

L.J. Lunco. Dues., Oct. 4, 1938

LABOR

46
A message from ^{the} President ^{of the U.S.} was read today before the Convention of the American Federation of American Labor at Houston, Texas. And that presidential message laid stress on - peace. Not international peace, but labor peace. Heretofore, during the long drawn out strife between the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O., the President has not made any public announcement concerning the scrap. Today, he made his first declaration - right to the A.F. of L. convention.

He made no mention of the C.I.O. but phrased it this way: "I venture to express the hope," said he, "that the Convention will leave open every possible door of access to peace and progress in the affairs of organized labor. ~~The~~ If the leaders of organized labor," he went on, "can make and keep the peace between various opinions and factions within the labor group itself, it will vastly increase the prestige of labor with the country and prevent the reaction which otherwise is bound to injure the workers themselves."

Those are diplomatic words, a whole string of diplomatic words. More succinctly, if less diplomatically,


it comes to this:- why do not the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O. get together and make peace?

47
These words of peace were uttered aloud today, but they were really written by the President several days ago, because his letter said this: "I wish very much that I could accept your kind invitation to the Convention, but in these critical days Houston is, for me, a little too far from Washington."

The critical days were those war peril days of last week, when the anxiety of the hour was not labor peace, but world peace.

At his Hyde Park press conference' today, President Roosevelt reiterated his championship of labor peace, said the fighting factions ought to get together, and stop calling names.

To this the President added that business conditions were looking up. He said that in the stores of the nation, the merchandise shelves need restocking and new supplies would have to be purchased mighty soon. There will be a steady recovery if, in the presidential words, "prices do not go through the roof."

 Business optimism from Hyde Park.

AUTOMOBILES

18
Today the Automobile Workers' Union settled the question of the four expelled officers. The case of these Union officers, charged with Red activities, was before an Arbitration Committee, and the Committee ordered - "reinstate them." And this the Union immediately proceeded to do. The U.A.W. governing board instantly accepted the verdict of the Arbitration Committee, and restored the four ousted officials to their former rank. This seems to be a thorough defeat for U.A.W. President Homer Martin, who led the drive against what he called - Communist elements.

UN-AMERICAN

— Fascists of the Italian sort —

The Fascists of this country were under fire today

before the Committee investigating Un-American activities. An Italian anti-Fascist named Valenti, took the witness stand, and told a dire story of Italian Fascist activities in the United States. He said Italian consuls keep tabs on anti-Fascist Italian-Americans, and threaten them, threaten them with deportation out of the United States and with harm to their kinsfolk in Italy. They also make propaganda speeches to Italian groups, and Italian Fascist newspapers over here print Fascist news emanating from Rome.

Witness Valenti accused Italian-Americans of raising a million dollars, supposedly for the Italian Red Cross but really to help Mussolini's conquest of Ethiopia. He said they collected copper plates and sent them to Italy - to help off-set the sanctions imposed by the League of Nations.

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~~All this new sensation is based upon the
revelations produced by the Committee concerning the Communist
the German Nazis, but it is just a little more indication of
Un-American activities~~

CZECH

The government of Czechoslovakia resigned today and a new one has taken its place. General Syrový remains the Premier, with a set of ministers that give more representation to the Slovak and Ruthenian elements. The word from Prague is the new government will turn the policy of Czechoslovakia in the direction of Germany. What else could they do? Prague newspapers were saying today that since the link with France proved to be a snare and a delusion, all the nation can do is tie up with Germany -- both political and economic cooperation, meaning Hitler domination.

And in Sudetenland, where Hitler staged a celebration today, the word is -- an outbreak of anti-semitism. Inevitably appresion of the Jewish people.

ENGLAND

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Today the British Parliament kept on debating ~~xi~~ that epochal peace agreement at Munich. The speeches in the Commons were just about the same -- opposition ^denunciations of the surrender and conservative praise of peace. The most striking speech was not in the Commons at all, but in the House of Lords. There Lord Baldwin, Neville Chamberlain's predecessor as Prime Minister, made his first speech before the peers of the realm. He defended Chamberlain's agreement with Hitler with fervent phrases. He described it in these words: "It was", said he, "just as if the finger of God had ~~XXXXX~~ ~~XXXXX~~ drawn a rainbow once more across the sky and ratified again His covenant with the children of men."

Meanwhile the British government is working vigorously for a firm and friendly settlement with Mussolini. In Rome Lord Perth the British ambassador ^{is} ~~has~~ ^{ing} ~~conferred~~ constantly with Foreign Minister Count Ciano, ~~Mussolini's son-in-law~~. Late word is that all sorts of progress has been made toward getting Italian troops out of Spain, this ~~as~~ a preliminary to some sort of a Spanish settlement.

