

C.I. - *Source. True, Feb. 27, 1940.*

FINNISH AID

Here's a report that the Allies are preparing to send an armed force to the aid of Finland. The story is printed today in the CHICAGO DAILY NEWS. It uses these words:- "A private message has succeeded in breaking through the strick⁺_^ censorship operating in France and Great Britain."

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And it goes on to say that the private message reveals that the Allies are planning to throw into Finland heavy masses of armament - and man power, an army.

"The Allies," says the CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, "have been eager to strengthen Finnish resistance, but thus far have not been able to send an expeditionary force because of the opposition of Sweden and Norway." To which one may ask - What about those two Scandinavian kingdoms? The mid-western newspaper answers in these words:- "According to private advices reaching Chicago," it says, "the Allies now consider the situation in Finland so critical that they are no longer going to be restrained by Scandinavian wishes." Which can only mean that the Allies will violate the neutrality of Sweden and Norway in order to send an army to aid the Finns.

~~That~~ That is - if the story be true.

FINLAND

The Finns report that their troops have retreated in the Petsamo area. That's the Arctic deep of Finland, where Soviet forces launched a drive. The Finns report that they ~~drew~~ ^{have today drawn} back to new positions.

But Petsamo is not so important. What about the Mannerheim Line? There, the Finnish command today ordered the evacuation of the shore area near Viipuri. The people of all towns along Viipuri Bay are moving back, pulling out of a strip twenty-five miles deep. Obviously, the Finns fear a Red army push into that shore area. It is ~~x~~ surmised that this might be accomplished by Red ~~advances~~ ^{attacks} from islands which the Soviets have captured in their advance, islands in Viipuri Bay.

For the rest, ^{the} Helsinki reports repulse of Soviet attacks in the Viipuri area of the Mannerheim Line, with the usual statements of heavy Red army losses. ~~These Finnish successes are placed at locations in the second line of defense, meaning of course that the Soviets in the region of Viipuri have captured the first line of the Mannerheim defense as has been indicated previously.~~

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Today's declaration by Winston Churchill to the House of Commons is striking chiefly because of things he admitted. The first Lord of the Admiralty told the members of Parliament that Britain has abandoned its former great naval base at historic Scapa Flow. This of course has been indicated in the news for some time. Today, Churchill made it official. The British fleet has deserted its naval stronghold at Scapa Flow, because of the torpedoing of the great battleship ROYAL OAK in the harbor by a German submarine. Also, Scapa Flow was raided at times by Nazi bombers. The question arises - where is the British fleet now? It's hidden by London censorship, but one may surmise that the major naval units of Great Britain may well be stationed in the many deep arms of the sea along the coast of western Scotland, Scottish firths. There they'd be safer than ~~be~~ concentrated all together at Scapa Flow.

The First Lord of the Admiralty also admitted that the mighty battleship NELSON had been damaged by a mine, ^{and} that another major ship of war had been torpedoed and damaged - presumably H.M.S. BARNHAM. These British naval casualties have been reported by the Germans. Winston Churchill stated that both of the injured

craft had^{se} been repaired, and ~~were~~ in service at sea again.

For the rest, Churchill graphically expressed British confidence of victory ^{over} ~~for~~ Hitler's Germany. He said half of the submarine fleet the Nazis had the beginning of the war has been destroyed. He ~~xx~~ stated that Britain is overcoming the German menace on the sea. He extolled the effect of the British blockade. He likewise warned neutrals that Great Britain was determined to tighten that blockade - in a relentless effort economically to ^{strangle} ~~strangle~~ the realm of the Nazis.

PLANES

The war in the air takes the form of demonstration parades - flights of hostile sky craft over both Paris and Berlin. No, not bombing, not an ounce of high explosive was dropped on those two capitals at war. The air raids over Paris and Berlin seem more like gestures of menace, sky parades to show what the rival air fleets could do if they were minded to bomb. One supposes that they were ~~essays~~ ^{forays} to show that the antagonist sky squadrons could penetrate the defenses of Paris and Berlin, and would do it with bombs if the air war should become ruthless.

Paris reports that a series of Nazi aircraft units flew deep into France, and a flight of five got through the Paris defenses and went winging over the capital. Six ~~casualties are~~ ^{injured.} reported. No, not by German bombs, but by a French anti-aircraft shell, ^{which fell back in a Paris street.} In firing at the air raiders, French batteries flung hundreds of shells into the sky. And one fell ~~down out of the sky, hitting~~ ^{back down and} hit a Paris pavement and exploded. The power of modern anti-aircraft artillery is shown by the fact that the falling shell blasted a two-foot hole in the street. Six persons were injured.

The planes that flew deep into Germany, were British.

Germany denies that they actually reached Berlin and claims that the Nazi anti-aircraft fire damaged one British war bird.

