

L. J. - Sunco. Thurs., April 13, 1939.

Census

This was an interesting day in the news of the European crisis - interesting as well as important. The grave importance attaches to the <sup>(a)</sup> joint declaration made by Great Britain and France - ~~they~~ <sup>ing</sup> guarantee the integrity of Greece and Roumania. This momentous declaration was made by Prime Minister Chamberlain in an address to the House of Commons and by Premier Daladier of France in an official statement issued at Paris. Having already guaranteed Poland, they now give similar assurance to Greece and Roumania. If the German-Italian combination make any aggression against any of those countries - Great Britain and France will fight. <sup>Which means -</sup> They've issued a sort of international insurance policy.

It ~~is to be~~ <sup>was</sup> observed <sup>today</sup> that no mention was made of Turkey.

In fact (it is reported that London was reluctant to include Roumania in the declaration - preferring to guarantee Greece alone.)

The British government may feel that <sup>all this</sup> ~~the~~ guaranteeing can go too far

and include too much. <sup>For -</sup> Insurance policies are called - risks.

But Paris gave notice that if London hesitated, France would go ahead on her own and insure Roumania, and that of course would drag London in. So they might as well guarantee, and insure!

In their joint declaration today, Great Britain and

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His Majesty's Government was negotiating with the Soviets, and he added that ideological questions would make no difference in the official British attitude towards Stalin's Communist regime.

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However, the ~~ambiguity~~ position of Russia in the new democratic defense system remains exceedingly ambiguous - and no doubt ideology has a good deal to do with it. Would Poland or Roumania enjoy having the Red army march in to defend them? The ideology might count for a good deal, with armed Communism not so welcome.

The more merely interesting part of the news of the crisis is a bit of diplomatic history connected with the Italian seizure of Albania - diplomatic history recited by Prime Minister Chamberlain to the House of Commons. He said that last Saturday, the day following the Good Friday invasion, the Albanian government of King Zog appealed to Great Britain for protection - and didn't get it. Chamberlain said he had his doubts about Mussolini's explanation that there were anti-Fascist disorders in Albania. He admitted there might have been some rioting against Italians - but was skeptical ~~as~~ of the alarmist scare as represented by Rome.

Chamberlain gave his opinion that the Italian seizure was decidedly out of harmony with the British-Italian peace pact - the pact guaranteeing the status quo in the Mediterranean. But he indicated that Great Britain would not <sup>call off</sup> ~~recall~~ that agreement of friendship, wouldn't <sup>not touch</sup> ~~cross~~ it out.

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The diplomatic history, as the Prime Minister recited it today, continued with the Island of Corfu - that strategic Greek isle right off the Albanian coast. He said that during the Albanian invasion, London had word that the Italians intended to seize Corfu - and the Greek government confirmed this, saying they had the same sort of information. Inquiries were made of the Italian diplomatic representative in London, who denied it - said Mussolini had no intention of grabbing Corfu. The British answered - all right, but they would regard it as a thing of the utmost gravity if the Italians did touch the island. The Italian diplomat responded by saying that the Italian government would consider it of the utmost gravity if the British were to occupy Corfu - each accusing the other of intentions.



So there was the central point of all that international tension which surrounded the seizure of Albania - the Island of Corfu.

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Prime Minister Chamberlain's recital of diplomatic history today brought reminiscences of ancient history - Athens and Sparta, <sup>the</sup> ~~in~~ Peloponnes<sup>ian War</sup> and the Historian Thuc<sup>id</sup>yd<sup>e</sup>s. In ancient times, Corfu was Corcyra. <sup>Corcyra</sup> And it was a revolt at Corcyra that was one of the main causes of the Peloponnesian War, that struggle between Athens and Sparta of which the Historian Thuc<sup>id</sup>yd<sup>e</sup>s wrote. The island caused that ancient war of such famous renown, and it would have been an irony of history if that same island had brought about the second World War which everybody so greatly dreads. That would have been history repeating itself most tragically.