And France is pressing to patch things up with Mussolini -- the first step to be the appointment of a new ambassador to Rome, an ambassador ^{as} ~~credited~~ ^{King-Emperor} ~~to Victor Emmanuel~~ ^{recognize} Victor Emanuel.

^{as King and Emperor} ~~Meaning~~ -- Emperor of Ethiopia, the French ^{at last to} ~~recognizing~~ the Ethiopian conquest.

FRANCE

51
The Parliament of France today voted - "Yes," and an overwhelming "yes" it was, five hundred and thirty-five to seventy-five. That's the way the French law-makers approve of the Czechoslovak agreement.

In the debate, there was much expression of sympathy for the Czechs, much indignation against Hitler, but even former Premier Blum's Socialist Party supported the peaceful settlement.

R Premier Daladier ^{also} demanded the right to rule by decree - ~~xx~~ semi-dictatorial powers to handle French financial matters. France is always having financial difficulties, and this time they're made the more bothersome by the expense of the war crisis. It cost France a lot of money to do all the mobilizing she did, new figures of ~~xxx~~ red to be added to the previous deficit. Daladier put the financial business on a broad and lofty plane. He said France will have to have its money matters straightened out so it could be the more effective in the new labors for European peace that are approaching - those new four power arrangements that are scheduled to come out of the Czechoslovak agreement.

-2
He staked everything on the vote, and that's when the
French Chamber of Deputies went five hundred and thirty-five
to seventy-five in favor of the ^{Munich}~~minute~~ decision that gave
Hitler so much of Czechoslovakia and gave Europe ^{temporary} peace.

RUSSIA

Inquiries all today shed no light on the fate of the famous Red army commander in the Far East, General Bluecher. Soviet officials in Moscow refused to make any comment on the insistent rumor that the Red warlord of the Far East is under arrest - and we all know what a sinister thing arrest is in a Communist utopia!

All that we have are vague intimations. General Bluecher's name, ^{long} so highly praised and celebrated in the Soviet press, has been absent from the Russian news columns during the past weeks. When a celebrity ceases to get publicity in ^{the U.S.S.R.,} ~~a Communist utopia~~, that's always ominous. During the clash with the Japanese on the Siberian border some weeks ago, all sorts of Red army heroes were played up - but not the Red army commander.

53
Last week, right in the middle of the European war crisis, the Army Commissar Voroshilov was absent from Moscow, absent from Europe. He ^{was} away out in the Far East. That was related in the Soviet press, without explanation, and without any mention of General Bluecher. There were merely the usual denunciations of spies and traitors and Trotskyists - as if the Soviets were more

interested in fighting Trotsky than in fighting Hitler. ^{at the Mikado. Alf} ~~all~~

of this gives an implied confirmation to the story that the

renowned Red army commander in the Far East is now a prisoner —

if alive.

CHINA

The word from China is - Red defense. Also - last man defense.

The Red army of the Chinese Communists has been demanding that

Hankow should be defended to the last man, while Generalissimo

Chiang Kai-shek doesn't seem to be so enthusiastically ^{about it.} ~~agreed on that.~~

Now, the armies of the Mikado are closing in on the great ~~range of the~~

Hankow defense line. Today's word is that powerful forces of Red

army Communists are pouring in to reinforce the ^THankow line. And

this is taken to indicate that there will be - a last man defense.

If so, it will be the culminating battle of the China War, ~~eliminate~~

culminating in savagry and destruction.

The Japanese tell us of - a serpent column. They have

^{out there in the Far East,} picturesque names ~~in that China War,~~ picturesque oriental imagery.

That serpent column is so called because it uses the strategy of

sliding in, something like the wrigling in of a snake. The

Japanese report that they have reached a point threatening an

important Chinese railroad junction forty-five miles south of

Hankow. And this they say is doing ^{to the} ~~to the serpent column~~ ^{of the} ~~with its~~
serpent column, which ^{slide} ~~goes~~ its way between strong Chinese positions.

SHIPWRECK

The terror of shipwreck is echoed from eastern seas.

A passenger motorship with forty persons aboard, caught in a

typhoon off the island of Cebu. That's in the southern

Philippines, where the typhoon so often rages. The ship is

reported ^{to have sunk,} ~~lost~~ Her forty passengers and crew took to the

lifeboats. Thirteen lives reported lost - and it seems a miracle

that there should be any survivors, with the lifeboats braving

the boiling sea in the midst of a typhoon.

