

FLINT

C.I. - Sumner. China, Oct. 26, 1939.

(The Soviets have released the CITY OF FLINT. Presumably they've handed her back to the Germans. They have ordered the American vessel to leave the Russian Arctic harbor of Murmansk at once. It would appear the order means that the German prize crew must take the FLINT away.)

All the information we have is a brief Moscow communique. These are the words:- "After inspection of the cargo of the CITY OF FLINT, it has been decided to release the ship under obligation that it leave port immediately."

From this we can reason as follows:- The Soviets might <sup>have</sup> turn<sup>ed</sup> the FLINT back to its American crew. Today's word <sup>was</sup> ~~is~~ that they <sup>were</sup> ~~are~~ safe at Murmansk. But if the Soviets gave the boat back <sup>to them</sup> ~~^~~ there'd be no point in the order that the ship must leave Soviet waters - a neutral craft in a neutral port." (Earlier in the day, we heard that Stalin's government recognized the German claim that the FLINT was a legitimate prize of war of the Hitler navy. As a prize of war, it would be in accordance with international law for the neutral Soviets to order the vessel to leave after a certain period of time.)

(The United States government today demanded of both Germany and the Soviets that the CITY OF FLINT be given back.)

As against this, the word was that Moscow considered the Germans quite right in capturing the ship - this on the grounds that the FLINT carried contraband.

The latest question tonight is this:- if the CITY OF FLINT has been ordered out of Murmansk with the German prize crew aboard, what will they do? Will they try to take the American vessel to a German port, through the North Sea, with British cruisers lurking everywhere? How can they put to sea at all, in the teeth of the British navy? They'd be a hardy lot of Teutons to do that!

## DEUTSCHLAND

( Prime Minister Chamberlain made it official today - that the German pocket battleship DEUTSCHLAND is on the loose. He told this to the London House of Commons. It turns out ~~that~~ now that it was the DEUTSCHLAND which captured the CITY OF FLINT and sent that American ship to Murmansk, ~~and~~ Right now the pocket battleship is somewhere on the North Atlantic, seeking new victims. )

It's only one vessel of war, but still it represents a formidable problem. Those pocket battleships which <sup>the</sup> Germans built when the Versailles Treaty forbade <sup>them</sup> ~~it~~ to construct giants, are compact with power and speed. Naval experts say there are only a few of the Allied warships that could catch the DEUTSCHLAND and defeat her in a fight. (An ordinary cruiser wouldn't do - guns not heavy enough to match the pocket battleship. A dreadnought wouldn't do - couldn't <sup>never</sup> ~~catch~~ catch the speedy craft. Presumably it <sup>would</sup> ~~can~~ take a battle cruiser, and there aren't so many of those super-powerful, super-swift vessels in existence. )



## BRITAIN

Affairs today between Great Britain and the Soviets may be described by saying - that the Soviets are pushing Great Britain around, and in return the British are making friendly gestures toward the Soviets. Today's news tells of two pushes that Stalin has administered to the London government. One, (Moscow refuses to recognize the British blockade of Germany. A Soviet note to Britain denounces the admiralty contraband list as contrary to international law.) The Soviets refuse to recognize the blockade by which the Allies hope to effect the economic strangulation of Germany and thereby win the war. This of course raises the supposition that Stalin and his men insist on the right to ship goods by sea to Germany. Tonight Berlin warns Great Britain against the consequences of attacking Russian ships.

The other Stalin shove was a new agreement with Hitler, specifically guaranteeing to supply Nazi Germany with a



huge lot of raw materials - immense quantities of wheat and other foodstuffs, oil, necessary metals, etcetra. ~~In this way again,~~  
*(see more to)*  
~~Stalin is helping Hitler to defeat the British blockade. All of this in the fact of the fact that the question of the Allies defeating Germany probably depends on the amount of material that Stalin sends to Hitler.~~

To the Soviet shoving, Prime Minister Chamberlain responded today with a statement - that the Red army was quite right when it invaded Poland. He told the House of Commons that the Soviets struck at the unfortunate Poles for the purpose of checking the Nazis. <sup>π</sup> The Red invasion was likewise defended by Foreign Minister Viscount Halifax in the House of Lords. The Viscount, however, was just a bit gingerly in championing the actions of Stalin - you might even say His Lordship was a bit shamefaced. He used these words:- "The last thing I would wish to do in this matter," said he, "would be to defend the action of the Soviet Government at the particular time at which they took it. But it is right to ~~xx~~ remember two things." The first of the two things that Viscount Halifax pointed out has a

rather roundabout tone, suggestive of embarrassment. "First," said he, "the Soviets never would have taken that action if the German government had not started it, and set the example they did set when they invaded Poland without a declaration of war." <sup>TP</sup> Poor, poor innocent Stalin, he was just led astray by a bad example - like a wayward youth.

