

P.J. - Sunoco. Wed., Feb. 14, 1940.

FINLAND

Yesterday's news from Finland left considerable doubt about the situation of the rival armies on the Karelian Isthmus. Tonight the report from Helsinki is that the Finnish front has ^{merely} been dented. ~~there. But the Bolsheviks have not been able to do any serious damage to the general strategic position of the Mannerheim Line.~~ Here's the official communique issued by Finland's War Department. It admits that Stalin's generals have been partially successful, have stormed a few gun positions on the advance guard of the Finnish line, in the sector east of Summa. But the War Department adds that the Red advance was stopped before it had put ~~the~~ artillery positions further back in serious danger.

The statement from Finnish headquarters ~~does not admit~~ that there has been any real dent in the Finnish front. ~~On the other hand,~~ it claims that No Man's Land on the Karelian Isthmus is literally cluttered with thousands of dead and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ dozens of broken-down Russian tanks. And it reports further that the Russian attack has not been so fierce today.

There was ^{immediate} response to the Finnish cry for help.

~~From~~ ~~That was in~~ Great Britain, where it was officially announced that

the Chamberlain Government permits British subjects to enlist in the Finnish Army. It is said that two thousand Britons have already volunteered to fight against the hordes of Stalin on that frozen front.

SUBMARINES

A statement in Berlin today has a special meaning for ~~us in the United States~~ ^{Americans}. The Nazis reserve the right to torpedo American ships going to the Mediterranean under certain conditions. That is, if those ships are bound either for Allied ports or for contraband control bases such as Gibraltar. It doesn't make any difference whether our ships are going to Gibraltar of their captain's free will or by compulsion from the British Navy. That's the latest ~~attitude of~~ ^{from} Hitler's Government, ~~towards us~~.

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It was made known in the course of a reply to protests from Holland. Last Saturday one of Hitler's submarines torpedoed a steamship of the Holland-America Line. The steamer was bound from New York to Amsterdam. And the Dutch naturally sent in a prompt complaint. One point of the Dutch grievance was that the Nazis were picking on the smaller neutrals but not on the more powerful countries such as the United States.

The Nazi Government attempted to justify the torpedoing of that peaceful Dutch liner on the grounds that she was going to stop at the British contraband control base off Dover, England. Consequently, the German sea lawyers figured her as having lost her neutral status. And the German sea lawyers say further that so far

from discriminating in favor of the United States, they consider they have the legal right to attack our ships if they intend to stop at Gibraltar. Of course if they don't stop at Gibraltar, they are going to be overhauled by a British man-o-war and taken there by force anyway. So there's a new headache for our State Department.

The diplomats in Washington refused to comment on that German statement. But Secretary Hull was scheduled for a conference with British Ambassador Lord Lothian this afternoon, and the Secretary of State intimated that the subject of their conversation would be British contraband control.

ADD SUBMARINES

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The most outspoken reaction in Washington to that German pronouncement came from Senator Pitman, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. He pointed out that no American merchant ships are armed and ~~he~~ declared that it would be unjustifiable and inhuman for such unarmed vessels to be submarined without notice.

It would also be unjustifiable and inhuman, added the Nevada Senator, for any government to submarine a neutral vessel departing from the port of a belligerent country, if it did not enter that port voluntarily.

Key
Senator Pitman then said something which might provide a key to that conference between Secretary Hull and the British Ambassador: ~~Pitman stated~~ that it is within the power of Great Britain to remove this grave danger, meaning the danger ^{to} ~~of our ships~~ ~~from German submarines~~, if the British Government gives up its practice of forcing our ships into its ports for contraband control. Then he pointed out that Great Britain assumes the right to take American vessels into British and French ports for the purpose of searching for contraband and this against the protest of our government.

