

L.J. - *Sumner. Tues., Oct. 6, 1936.*

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Somewhere out across the wild Atlantic, there's an airplane. And somewhere in New York there's a baroness. The sky craft is speeding on wide, swift winds. The noblewoman is exceedingly angry - but she does not swear. She expected to be aboard that adventurous plane tonight, but she is not. So she utters bitter reproaches - and still she does not swear, not the tiniest cuss word.

Today, with confusion and mix-up, a well ballyhooed trans-Atlantic flight came to a highly emotional climax. That Swedish sky venture, the New York-to-Stockholm non-stopper was to have been made by the Baroness Eva Von Blixen-Finecke. Her pilot was to have been Kurt ^EBjorkvall, veteran of the Scandinavian airways. Day after day they waited for the weather. And day after day the sky venture got into increasing difficulties. The trouble was over in Sweden. ^RThe trans-Atlantic voyage was first sponsored by a Stockholm newspaper, which provided a plane and whooped up enthusiasm for the flying Baroness.

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But as delay followed delay, the Swedish public began to go sour on the idea. The newspaper was getting complaints

from its readers. They were getting tired of the whole long drawn out affair, and there were protests that so late in the season the flight would be too dangerous to try. It was harrowing to think of ~~the adventurous woman~~, the high born, high spirited Baroness, dropped into the drink, as aviators say. So, a day or so ago, the Stockholm newspaper withdrew its support from the enterprise. Did that discourage Baroness Von Blixen and Aviator Bjorkvall? *By Schnapps und Svenske Punch!* Not at all. [^] They were determined to make the non-stopper to Stockholm anyway.

Last night the Baroness heard something that astonished her. She was told that Bjorkvall intended to take off today. That was the first she had heard of it. What was the matter? Perhaps he had forgotten to tell her? That was exceedingly absent-minded. The Baroness put on her natty flying togs, and hurried to Floyd Bennett Field. Sure enough, there was the plane - ready to take off.

"Fine! I'm ready to go," the Baroness told Bjorkvall.

To which he replied - "No!!"

"Aren't you going to take me along?" she demanded.

And he replied: "No!"

It developed that, with the Stockholm newspaper withdrawing its support, Bjorkvall had bought the plane himself - to make the flight alone. He had said nothing of this to the Baroness, intending to sneak away into the sky and leave her behind - unsuspect^{ing}~~ed~~. Since, however, the word had somehow got ^{ten} to her, the take-off was accompanied by dramatics.

The Baroness pleaded with the pilot, but all he said was - "No!", in both English and Swedish. So after a long wrangle, the Baroness appeared before the assembled newspapermen, wringing her hands, tears in her eyes. She protested it was a dirty trick, told them all about it, and uttered these immortal words: "Because I am a lady - I cannot swear."

The newspapermen said to Bjorkvall: "Will you give us an explanation of why you are not taking the Baroness along?"

And Bjorkvall answered: "No!"

One obvious reason was that he did not want the lady's extra weight in his already overloaded plane. Another explanation

mentions radio. The Baroness was to have been the wireless operator on the trip, but she didn't know anything about wireless. She was to have studied and learned how, but she didn't learn fast.

So today at Floyd Bennett Field a noble woman of Sweden stood on the ground, watching a plane skim along a runway, arise into the air, and soar away to the east. As the Baroness Von Blixen saw that skycraft disappear in the sunrise distance - no, she didn't swear.

SPAIN

In the Middle Ages, war was a ceremonious affair, with rival champions on the battlefield challenging each other to combat. Perhaps the gallant gesture ~~that would seem to be~~ most vivid ^{of all was at} ~~was~~ the Battle of Fontenoy, when the French and British columns faced each other with muskets ready - and the French commander stepped in front of his ranks, made a low bow to the British, and cried: "Gentlemen, the enemy! We beg of you to do us the honor of firing first!"

Something of that old flashing spirit was witnessed in Spain today - a challenge to a naval battle. It came from the warships supporting the government, six destroyers, one battleship and two cruisers. One of the cruisers is named the "Cervantes", after the immortal author of Don Quixote. ^{And -} The whole affair is a little bit Quixotic. The government flotilla sent a wireless to the Rebel fighting craft: "We are off the Cantabrian coast", flashed the challenge. "Your piracies have ended. We challenge you to come out and fight!"