London, however, not only declares that the British war pilots flew right over Berlin, it describes the air raid in these words:-

"Almost a house-to-house canvass!" Canvassing with what? With leaflets, the British way of attacking Nazi cities. The British report that their planes flew up and down Berlin's famous avenue,

Unter den Linden, and also along Wilhelmstrasse, where the Berlin Foreign Office is, *and along the Potsdamerstrasse,* They littered the streets with thousands of

leaflets, says London, calling it - almost a house-to-house canvass.

WELLES

Today Myron Taylor, personal envoy of President Roosevelt to the Vatican, presented his credentials to Pope Pius the Twelfth. His message consisted of a cordial letter from the President of the United States to the ^a~~the~~ Pontiff of the Church of Rome. President Roosevelt expressed to Pope Pius his hope that their joint efforts might ~~bring about~~ aid in bringing about peace.

Meanwhile, the President's other envoy, who is on a mission to Rome, Berlin, Paris and London, had interviews with various ambassadors in Rome. Sumner Welles leaves the Eternal City tonight on a train bound for Zurich. He will spend tomorrow night in Switzerland, and then on to Germany to confer with Hitler.

Paris today continued its unyielding tone toward Sumner Welles's mission - repeating that there's no chance of mediation between the Allies and Nazi Germany, not while Hitler and the Nazis are in power.

Paris is saying that Hitler plans to use the Welles mission for a huge peace offensive.

Premier Daladier of France got a vote of confidence in the Chamber of Deputies today. It was on a question of censorship and propaganda, those twin wartime institutions which are always a cause of controversy. Daladier told the Chamber that he has plans

ROOSEVELT

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At the Panama Canal today cannon roared, the booming of twenty-one guns. Meaning - the President. After cruising and having a bit of fishing in the Pacific, President Roosevelt arrived at the Canal for an inspection of the defenses of that most strategic point, ~~in the United States~~. He spent the day touring the big gun stations and the air bases. Presumably he took a look at the ~~site~~ ^{site} where a new set of locks ~~are~~ ^{is} proposed for the Canal. They ~~are~~ ^{were} suggested in the budget which the President sent to Congress. ^H The budget is under discussion by the lawmakers in Washington, and today the economy advocates in the lower House spoke in opposition to the plan to construct those new locks for the Canal. These, they say, are not needed right away, and they want Congress to go slow in appropriating the hundred and fifteen million dollars required. Reason - economy.

THIRD TERM

The legislature of President Roosevelt's own home state is sending a memorial to Congress, asking Congress to take action against a third term. The New York State Senate voted to this effect last night, and the anti-third term resolution was entered by a Democrat - State Senator McNaboe of the Bronx.

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The action was completed today by the State Assembly. That body is controlled by the Republicans, and the vote was very much along party lines. The Democratic leader, Assemblyman Irwin Steingut, spoke in favor of a third term, said it was his - hope and prayer. He exclaimed fervently, "The whole nation, yes and the whole world - needs him."

One Democrat cast his ballot against the third term idea; the final vote was eighty-two to forty-seven.

More and more the possibilities of a third term are turning into a show-down fight between the President and the Vice-President. Today, John Nance Garner filed papers in Wisconsin, entering his name in the primary election to be held on April Second, a little over a month from now. The name of Franklin Delano Roosevelt has already been entered in Wisconsin. So the primary in the badger state will be ^{the} _λ

first test between President and Vice-President. They'll have a second trial a week later, April Ninth - in Illinois. The names of Roosevelt and Garner have already been filed in the Illinois primary. These entries in primaries are events in a national phenomena - the Vice-President coming to the forefront and challenging the notion of a third term for the president.

On the Republican side, New York District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey got into the Nebraska primary today - the name was filed. This will provide another Dewey test - for it was likewise announced today that Senator Vandenberg of Michigan will make a primary fight in Nebraska. The votes will be cast on April Ninth. Dewey and Vandenberg are in opposition in other state primaries - in the course of the stop-Dewey movement.

DIES

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Here's a late dispatch. It's about the Dies Committee, which never dies. The Committee tells us what its going to investigate next. Hollywood is on the list. We've heard that before. The Dies Committee to investigate communist activities in Movieland. The novelty lies in the committee statement that it has decided to look into the doings of the Christian Front and the Christian Mobilizers. There will be open hearings, public testimony concerning the doings of Christian Front and Mobilizers.

BOY

Four months ago at St. Cloud, Minnesota, a six year old boy was given no more than a week to live. He was suffering from an incurable disease. "The case is hopeless," said the doctors. Today that same six year old ~~boy~~^{lad} was ordered ~~to~~^{back} school, healthy and well - ready for his first grade school books.