The second point His Lordship made has an equally curious sound. "In the second place," said he, "it is worthwhile recalling that the action of the Soviet Government has been to advance the Russian boundary to what was substantially the boundary recommended at the time of the Versailles conference, by Lord Curzon." That immaculate and all-wise aristocrat, Lord Curzon. His shade is summoned to sweeten the pill of the British okay on Stalin.



## CHILDREN

Here's a fascinating little story that comes out of the evacuation of children from London. One batch of tiny kiddies ~~was~~ was sent from the crowded metropolis to a sleepy village in Herefordshire. Two of ~~the children~~<sup>them</sup> were black, a boy and a girl, very black and very small. One of the villagers, acting as billeting officer, placed children here and there to live in rural homes. But the country people, simple and rustic, looked with astonishment and misgiving at the two little negroes. The billeting officer found no home in which he could place them. So he had them on his hands, and all he could do was take them to his own house. There his wife looked at the ~~i~~ tiny black boy and girl, and was kindly and sympathetic - rather charmed by the two little blacks.

She said she'd keep them.

That night, when she undressed the girl, she found pinned to her petticoat an envelope. On the envelope was written, "To the woman who undresses my babies tonight, with thanks for looking after them. God bless you." She opened the ~~envelope~~<sup>envelope</sup> and in it found Fifty Pounds - Two hundred Dollars, a veritable fortune in that sleepy village of Herefordshire.

## QUEEN

Dowager Queen Elizabeth of Belgium, mother of King Leopold, is a nurse. She learned nursing during World War days, when her husband, King Albert, was leading the fight against the German invaders. Today, at the royal palace in Brussels, the story was released how yesterday Queen Elizabeth was driving in the country when she saw two automobiles smash bang into each other. Two men injured. She hurried to them and gave them first aid treatment. One was a cabinet minister.

On the way back to Brussels, she saw a car which had taken a somersault into a ditch - a man injured. Once more the Queen got out of the royal car and did a job of first aid ~~and~~ bandaging.

~~They seem to go in for automobile accidents in~~

They seem to go in for automobile accidents in Belgium and probably need a nurse for a Queen. *They have one.*



## NEUTRALITY

The ~~United States Senate~~ is taking a rapid series of votes ~~speeding up the neutrality business to the limit~~. Today, administration leaders announced the intention of getting the neutrality ~~whole~~ affair settled in the Senate tomorrow, a final vote, which is sure to put the bill through and repeal the much-debated arms embargo.

Today a Senate vote turned down an amendment to forbid the sale to belligerent countries of such war materials as flame-throwers and poison gas, materials of chemical warfare. The argument against this prohibition was that if one army used any such weapons, the opposing army would have to.

Today's most important action was <sup>the</sup> adoption ~~the~~ of an amendment forbidding vessels of foreign nations to use the United States flag in disguising themselves against attack. Any foreign ship so misusing our flag ~~the United States flag~~ to be penalized by being forbidden to enter any United States port or the territorial waters of this country for a period of three months. ~~During the~~ World War, there was a good deal of complaint about ships hoisting the Stars and Stripes to fool German U boats. Now the Senate ~~Neutrality Bill takes action in the matter.~~

## ROOSEVELT

The Secretary of Agriculture doesn't seem to see eye to eye with the White House. In fact, the wires seem to be crossed, if not the eyes. The subject of disagreement -- third term.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace announced today that the war in Europe called for a third term in the United States.

That drew an instant White House retort from Presidential Secretary Steve Early, who said that Wallace should have consulted Mr. Roosevelt before talking third term. Word for word Steve spoke as follows:- "It would have been kind and polite of the speaker to have consulted the victim before he spoke."

In Congress the reaction was that the Wallace-European-War-third-term-pronunciamento was ill-timed -- with the Neutrality debate going on. Steve Early was asked about that and replied tartly. "It could have been timed better if it had to be timed at all."