Yes, that was according to the old ways of chivalry.

But, there was a modern note. The Left Wing defiance was

accompanied by an invitation to the Rebel sailors to mutiny against their Fascist officers, seize the ships and join the proletarian government.

That part of the invitation seems to have had no effect, no mutinies aboard the Rebel warships, the sailors loyal to their commanders. Instead, the Fascist flotilla replied, accepting the challenge. The commanders ordered their ships to steam to the attack. And that should bring about the clash at sea - the naval battle by invitation. This seems the more likely, as both sides have broadcast a warning to foreign vessels, ordering them to leave Spanish waters - warning them that the sea fight may begin at any moment. However, there is a possibility that there may be more bravado than stern reality in all these grand gestures.

Dr. Lin

Oct. 6, 1936.

CHINA

The news from the Far East is confusing these days. You'll find one correspondent reporting that there is an easing of tension between China and Japan, while another dispatch describes the situation as more dangerous -- with China ready to explode in the face of Nippon.

I've been wanting some advice, someone from the Far East to give us an opinion. And today certainly is the day. We hear of a forthcoming conference between China and Japan, and are told of the ideas with which Japan will enter the conference.

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Today
The spokesman for Tokyo demands ^{ed} action, not platitudes. He said the Chinese are not acting in good faith. Promises are not fulfilled. So in the forthcoming negotiations, Tokyo will demand that promises be backed up by action.

~~Japan~~
Tokyo will take a strong stand. And this puts the accent on one thing in particular -- the date, the date of the conference. It will begin the day before October tenth. And October Tenth is Chinese Independence Day.

This is the turn of events that I want to discuss with a gentleman here beside me in the studio, Dr. Lin Yutang, whose career includes a diploma from Harvard, a Ph.D. from the

University of Leipzig, and a professorship at Pekin National University. He is a publicist, editor and author. Last year his book, "My Country, My People", was published in America and was the best seller of non-fiction for the year. Tonight he is giving a talk ^{before the American China Society} at the Waldorf about the American influence in China. But meanwhile, let's ask him -- ^{Lin} Dr. Yutang, what do you expect of that China-Japanese conference timed for Chinese Independence Day?

^{Lin:-}
DR. YUTANG: Of course, Mr. Thomas, the Nanking government will try to avoid any dangerous incidents -- though feeling is running very high in China. The Japanese want to take away from us the five northern provinces within the Great Wall. That will be their purpose at the conference. The Japanese say they are not making a demand, but they add in the same breath that they are ready to back it up by force -- that is Japanese humor. They claim that the five northern provinces are autonomous, of their own free will. Yet today a government spokesman at Tokyo declared that if China would reduce her tariff against Japanese goods, Japan would abolish the autonomy of eastern Hopei.

MR. THOMAS:

So you think that's

~~That seems~~ as good as admitting that the autonomy was really created by Japan.

DR. ^{Lin}~~YUTANG~~

So you see, we know the objective of the Japanese at the conference. They will try to make us concede their control of the five northern provinces. But the Nanking government will not agree to that. They would not dare.

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MR. THOMAS:

So that's your view,
~~You've made that clear,~~

Dr. Yutang. They would not dare -- not on Chinese Independence Day!

HUNGARY

One of the world's most prominent statesmen died today - Premier Gombos of Hungary. He was so powerful and prominent in European affairs that his passing is likely to be of international significance. What will it mean? His life was so contradictory and seemingly paradoxical that his death ~~leaves~~ ^{leaves} a puzzle. He was of ^{an} aristocratic Magyar family. He was a distinguished officer in the World War. Then he was a leader in the crushing of post-war Communism in Hungary, and the white terror that followed it.

TP That would seem to be the background of a royalist and a fascist.

Yet Gombos was a determined enemy of the Hungarian royalists, and relentlessly opposed the return of the Hapsburg king. ~~F~~ And,

he was strongly against Fascism. He wrote bitter articles against the Fascist idea of the totalitarian state. **TP** From that

you might suppose that Gombos played the game of statecraft against Mussolini and Hitler. Not at all. He aligned Hungary with Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany. He met Hitler in an

important series of conferences, and was regarded as being in favor of closer ties with Berlin. Yes, it all sounds contradictory and paradoxical, and leaves us in doubt about what Gombos' policy

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really was, the policy that now passes with him.

