

L.J. - Sunoco. ~~Wed.~~, March 27, 1940.  
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ECONOMY

~~There~~ There was woe on the floor of the House in Washington today, woe, anger and anxiety. Particularly among the champions of economy.

They took a notable licking in a vote on the huge appropriation bill. The open-handed Congressmen added sixty million dollars to the amount they were expected to vote, money that even the President had not asked for in his budget.

The principal expression of anger came from Clifton Woodrum of Virginia, the leader of the economy bloc. He strode from the Chamber furiously after giving his colleagues a piece of his mind. "You've just done the most tragic thing in the history of the country," he shouted. "You've completely gone back on the spirit that Congress adopted at the beginning of the session, the spirit of trying to live inside the budget, even make reductions, stave off new taxes, stay within the national debt limit." Woodrum's protest left the other Congressmen unmoved.

~~Incidentally~~ At least part of what he said was true, according to figures from Washington. The money the House appropriated today does upset the budget and does threaten the national debt limit.

TP Part of the extra money was for the Civilian Conservation Corps,

part for the National Youth Administration.

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The total of the appropriation for the Labor Department and Social Security Agency will now be swollen to more than one billion dollars.

RELIEF

And now the biggest of the national money problems that have to be met every year, the problem of relief. The word from the White House is that President Roosevelt has been preparing a special message on the subject, revising his figures. That is, the figures for the year beginning June Thirtieth. And the sum to be appropriated will be even larger than the one that Mr. Roosevelt estimated in January. Then he said roughly that it would be around a billion dollars. But now we hear it will be somewhere between <sup>2</sup>~~one~~ billion and a billion and a half. For he has learned from the Administrator of <sup>the</sup> W.P.A. that the number of names on the relief rolls <sup>totals</sup> ~~amounts up to~~ two million, three hundred thousand.

All ~~this~~ provides a headache for the Congressmen. Any such sum as that added to the budget, they say, brings the terrifying dilemma -- more taxes or raise the debt limit of the United States Government.

PROPAGANDA

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There's to be another investigating committee in Congress, an inquiry into foreign propaganda. A resolution to this effect has been pending for quite a while. Senator Bennett Champ Clark of Missouri introduced it last fall during the fight over amending the Neutrality Act. But the resolution was shelved for the time being. However, today the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate okayed it and approved an appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars. And now it will be up to the Senate as a whole, and it will probably be adopted.

PLANES

That controversy in Washington over the sale of our airplanes has been rather ~~bewildering~~ bewildering to the simple citizen. It was made somewhat clearer today. The big-shots of the Army are <sup>now</sup> in favor of selling war planes to foreign powers. They <sup>have</sup> told the Congressmen that it would not hamper or injure Uncle Sam. On the contrary, ~~said~~ the generals, it will increase the capacity of the United States to turn out fighting planes. By allowing ~~our~~ manufacturers to sell aircraft of late model to Britain and France, ~~we over here will be able to step up our~~ <sup>we over here will be able to step up our</sup> ~~production. So much so in fact that~~ <sup>production. So much so in fact that</sup> by the end of ~~this year they~~ <sup>1940 we</sup> will be turning out thirty or forty thousand a year, <sup>with the possible</sup> ~~more than any other country, except perhaps~~ <sup>Germany</sup> ~~Germany~~ exception of Germany.

All this appeared to be a contradiction to what congressmen had heard previously. <sup>TP</sup> At any rate, the Military Affairs Committee of the House today declared its approval of the policy of selling <sup>the</sup> planes, and the Chairman of the Committee said that the testimony of the army chiefs was a complete answer to the critics. The principal witness was General George Marshall, Chief of Staff. Said he:- "I'm not merely acquiesing in this policy,

I recommend it. I urge it and I would be deeply concerned if ~~it~~  
we don't do it." Then he added:- "I consider it of vital  
importance to national defense."

SOURITZ

Last night it looked as though there would be an open breach between France and Soviet Russia. The late dispatch I received about the recall of the Soviet Ambassador from Paris had an ominous tone to it. And today there was a meeting of the French War Cabinet, at which Premier Reynaud told his ministers all about it.

But when the meeting was all over, there was no statement, no announcement. (In fact the word from Paris is that the French Government is dodging the issue of a breach of diplomatic relations. The recall of the Soviet Ambassador is *now* considered a closed incident in France. And in Moscow the affair is not taken seriously. Evidently the Allies are willing to walk warily and stretch a good many points before venturing on an open quarrel with Stalin.

BLOCKADE

Bad feelings between the British Lion and the Russian Bear once more - and this time the growling comes from the Bear.

The British have been extending their blockade of Germany so far around the world that it has reached even the Pacific.