## MUSSOLINI

The Nazi-Fascist reaction to the new Franco-British policy is typical - denunciations on all sides. In Berlin the Hitler newspapers are shrieking louder than ever about - encirclement.

In Rome, Mussolini, the great speech-maker, made a speech, which is taken to be a reply to London and Paris. The Duce expressed himself rather <sup>epigram</sup> ~~grammatically~~, as follows:- "Toward friendly peoples," he shouted, "we will maintain a friendly attitude. Against hostile peoples we will have a clear and decided attitude of hostility." He concluded by saying:- "We will always forge straight ahead - as we did yesterday and as we will do tomorrow." The Duce is defiant, but the question is, will he go any further than words?

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## ROOSEVELT

President Roosevelt will make a speech tomorrow.

He'll address the Pan-American Union - through the microphone, an international broadcast. It is assumed that he will make some declarations about international affairs - and they say he's likely to tackle one aspect which lies mighty close to home. He'll answer charges that he is helping to stir up a war hysteria in this country, that all the administration war talk is bad for this nation. And, there are plenty of charges to that effect.

## NEUTRALITY

(Congress resounded today with talk against the war scare -- Senators denouncing ~~his~~ policies that might drag this country into a European ~~war~~ <sup>catclysm.</sup> Senator George of Georgia spoke scathingly of the President's remark a few days ago, ~~when he~~ that he would return to Warm Springs, ~~Georgia~~ in the fall -- "if we don't have a war", ~~said he.~~ "That," declared Senator George -- "aroused a genuine fear <sup>n</sup> throughout the United States." And he shouted that the people of this country had <sup>ve</sup> no intention of going into another European war.

Senator Borah denounced the entire state of affairs in Europe, both sides, the democracies as well as the totalitarian powers. He said that the ~~European~~ European quarrel was not one of democracy against tyranny. It was <sup>based</sup> ~~composed~~ of what he called -- "sordid and imperialistic issues."

Senator Reynolds of North Carolina spoke of the huge amount of war talk that's going on in this country. He referred to an article written by Roy Howard of the Scripps-Howard newspapers in which Roy Howard said that people in Europe are less jittery about war than we Americans are. To which Senator Reynolds chimed in by saying: "We're giving more time to European affairs than the people closest to the scene."



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The Administration is considering ways to keep business in this country more or less normal -- in the face of the war peril. Officials close to the White House had a meeting today and they discussed ways ~~in~~ of keeping American industry on an even keel while battle is being talked and if battle should break out in Europe. As it is, the mere scare and the jitters are unsettling conditions -- the way the stock market has been acting is proof of that. Business <sup>leaders</sup> ~~are~~ are concerned and so is the government -- and maybe it would ~~be~~ help if we didn't have so much war talk.

REFUGEES

In Washington a proposal is being considered - how about settling a lot of the <sup>European</sup> refugees in Alaska? <sup>Jewish, and others.</sup> A report was submitted today to the Department of the Interior saying that our great northern territory might well be a haven for thousands of the oppressed who are fleeing from Nazi Germany. It will be a good thing for them, and for Alaska too. <sup>which explains that</sup> So says the report, ~~such~~ refugee settlement might develop <sup>unused</sup> Alaskan resources, ~~which now are~~ ~~put to no use.~~

Secretary Ickes makes the comment that his Department <sup>can</sup> ~~could~~ not take action - can only ~~make~~ study and a report.



PALESTINE

There's new hope for peace in Palestine -- because Abdul Razek was grabbed today. No, the British didn't get him -- though they were after Abdul in a ~~px~~ Palestinian manhunt. That sheik of Araby is the grand chieftain of the <sup>present</sup> Moslem uprising; -- <sup>he's</sup> the Number One man among the anti-Jewish rebels. The British put a price of twenty-five hundred dollars on Abdul's head -- and that's a big price in Palestine. They got on his trail and started a military hunting expedition, chasing Abdul from one place to another. They've been on his trail for six days. <sup>with a half starved</sup> But today, ~~since he got~~ <sup>band of guerillas he got</sup> across the Palestine border into French-controlled Syria. ~~The~~ <sup>Hardly.</sup> Does that constitute an escape? <sup>^</sup> French authorities seized Abdul -- and they're sending him to a labor camp, a camp where malcontents of various sorts are kept at hard labor.