SAFETY ZONE

The Nazis will not stand for the declaration of Panama. They refuse to recognize that three hundred mile safety zone which the American republics tried to establish in that declaration. Of course in this the Nazis are only following the example of the British who long since rejected the declaration. ~~The French as well as the British suggested that the three hundred mile zone could only be established if the American republics set up a patrol to keep German shipping and German warships out of that three hundred mile corridor of ocean.~~

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The German attitude was expressed today in a note to the President of Panama. The Panamanian Government, in behalf of the other American republics, had protested the presence of the ill-fated pocket battleship GRAF SPEE off Montevideo. ^{TP} The Nazi reason for rejecting the declaration, in their own words, is that it is without grounds. ~~At the same time, the Nazis politely say that they have a full understanding of the wish of the Americas to maintain a strict neutrality. But they express the converse of what the British and French say, that the safety zone will be successful only if the British and French were kept out. So there you are.~~

CENSORSHIP

A fresh complaint has been made against the British censors. It comes from three American citizens in Bogota, capital of Columbia. They say they've received letters sent by air mail from New York, which should have reached them in two days but instead of that it took six days. And those letters, say the American citizens, had been opened and contained paper slips ~~that~~ with the words "Opened by the ~~censorship~~ censor."

There appears to be some mystery about ^e~~this~~ complaint. The head office of Pan-American Airways ^{explains} ~~said~~ that the only place where the British ^{are} ~~were~~ opening our mail is at Bermuda, and letters to Columbia ^{don't go that way,} ~~did not go by way of Bermuda.~~ They go ^{via} ~~by way of~~ Jamaica. Mail transported by airships is not censored at Jamaica, according to Pan-American.

~~We'll probably be hearing more of this in a day or so.~~

ARMY

The soldiers of Uncle Sam would be out of luck if they had to go into battle tomorrow. Such is the statement of an officer in the army. Major Marston of Uncle Sam's Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, declares that our doughboys would be annihilated if they ^{met any} ~~had to go into action against~~ foreign tank detachments, that is, with the defensive weapons which ^{our troops are} ~~we are~~ now using. In the present European War, says Major Marston, all belligerents have ^{a vast} ~~the greatest~~ array of tanks and ^{other} mechanized ^{units.} ~~forces the world has ever known. Uncle is~~ in sore need of anti-tank weapons.

TWEEDSMUIR

With full military honors the late Lord Tweedsmuir was buried at Ottawa today. Canada's Governor-General was preceded by an escort of the Governor-General's personal foot guards, the Fourth Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, the Cameron Highlanders, and other units of the Canadian Army. His casket was carried by eight pallbearers, representing the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. His widow, Lady Tweedsmuir, was accompanied by her second son, the Honorable Alastair Buchan. Her eldest son is in England with the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

~~In a sense, it was one of the most brilliant as well as one of the ~~most~~ sadest and most solemn ceremony ever witnessed in Ottawa.~~ In the front pews were the Administrator, Sir Lyman Duff, Chief Justice of Canada, Prime Minister MacKenzie-King, an array of lieutenant-governors from the various provinces, archbishops, bishops, cabinet ministers, members of the Privy Council, ^{and} judges.

In London, meanwhile, people were discussing the possible successor to Lord Tweedsmuir. Some observers were prophesying that the choice for the new Governor-General lay between the Duke of Devonshire and the Earl of Elgin. The father

of the Duke of Devonshire was Governor-General at Ottawa from
Nineteen Sixteen to Nineteen Twenty-One. But it has also been

suggested that an exceedingly popular and useful appointment would

be that of the Duke of Windsor ^{who has a great ranch} ~~to succeed Lord Tweedsmuir~~
in Western Canada.