BASEBALL

Baseball conditions for the opening of the World Series will be reasonably fair, a bit coolish, and exceedingly right-handed.

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The fair and cool part of it comes from the United States weather forecaster, who tells about the first two days. ^{tomorrow, in Chicago -} Wednesday will be a bit cloudy but on Thursday the skies will be serenely bright.

The breeze will be a bit chilly - so ^{wear} ~~bring~~ a topcoat, says the weather-man.

The right-handed condition is the ^{joint} ~~start~~ contribution of Managers Gabby Hartnett and Joe McCarthy. Gabby has picked Big Bill Lee for his starting pitcher, and Big Bill is so excessively right-handed that he only uses his left to put a glove on and look like a baseball player. Joe McCarthy announces that his starting choice is Charlie Red Ruffing. Red is as right-handed as Big Bill. It had been surmised that the Yankee Manager would prefer Lefty Gomez, but McCarthy explains he doesn't want to start a left-hander against the Chicago line-up of all ^{those} ~~the~~ right-hand hitters "who make conditions more right-handed than ever."

Cub Manager Hartnett insists that he'll do the Cub

catching tomorrow - although his own right hand isn't so good.

He hurt two fingers a couple of days ago, ripping off a finger-nail.

Today he went out for practice, and promptly hurt those two fingers

all over again - all of which gives him a banged up right hand,

~~which is~~ his throwing ^{dulse.} ~~hand~~ But he says he'll be in there tomorrow,

doing the catching. He may be right, because everything seems to be

right in this evening's baseball news.

JEWELS

We have two stories of recovered jewels tonight. One was the fifty thousand dollars worth stolen from baritone Lawrence Tibbett, aboard a steamship. At San Pedro, California the G-men announced today that they had recovered twenty thousand dollars worth. Will they get the rest? And did they get the robbers? We can't say because the F.B.I. refuses any further information -- saying that it would be untimely, wouldn't help matters.

From Laredo, Texas comes a cop and robber story ~~that~~ with an implication of old and tragic romance. Maximillian, the ill-fated emperor of Mexico and his even more unfortunate Empress -- Carlotta, who survived for long mad years always expecting her doomed husband to return. A Mexican was arrested at Laredo, Texas today and in his possession they found a horde of jewels stolen from the ~~Maximillian~~ Mexican National Museum a month ago; ~~They were~~ jewels filched from the Maximillian collection, gems that had once adorned the beautiful Empress Carlotta.

How was the theft accomplished? Quite simply. The prisoner tells how he went into the museum, hid himself for the night, ~~plundered~~ plundered the Maximillian jewel collection, and in the morning when the museum opened again he just walked out with the loot.

ROBBERS

In North Carolina, capital punishment is inflicted by means of the lethal gas chamber. ^{and} that was the thought which horrified Lula, the daughter of the town jailor ^{at Lexington.} In one cell of her father's jail were two young desperadoes, James Godwin and William Wilson. Godwin was charged with first degree burglary, and if he were convicted, he might be sentenced to the lethal gas chamber, according to North Carolina law. Lula, eighteen years old, blond and sympathetic, thought of this with terror. Godwin was so young and personable.

58/ The news dispatch does ^{not} give us the psychological details, whether Lula spoke to Godwin and whether he enlarged upon the dreadful doom that he might possibly face, whether he talked ^{and exaggerated} ~~up~~ the likelihood of his being placed in the lethal gas chamber. Only the simple fact is related - that in the absence of her father, Lula took her father's key to the jail cells and also her father's pistol, and gave them to Godwin and his

Whereupon cellmate Wilson. ~~and~~ they escaped. ^{Today Lula's pappy locked her up.} maybe in the same cell the robbers had. ~~She~~ Today Lula confessed this to her father and the

58 1/2 ~~and~~ sheriff. ~~She~~ said simply: "I just couldn't stand the thought

of Godwin going to the gas chamber." And she said one other thing that resounds tonight with bitter irony. "He promised me faithfully," she wailed, "that he wouldn't get into any more trouble."

How the promise was kept is the late news from North Carolina. The police attribute to the pair a veritable crime wave that broke out today - crimes of desperate escape, hold-ups and murder. The fugitive outlaws, trying to steal an automobile ^{and} kill ^{ed} a man.

And now indeed they do face the probability of the lethal chamber when they are caught - all because of the ~~sympathetic pity of~~ ^{kind-hearted} Lula, the jailor's daughter, who in her ^{sympathetic} ~~sympathetic~~ pity turned loose a crime wave. —

And s-l-u-t-m.