And in Jerusalem, the British authorities believe that, with Abdul breaking stones on a ~~syria~~ Syrian rock pile, there's a better ~~mpexfx~~ hope for peace in Palestine.

TRAIN WRECK

Mexico had a bad train wreck today - more than a score of passengers killed, and two score injured. A hundred and thirty miles north of Mexico City a passenger train from Guadalajara was stalled on the main line, while the crew repaired an air brake. Along came a fast express from ~~the~~ Laredo, Texas, ~~and~~ bound for Mexico City. The express was traveling at top speed, and hit the stalled train. Most of the victims were in the second class coaches, and no Americans are reported in the list of casualties.



KANSAS CITY

The political scandal in Kansas City came to a new climax today, ~~and~~ with the resignation of City Manager Mack ~~Elroy~~. He's held that job for the past thirteen years, and now steps out as charges of graft and corruption are made against the Police Department! -- Charges that Kansas City has been wide ~~open~~ open <sup>for</sup> ~~for~~ gambling and drug-selling! Federal <sup>narcotic</sup> agents making raids! Investigations all over the place. There's a sensational quiz about city funds -- and Democratic Leader Pendergast, of national renown, has been indicted for income tax violations. ~~The~~ Political ~~tempest~~ in Kansas City -- and today the city manager resigns.

## ROBBERY

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In Boston today a confession was made, and the emotional climax came in these words:- "I married a beautiful girl, and I was getting only twelve dollars a week." That's the combination which led Clayton Martin to disaster. He was a clerk working for an armored car company in the business of transporting payroll money. The clerk married to a beautiful girl on twelve dollars a week, swiped ten thousand dollars, and off he went on a wild jaunt to the Pacific coast.

Today he said he was confused, and, that would indeed seem to be the case. He traveled across continent in small hops - by train, bus and airplane. And at every stop he bought a new suit of clothes, discarding the one he had bought at the previous stop. It's hard to see how that helped the beautiful girl to whom he was married.

Finally the payroll embezzler mailed six thousand dollars back to the employers he had robbed - that was all he had left from the ten thousand. <sup>And - he</sup> ~~he~~ surrendered to the police with only a dollar and seventy-five cents in his possession - that and the pistol ~~with~~ which his employers had given him to protect the payroll money.



BOY

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We've heard a lot about the bad effect of movies on children - especially those crime thrillers and bandit melodramas. Let's see how this works out in the case of Billy Purdy of Chicago. Billy is fourteen and had always been a good boy. Yesterday, however, the dickens got into him, he played hooky from school, swiped an ancient revolver, and stuffed in some wax to take the place of bullets. Then he went to a delicatessen store, held up a girl who was in charge, and stole nine dollars and twenty-five cents.

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With the loot he bought some candy, and went to a movie. The feature was a rip-snorting bandit picture - and Billy was proud of his crime as he watched the nefarious exploits of the hold-up men. He jangled the stolen change in his pocket. And, like Little Jack Horner, he thought - "what a great boy am I!" The end of the bandit thriller, however, showed all the outlaws coming to grief - prison, the gallows. Not only that, it was so sad for their poor families, their parents.

That took all the starch out of Billy Purdy, and home he hurried as fast as he could. He went to his father and mother with a tearful confession - told them what he had done. They

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immediately notified the authorities and returned the money Billy  
had swiped from the delicatessen store girl. The authorities decided  
that ~~Billy~~ Billy needed no punishment, his repentance was enough -  
reformed by a motion picture bandit thriller!

*A touching  
story - and s-l-u-t-m.*

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