ROOSEVELT

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Where has President Roosevelt gone? That seems to be the big mystery today. Nobody knows, *at least nobody will tell just* why there is so much secrecy surrounding his departure from Washington, ~~on a vacation~~. All we know is that, accompanied by aides, physicians and secretaries, he left the White House in a snowstorm, rushed to the station, and got aboard a special train on the Southern Railway. Usually, Mr. Roosevelt takes the public into his confidence when he's going on a vacation or fishing trip. But this time it's all veiled in darkness. The guessing is that he's going for a cruise in the Gulf Stream. And that's backed up by the known fact that the cruiser TUSCALOOSA, accompanied by a couple of destroyers, sailed into Pensacola Bay at eight o'clock this morning and dropped anchor. Furthermore, the naval air station at Pensacola reported that the warships were under order to sail tomorrow morning. So the inference is that they're taking the President for a sporting cruise.

Going back for Moby Dick, Mr. President, the big one that got away several years ago?

LABOR

Extra

The Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board gave out some interesting information today. Firms of whom the Labor Board disapproves, that is firms whom the Labor Board finds to have violated the Wagner Act, will get no loans from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. This is the result of an arrangement between the R.F.C. and the Labor Board. Each week the Reconstruction Finance Corporation will submit to the ^{N.L.R.B.}~~Labor Board~~ a list of firms who want government loans. But the loans will get a final okay only if they are approved by the ~~Labor~~ Board.

WEATHER

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The blizzard ^{now sweeping} ~~that swept~~ ^{(the} over ~~eastern and~~ northeastern states came from West Virginia. ~~At least~~ That's what the Weather Bureau says. A storm of marked intensity centered over that state and at half past four this morning was moving east on the wings of a gale. Storm warnings were ordered ~~to be~~ flown all the way from the Virginia Capes up to Eastport, Maine. And, inland, ~~that~~ blizzard ^{'s} raised ^g havoc with ~~the~~ traffic. Icy highways, snowdrifts. It was reported as the heaviest snow of the winter in Pennsylvania and ~~just as bad in western~~ New York. More than eighteen inches ~~of snow~~ at Pittsburgh and twenty inches at Cambria, Pennsylvania.

Virtually all the highways in West Virginia ^{are} blocked, motor transportation crippled, also the airlines. Even train service delayed. Many accidents because of icy highways. And the warning broadcast by highway police in several states is, "Don't drive your car unless you absolutely have to."

There is some consolation from the weather sharks - they say this present cold spell won't last long. But a warning is issued for fruit and vegetable growers down South, - another freeze due in Florida.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT

The First International Salon of Nature Photography

~~which has been hung~~ in the New England Museum of Natural History,

~~and~~ has attracted attention from photographers all over the

world. ^{It} was judged today by a committee headed by Explorer Bradford

Washburn, ~~is~~ The winner of the silver challenge cup which ~~was~~

awarded for the finest photograph in ^{this world wide} ~~the~~ competition is ~~that~~ ^{H. H.}

^{Sheldon F. Bend, Oregon,} ~~Adams of San Francisco~~ for a picture entitled "~~Yosemite Valley~~ ^{Yosemite Valley Stn.}"

Despite the ~~tense~~ international situation, entries

poured in to ~~the New England Museum~~ for months, ~~including prints~~

from China, Italy, Belgium, Hungary, Canada, France, England,

Sweden and New Zealand. Of the seven hundred pictures submitted

~~only~~ two hundred and thirty three ^{were} ~~have been~~ selected to hang

in the Main Hall of the Museum. ~~--- the subjects covered are a~~

~~wide variety of plant and animal life, as well as a number of~~

~~superb scenic shots.~~

This salon is ~~is~~ a part of the new program that

explorer Bradford Washburn has now directed for nearly a year

in order to bring this New England institution back to life and

the prominence which it enjoyed over a century ago.

TENNIS

A judge in Massachusetts doesn't seem to think so much of tennis players. Mrs. Sara Palfrey Fabyan, the third ranking woman's champion, brought suit against her husband for divorce. She charged that Fabyan had been cruel and abusive. By way of backing it up, she said that the young husband's cruelty consisted of not liking tennis and speaking disrespectfully of her tennis friends. (Could it be that he used the phrase invented for them by Westbrook Pegler, "tennis bums?")

