Europe, because of reinforcements they must send to Rommel.

--o--

To get back to Russia again for a moment:
in one part of the Caucasus, however, the Nazis are
advancing. In the Nalchik area. Which puts them
close to a military road through the mountains to
Georgia and leading on to Tiflis. From where they
could seriously threaten Iran and Iraq.

Another Nazi column is pushing down the Black
Seacoast, hoping someday to reach Batum, the Black Sea
terminal of the pipeline from the oil fields of Baku.

54
Some military observers believe that Hitler's
Generals blundered in scattering their forces. That is,
in taking on three simultaneous jobs, the capture of
Stalingrad, the ~~fx~~ capture of the Black Sea coast, and
the drive to the North Caucasus. All of them
terrifically costly in lives, and materials. This
departure from the customary Nazi strategy -- which
has always been one of concentration -- is again
explained by the one word -- oil. Hitler must be
desperately hard up for it, or he would not be in such

a frenzy of anxiety to capture it at such enormous cost.

Dispatches from Stalingrad report that those Nazis who had penetrated inside the city, have retreated again. ~~Mxxxx~~ Moscow says that Red Army counter-attacks drove them back. But the Russians also hint that it may be due to the withdrawal of troops, planes and tanks from Stalingrad to the Nalchik front. Moscow ~~admits~~ admits the Germans drove a wedge into the Red defense lines around Nalchik. And the Nazis are now only a hundred-and-twenty miles away from Tiflis.

A still later story from Moscow tells us that the Red Army has evacuated Nalchik.

PIPE LINE

55
A lot of people are interested in the new pipe line from the Texas oil fields to Illinois and no wonder. This broadcast happened to mention a few days ago that the men who built that great twenty-four inch conduit broke all records by laying ten miles in one day. A number of letters poured in asking how this could be done. ^{well} ~~I wondered about it, myself and was glad for an excuse for investigating.~~

Some twenty years ago the American Petroleum Institute formed a committee to standardize oil equipment. This committee did so much work and did it so well that both materials and methods have been standardized throughout the oil fields. Every improvement developed by the committee was quickly adopted. The result was that operations in the oil country have become much less expensive and also ^{much} ~~more~~ faster. So much so that the standards of the American Petroleum Institute are now the basis of the best practice in oil fields all over the world.

For example manufacturers of machinery advertise in English trade papers that their equipment is built according to the specifications of the American Petroleum Institute.

54
Engineers ^{tell} ~~told~~ me ~~that~~ this is an industrial achievement of the first order. ^{and} It is being made possible because of the spirit of practical cooperation which ~~is~~ has developed under the inspiration of American methods. In other words ~~the~~ American ~~system of~~ free enterprise gives ~~every~~ encouragement to inventiveness, to individual initiative and constant progress.

KADENS

There was a somewhat unusual scene during a criminal trial in Chicago today. The defendant Irwin Kadens was in the dock, charged with having attempted to hold up ^a ~~the~~ Currency Exchange Office. Chicago cops declare that Kadens boasted a long list of crimes including kidnapping.

Counsel defending Kadens began by telling the court that his client is mentally sick. That made the defendant furious. He did^{not} ~~not~~ mind so much being on trial for a crime but he objected violently ^{to} ~~the~~ intimation that he was not all there. He sprang to his feet and shouted:- "I object, Your Honor. I am not nuts."

Thereupon his lawyer asked to have the trial continued for another week. Again the prisoner shouted: "I object! What kind of a lawyer is this guy? I want to fire him. I want to be tried now."

Thereupon the prisoner's aged mother burst into a violent fit of tears and was led away from the

courtroom. Kadens then became anxious about the money of the taxpayers of Cooke County which I am told is unusual for anybody. He shouted out in court: "It will cost the taxpayers sixty thousand dollars to prosecute this robbery charge. It is just a wast of time because I should not be tried for little things like robbery when they could give me the hot seat for kidnapping."

ELECTION

~~It will not be news to anybody, I trust, that~~

TP

well

with

tomorrow is voting day. The entire House of

Representatives ~~is~~ up for reelection, and one-third

TP Most of

rather

of the Senators. The campaigns began in friendly fashion.

But in the last few weeks ~~the~~ ^{some of that} spirit of ~~brotherly love~~

disappeared. Brickbats were thrown, and dead cats,

particularly in New York State, where ~~there is that~~

~~hard fight between Tom Dewey on the Republican ticket,~~

~~and John J. Bennett, Democratic Attorney General of the~~

State.

As usual, the Chairmen of both parties are prophesying victory. In New York, the Democrats are

more modest, and say they will win by only a hundred

and fifty thousand. The Republican Chairmen ^{say} ~~declare~~ that

Tom Dewey will win by a plurality of six hundred

~~or maybe even~~ thousand. ~~probably have a majority.~~ The straw polls

of the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS indicate that Dewey might

58

have a plurality running as high as eight hundred thousand, which would be a record.

Reporters asked Mayor LaGuardia of New York City for a prediction. He has been supporting Dean Alfange, the candidate of the American Labor Party.

8 1/2
The Little Flower
~~Butch, as the New Yorkers call him,~~ made a ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

characteristic reply: "I am the worst man in the city to make a ~~xxx~~ prophecy on an election," he said.

And he explained: "I just go out and win." When they asked him about the forecast made by State Democratic Chairman Jim Farley, LaGuardia replied: "Jim

prophesies accurately only when he has Franklin D. Roosevelt running for him."

And now Hughes

9