Norman Dolinsky suffered from a rare malady which the doctors call lymphatic leukemia. The physicians diagnosed the ailment, and added this statement - "The medical records reveal no case of a recovery from lymphatic leukemia." In every previous case of that malady the patient has quickly succumbed. So they gave six year old Norman Dolinsky not more than a week to live.

Nevertheless, the doctors went through a routine of treatment - blood transfusions. The critical week passed, and ~~he~~^{Norman} was still alive. The doctors could hardly believe their eyes - he began to get better. Three weeks ago, he was able to get out of bed and walk a little. Today the doctors ordered him to school, and say it has been a miraculous recovery. Microscopic tests show that some of the dread and hitherto fatal leukemia cells still remain. But the physicians add that these cells have

undergone what they call, "a remarkable change." This transformation of deadly disease cells may mean much to science. To the ~~scholarly~~ six year old lad it means - back to school!

EXPLORATION

All you lovers of adventure, how does this sound --

Pigmy Elephants, Pigmy Hippopotami, Bonga Antelopes, Red Bush Cows, and the Golden Cat. That's the game to be sought by a new expedition on its way to the African Jungles -- Liberia. ~~It is~~

headed by Dr. William Mann, Director of the National Zoological Park, in Washington, and ~~is~~ sponsored by Firestone of Akron.

Harvey Firestone, like his late and famous father, is a man of wide ~~and scholarly~~ interests. His latest enterprise is to provide the Washington Zoo with jungle animals, Pigmy Elephants, Pigmy Hippopotami, Bonga Antelopes, Red Bush Cows -- and the Golden Cat. That last one catches the fancy. It's a West African forest leopard of such glowing color that it's golden.

TUNNEY

There's Shakespearean news tonight, and who should be the ^{— why of course} hero of it — ~~but~~ Gene Tunney! Gene retired as undefeated heavyweight, but he never has retired as a Shakespearean, — and he's undefeated. Word comes of a five thousand dollar bet concerning the Bard of Avon. Gene Tunney is vacationing in Florida, and there he got into an argument about a quotation from Shakespeare, an argument with a professor, and they made a five thousand dollar bet. Look out, Gene, an ex-prizefighter is not supposed to know as much as a professor. And worst of all, where would a professor get five thousand dollars — if he should lose?

Gene was talking to Professor Jacob B. Taylor of Ohio State University; — they're old friends. And the former heavyweight champion, to illustrate a point, uttered a quotation from Macbeth. In telling how Gene quoted Macbeth, I'm doing something ^{most unorthodox.} ~~quite~~ ^{on it} ~~not that it's~~ I got a special ruling from N.B.C. ~~It is~~ ^{But this is} forbidden to quote Shakespeare on the radio, ~~for~~ ^{as} a case of a cuss word. So I got permission, and have the right to repeat Gene Tunney's Shakespearean effort. It's a familiar line:—

"Lay on, MacDuff;

And damned be him that first cries — 'Hold, enough!'"

When Gene said that, the professor frowned a scholastic frown - and accused Gene Tunney of misquoting Shakespeare. Dem's fighting words, professor! ^{The Prof} ~~he~~ said the lines from Macbeth are as follows - and I didn't have to get any official permission to repeat ~~this:-~~ this:-

"Lay on, MacDuff;

And cursed be him that first cried ^S₁ - 'Hold, enough!'"

The word "cursed" is all right on the radio - it's not a cuss word. But anyway, Gene and the professor argued about their respective versions, and the professor offered to ^{bet}₁ ~~pay~~ five thousand dollars, and Gene took him up on it. The professor later admitted he didn't have five thousand ~~dollars~~, and he'd be ~~xxxxxx~~ cursed if he knew how to get that much cash. ^{Anyhow} ~~so~~ let us see who won the big bet, which was so lacking in cash collateral.

They got a volume of Shakespeare, and behold, Gene was right, ^{and} ~~the~~ professor lost the five thousand ~~dollars~~ which he didn't have. However, the professorial finances were straightened out in somewhat ambiguous fashion, when it was discovered that in some abridged editions of Shakespeare the word in dispute is - "cursed"

Some versions of the poet of the ages are purified to take out the cuss word. So the professor was right, not in point of Shakespeare as he ~~was~~, but of a ^{refined} ~~reformed~~ Shakespeare made more respectable.

So you could consider the argument a sort of one-sided draw, one of those things, as they say in prizefighting. And the professor ~~said~~ he didn't really lose the five thousand ~~dollars~~,

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which he didn't have, and anyway he wasn't thinking of money when he made the five thousand dollar bet. Just one of those technical ~~knockout~~.

And now, Hugh, what ~~are you betting on?~~ have you
that's a knock out — or ~~just~~ anti-
knock out — or just anti-knock?
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