Whether he did or whether he didn't, that Massachusetts judge did not consider that a lack of respect for tennis and its devotees was cruel and abusive conduct. ^{So} He dismissed the lady's petition.

GRAVY

And (Har)
~~Let us~~ now consider the tragedy of a spot of gravy,
~~gravy~~ on a dress suit.

For several months, the fashionable ladies of the San Francisco Social Register have been delighted by the charms and graces of Captain Louis Pellsier. He was so charming and talked so well, that several of them gave him jobs to decorate their rich homes on Nob Hill. They understood he was a captain in the French army, a foreign agent, also heir to a million dollar fortune in South Africa.

Then the opera season opened in San Francisco. Naturally, every fashionable figure had to attend, and Captain Louis Pellsier, in a handsome dress suit, was among those present. That was his downfall. For it led to the arrest of the handsome captain, **Arrest** on a charge of having rented that dress suit, and, not returning it. *which*
~~And that in turn~~ brought to light an interesting story. Captain Pellsier had not returned the dress suit because he had spilled gravy on it and he thought the owner would be angry. But the owner was still angrier because the dress suit didn't show up at all, he would rather have had it, gravy and all, than no dress suit.

Then Captain Louis Pellisier admitted to the judge that he was
not a foreign agent, not a captain in the French Army, not heir
to a million dollar fortune in South Africa. He was just plain,
~~of ham & egg Californian~~ —
common garden ~~variety American~~, not a refugee from war torn Europe
~~1~~ ~~1~~ — a Grape of Wrath.
but a refugee from America's own dust bowl. And are ~~their~~ there
red faces on Nob Hill today, [?] - all because of a spot of gravy
on ~~a dress suit!~~ ~~the~~ soup & fish!

GLAMOUR

John Held, Jr., the illustrator, stuck his neck out the other day when he made rude remarks about glamour. He ^{was picking} picks specifically on the glamour girl ³ of whom we've been hearing so much ^{of late.} ~~in the last few months~~ quite enough in the estimation of a

~~number of the public.~~ John Held says that the Ann Sheridans with ^{with their glamour,} their oomph, the Brenda Fraziers and the Dorothy Lamours with their ^{sarongs,} ~~glamour,~~ are just so much ~~spinachs~~ ^{bava bava.} ~~Or am~~

^{I being too Pogo Pogo? Anyhow John Held's} ~~That~~ rude remark ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{were today} deplored by some of the ~~magnificoes~~ ^{Maharajahs}

[^] of Hollywood. They retorted with equally rude remarks about John Held, Jr. ~~And one of them came back with the observation that he~~

~~has always liked spinach.~~ ^{So —} ~~So there you are.~~ What are we going to ^{Oh,} do about those glamour girls? Cheer up, they'll be grandmothers [^] one of these days.

LOVE

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A motto most appropriate to Valentine's Day had been adopted by a bureau of the government ~~at~~ Chicago. It's quite an interesting idea. No man may be discharged by his employers in Illinois for ~~anything that he~~ anything that he does when he's in love. You may think it's a gag, but apparently it isn't. On the contrary, it's a rule formulated by the Illinois Division of Unemployment Compensation and a notice to this effect was posted in that bureau at Chicago today. Misconduct because of a decline in efficiency due to love or love-sickness, must not be considered as a lawful reason for discharging a worker. Any man who is so discharged is immediately entitled to benefits from the Unemployment Compensation Fund. The Bureau states in so many words that "love is in the same class with floods, earthquakes and other cataclysms of nature known as 'acts of God,'"

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And now a valentine for
~~On second thought, that sounds like a fine idea. Think,~~

you — from Hugh — not red,
~~for instance, how useful it will be in the baseball season. No man,~~
but blue.

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~~will need to tell the boss that he has to go to his grandmother's funeral. All he needs to say is that he's in love and can't work.~~

~~He doesn't have to say that he's in love with the way Joe DiMaggio~~