Reports from Budapest indicate that he will be succeeded by the political leader who stood against him, the chief of the opposition party, Count Bethlen. That might mean something of a reversal. Because - while Gombócs inclined toward Hitler, Bethlenⁿ leans toward Mussolini. So there may be more of a pro-Italian policy at Budapest. *More European influence for the Duce.*

LEPERS

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In Manila today, in the far off Philippines, there was a weird and terrifying scene -- a revolt of the lepers. We Americans are familiar enough with those islands across the Pacific, for most of us to know that leprosy exists out there. So it does in most of the tropical islands of the Pacific. Nearly everyone is familiar with the story of Brother Damien, the saint of the lepers, who labored in martyrdom on Molokai, in Hawaii. So, few will ~~me~~ miss an eerie thrill at hearing -- how the lepers today stormed the palace of President Quezon of the Philippines.

Three hundred of them were detained in a Manila hospital, and they wanted to be free. They overpowered the hospital guards and broke out. Demanding liberty they marched on Malacanan Palace -- an insurgent column of lepers. People fled at the sight of them. They surged to the palace entrance and the guards were terrified and ran away. They stormed in, to place their demand before the President -- and were met by a party of officials, headed by Quezon's secretary.

What was the reason for all this fantastic commotion?

What had stirred the lepers to revolt? This became clear in their ^{re}partition. They ^{quoted} ~~sighted~~ recent declarations by medical authorities -- that leprosy is not contagious. They pointed to statements that recent investigations have proved that the malady cannot be transmitted by touch. And so they demanded that the government must stop the policy of forced segregation. They insisted that they be legally liberated and be allowed to receive treatment in their own homes.

The President's secretary assured them that their demands would be considered by the government. Whereupon -- the battalion of ~~the~~ lepers returned quietly to the hospital.

WORLD SERIES

I suppose you've heard how the ball game ended, the end of the World Series: a barrage of Yankee hits in the ninth with what seemed like an endless stream of runners pouring across the home plate.

The Giant fans are still arguing and holding post-mortems. They are saying: "When Manager Bill Terry took Pitcher Fitzsimmons out of the box, in the fourth, ~~inning,~~ if he had ~~not~~ only called in Carl Hubbell and let him pitch the rest of the game!"

They are also saying, those downcast Giant rooters: "If those ~~Giant~~ pinch-hitters had only been worth their salt in the last half of the seventh, when Yankee Pitcher Murphy just about blew up!" Short-Stop Dick Bartell had slammed out a two-bagger, and Terry brought him in. Then Hank Leiber bunted and sent Terry to third. Whereupon, up came the redoubtable Sam Leslie, pinch-hitting for Giant Catcher Gus Mancuso. Terry on third and Ott on first! "If Sam Leslie could only have smacked out a homer, the Giants would have won!" Maybe.

Up came Ripple to pinch-hit for Whitehead. Murphy

walked him, filling the bases with those run-hungry Giants.

Oh what a chance! And, Terry decided to put another pinch-hitter

in, Koenig for Jackson. Two strikes on Koenig, ~~and no balls.~~

58 1/2 The Series, the World Series, probably to be won or lost in

the next few ^{moments, The Yankees} ~~minutes. The~~ Pitcher apparently was even more

nervous than we, ~~were~~, and threw one wild. That put the count,

two and one. And then, amid groans that echoed and reechoed

against Coogans Bluff, came the end. Murphy lobbed over a

slow one and Koenig, the man sent in to save the day, was out,

without even swinging his bat!

~~That was the end! But, the Yankees rubbed those Giant
noses in the dirt before they let us go home.~~

Their failure to win the game, 'or at least tie the score

in the seventh, seemed to take the heart out of the National

Leaguers, and (I suppose you all heard what happened in the

59 ninth, ~~inning.~~ The Yankees ^{clouted} ~~plotted~~ the ball all over the Polo

Grounds. They batted right around the line-up and started down

the list again, bringing in seven more runs.

~~And, the boys, the day, the day~~

And so far as the most thrilling World Series I ever
saw is concerned, that was the end.) And so far as this
broadcast is concerned, this is the end, and -

SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.

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