So we see the Secretary of Agriculture and the White House are not in tune with each other, as well as not seeing eye to eye.



## INSURANCE

In Washington an insurance executive was testifying before the Monopoly Committee, testifying about ~~the~~ high-pressure-selling of insurance policies. He said that many a person who is high-pressured into taking out a policy is glad of it afterward. Whereupon he was asked whether some people aren't high-pressured into <sup>buying</sup> ~~taking out~~ policies much too big.

Whereupon the insurance executive responded poetically:-

"I'll answer that," said he, "in the words of Shakespeare,

~~'Tis~~ better to have been insured for a whole lot, than never to have been insured at all."

Well, the quotation goes this way:- "'Tis better to have loved and lost," so I suppose he should have ~~preferred~~ paraphrased it, "'Tis better to have been insured and lost, than never to have been insured at all."

Moreover, it wasn't Shakespeare who said it, it was Alfred Lord Tennyson. And here's the whole passage for the benefit of the insurance executive:

"I hold it true what ere befall

I feel it when I suffer most,

'Tis better to have loved and lost

Than never to have loved at all."

Author - ~~E~~ Alfred Lord Tennyson.



## DERBY

Philadelphia today had its annual antique automobile derby, twenty-four ancient busses, rattling and clattering to William Penn's town to open the Thirty-Ninth Philadelphia Automobile Show. The youngest of the junk automobiles was a 1910 model, a mere child. The oldest was a Knox of the vintage of 1901. The longest trip was from Rhode Island, three hundred miles. Altogether those twenty-four venerable tin cans reeled off a total of thirteen hundred miles - on Blue Sunoco I hope.





## DYNAMITE

Today at a New York subway station, a man went to a baggage locker - one of those <sup>metal</sup> compartments you can rent for storing something. Out of the locker the man took two big heavy suitcases. There's nothing unusual in that, except that a couple of detectives were watching him. They had noticed him and had recognized him as Patrick Moriarity, known to the police as "Dynamite Pat", a notorious safe blower. The two detectives ~~following~~ <sup>had</sup> followed him, and when they saw him take the two ponderous suitcases out of the subway locker, they thought they'd investigate. They did, and found the suitcases crammed with dynamite - twenty-one sticks of high explosive!

Dynamite Pat thereupon admitted that he had recently escaped from a prison at Charleston, Massachusetts, and since then he and two pals have burglarized loot to the amount of a hundred thousand dollars. (He was using the subway station locker as storage for his supply of dynamite - enough to have blown the ~~the~~ subway up into the street.)

## RESCUE

Here's a United Press dispatch which concludes with the statement that the man in the story was reluctant to talk. He's John Drislane, an engineer of Albany, who is on a visit to New York City. He's stopping at a Y.M.C.A. house, and today a sudden fire broke out in the room next to his. The man in the room was driven to the window by the burst of flames, driven virtually out of the window. To save himself, he had to hang by his hands. He was six floors up, there was a concrete pavement below - and his grip on the windowsill was slipping. Drislane, in his room next door, saw the man in peril. He leaned out and reached over. Bracing his knees firmly, he caught the wrist of the man about to fall. And, by <sup>a</sup> magnificent feat of strength and courage, was able to hold him till help came. When the reporters <sup>tried</sup> ~~came~~ to get the story, they found Drislane reluctant to talk about it, didn't want to discuss his exploit - just passed it off!

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BROOKLYN

The big Brooklyn idea in baseball didn't get such an enthusiastic reception today. Larry MacPhail, <sup>owner</sup> ~~one~~ of the Dodgers, proposes that the annual world series should be multiplied - multiplied by eight. Instead of having only the first teams in each league play a series, have the second two ~~xxx~~ teams do the same, and the third and the fourth, and so on down to the eighth. And then count up points and see which league won.

Today from various other teams of both leagues, the response is a universal shake of the head - No, with various shades of emphasis! "I don't think the idea is practical," says the President of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

"The present world series answers everything," responds a spokesman for the Chicago White Sox. "It doesn't appear that such a plan as MacPhail's could work out," comments the general manager of the Cincinnati Reds.

The most eloquent reply comes from the New York Giants, those bitter enemies of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Eddie Branch, <sup>isla</sup> the secretary of the Giants, expresses himself in these words:-  
"Any idea of MacPhail's or anybody else in Brooklyn is all wrong." ~~And that's that~~ unless you have something to add, Hugh.