They've been keeping ~~the~~ a naval watch over the Siberian harbor of Vladivostok. And that's what has the Soviet <sup>S</sup>~~people~~ angry.

Stalin's Ambassador to London has been making loud complaints at Downing Street for more than a month and the news just leaks out

today. <sup>It all concerns</sup> ~~It is over~~ a Russian steamship which was seized in the

Pacific Ocean by a British cruiser, seized and taken to Hong Kong.

The Russian vessel was on its way from Mexico, and San Pedro, <sup>Calif,</sup> ~~California,~~ <sup>bound for</sup> ~~to~~ Vladivostok. The British theory in seizing the

vessel was that she was carrying copper and other materials which eventually would find their way into Germany. And that's what arouses the Russian ire.



## FINLAND

A new Cabinet in Finland! The Government that fought the war with the Bolsheviks and held them off to the admiration of the world, has now resigned. A new Cabinet was promptly organized, a body of ministers devoted to the job of reconstruction, healing the wounds made by the invasion of the Communists. However, there's no change in the head of the government. Risto Ryti, who was the War Premier, remains in his post. Tanner, who was Foreign Minister, takes the portfolio of Public Welfare. ~~and~~ It's interesting to note that the new Foreign Minister is a Professor of Oceanography. A scientist in a diplomat's job!

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JAPAN

The Japanese Government will have more than one new treaty to make. The commercial agreement between the Mikado and France will elapse on the Fifteenth of April. Strictly speaking, it expired on the Fifteenth of March but it was extended for another month. Diplomats will begin tomorrow negotiating a new understanding.

CANADA

The folks in Canada left no doubt open about the way they feel. MacKenzie-King and the Liberals are now in the saddle more firmly than ever. Their majority in the <sup>Ottawa Parliament will</sup> ~~last House of Commons was~~ <sup>now be</sup> the largest in the history of Canada. Their next majority will be even larger. According to <sup>the</sup> returns tonight, the Liberals will have a hundred and seventy-four out of two hundred and forty-five seats.

Even Dr. Manion, the leader of the opposition, <sup>has now</sup> lost his seat in Parliament. But he took it gracefully, as did the rest of his party. The election is over, they say, and the Conservatives accept the verdict of the country and the war policy of the <sup>present</sup> Government.

DEWEY

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Prosecutor Tom Dewey of New York tonight starts on an endeavor <sup>^</sup> which may mean a good deal in his young life. ~~He begins his tour, stamping~~ <sup>He is in</sup> the middlewest, and ~~makes~~ <sup>will be made tonight</sup> his first speech at St. Louis. While he was in St. Louis polishing

<sup>Mr. Dewey</sup> up his discourse, ~~he~~ was a target for a load of brickbats back in Washington. And the attack came not from a Democrat but from another Republican. A statement was issued by George Tinkham, the bearded, eccentric ~~and~~ and colorful Representative from Massachusetts, ~~the congressman who never makes a campaign,~~

George Tinkham <sup>declares that</sup> ~~can't see Dewey as a candidate for~~ president, ~~says he's unfit, and goes so far as to declare that~~ Dewey has endorsed the <sup>foreign</sup> ~~internationalist~~ policies of President Roosevelt. Anything to do with President Roosevelt, from his

foreign policy to the way he parts his hair, is anathema to <sup>the</sup> ~~bearded~~ <sup>Tonight</sup> Representative George Tinkham of Boston. ~~Tinkham's statement~~ <sup>perhaps we will hear Tom Dewey's</sup> ~~by inference was addressed deliberately to Republican voters in~~ answer.

the states where Dewey is making his stump tour. For he said: "The voters in Wisconsin, Nebraska and Illinois will have an opportunity to play a part in keeping the United States out of foreign entanglements by selecting delegates who are opposed to the internationalism of President Roosevelt and Secretary Hull."

MAINE

Curious news from Maine. The Democrats held their state convention at Bangor, held it right under the watchful eye of Postmaster General Jim Farley. Or rather we should say, Democratic National Chairman Jim Farley.

One of their objects of course was to elect delegates to the National Convention, delegates to nominate a president.

And Jim ~~makes no bones of the fact~~ <sup>Frankly admits</sup> that he himself is a candidate.

<sup>In fact he</sup>

<sup>^</sup> ~~he~~ started the ball by telling the Maine Democratic Convention

<sup>^</sup> he was sure that even ~~the~~ <sup>their</sup> rock-ribbed state would go Democratic

next November. So what did the Maine Democrats do under the

watchful eye of Chairman Jim? They elected twenty delegates with

half a vote apiece, all of them pledged to President Roosevelt

for a third term. However, if the President refuses the nomination,

<sup>then</sup> <sup>^</sup> the Maine votes are to go to Chairman Jim.

SHOOTING

Labor trouble in Tennessee! Guns went off near a mine-head at South Pittsburgh, and several miners are in the hospital.

It's all another outcome of the internecine fight between the A. F. of L. and the C.I.O. The mine had been idle thirteen months, but last Monday it opened again; signed a contract with an American Federation of Labor union. This morning two truckloads of workers were on the way to their jobs when they were stopped by a hundred and fifty men <sup>who</sup> ~~they~~ opened fire with shotguns and pistols and some fifteen miners fell, wounded.

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USURY

One of the oldest crimes known to mankind is usury. In the ancient Scriptures the prophets thundered against it. Great lawmakers have tried to stop it. But still it goes on. These reflections occur because of a curious trial in a United States court at New York today.

A man named Anthony Delotti was indicted on a charge of aiding a woman to forge postal certificates. Delotti, incidentally, pleaded not guilty. And here's the tale that the government prosecutor tells:- He claims that Delotti loaned <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ woman fifty dollars. In settlement of that loan, says the Government, she has paid him four thousand, three hundred and ninety-five dollars, four thousand three hundred and ninety-five dollars on a fifty dollar loan with a balance of four hundred dollars on the books against her!

*Wow! As Graham McNamee would say: "Oh Boy!"*

<sup>^</sup>Incidentally, the unfortunate woman is under indictment in the New York courts, charged with having stolen thirteen hundred dollars from the postal savings account of her brother, thirteen hundred dollars which she gave to the money lender. <sup>TP</sup> That's what the state says.

Over four thousand dollars on a fifty dollar loan - there's some thing to remember when you go borrowing money!

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## STORM

For quite a while the weather experts and the farmers were anxious because of the phenomenal drought of the fall and early winter. <sup>Today</sup> ~~Now~~ they're ~~waxxi~~ watching their barometers in fear of floods. That anxiety <sup>has now</sup> reached a high point in New York State after the recent snowstorms. The thaw which followed the snowfall threatened to bring great torrents of water down from the snow clad mountains. But, a dropping temperature stopped the thaw and the fear of flood was held off, for the time being at any rate. Meanwhile, the authorities were busy clearing the highways and getting transportation back to normal. *And skiers are heading north again as though winter had just arrived.*



## SUN SPOTS

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The prophets were right about the sun spots and magnetic disturbances in the air. Shortly before noon today, there was a sudden, dramatic disruption of all radio contact with other countries. At nineteen minutes past eleven, those electrons started bombing the earth through ninety-two million, nine hundred and thirty-nine thousand miles of space. There was no telephoning to Europe, no communication with South America; San Francisco couldn't get in touch with Honolulu, Manila, or Shanghai. Short wave broadcasting stopped completely.

*But* It wasn't as bad as the storm <sup>*last*</sup> ~~on~~ Sunday. For one thing, it lasted only about an hour. By one o'clock all foreign circuits were operating normally. And there was no interruption or interference with service on land.

CLOTHES

Here's a compliment for Sumner Welles, Under-Secretary of State. They do say in Washington that Welles can use a compliment or two as he wasn't any too happy serving as the President's special envoy to the diplomatic war front in Europe. The compliment comes from England and it proclaims our Under-Secretary as the Second Best Dressed Man in the World. So says the style magnifico who designs the gowns for Queen Elizabeth.

Perhaps you may ask, <sup>well who is</sup> ~~who~~ the Best Dressed Man in the World? <sub>^ ^</sub>

58 ~~As~~ As a loyal Briton and dressmaker <sup>to</sup> the Queen, what name could this expert prefer but that of King George himself? Third in order of the world's Beau Brummels is Lord Louis Mountbatten, the King's cousin.

Way up amongst the first ten are a couple of American movie actors, Errol Flynn and Adolphe Menjou. Flynn gets his rating because his flannels and yachting kit are perfect. Menjou gets honorable mention, because he, a Frenchman, acting in American films and wearing English clothes, is a perfectly dressed, mature man with a good figure. <sup>By the way,</sup> <sub>^</sub> it will be news to the people of Pittsburgh

58 1/2 that their city lies in France - Pittsburgh being the place where

Adolph Menjou was born. Incidentally, I am informed that the only French that this Frenchman can speak he learned at Ithaca, New York, when he was studying engineering at Cornell University.

Be that as it may, Menjou is sixth on the list of the Best Dressed Men in the World. *Just an old Cornell custom!*

This British expert passes a left-handed compliment across the Channel. He said he couldn't include any Frenchman in his list because all of them have too much neck and Adam's apple.

*Hugh - what do you know about that?*

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