

L.J. - Sunoco. Friday, Jan. 8, 1943.

Today's news <sup>of course</sup> brought pleasure driving reports from <sup>all</sup> sections <sup>that is</sup> throughout the seventeen restricted states along the Atlantic coast. <sup>Here in New York</sup> ~~New York, for example.~~

~~Until yesterday, you'd always see a steady stream of passenger automobiles along the broad avenues leading to the big town. Today, there were mighty few. In the city, <sup>for example,</sup> ~~itself,~~ buses, taxicabs and trucks were virtually the only traffic. Last night, the traditional limousines were missing at the Metropolitan Opera House.~~

<sup>Today</sup> ~~At~~ various places of amusement, police were stationed to take the license numbers of passenger cars.

At Rochester, New York, agents of the Office of Price Administration went among the audience at a concert by the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. The agents picked up people who had come in cars, and confiscated the gasoline rationing books of some and marked down the automobile license numbers of others.

At Bu~~ff~~alo, the police stopped more than three hundred motorists, questioned them and marked down license numbers where trips by the automobile driver<sup>s</sup> seemed to be unessential.

Massachusetts reports that its highways were virtually deserted today. In Boston, the case of one ~~parking~~ parking lot was typical. Until yesterday, they usually had about two hundred cars parked, but today there were only two.

~~In the skiing country of New England, few skiers were seen sliding down the snow slopes today. The winter sports resorts not easily reached by train or bus, were hit the hardest.~~

Reports from the South show <sup>some</sup> three hundred alleged cases of forbidden pleasure driving in North Carolina. <sup>TP</sup> The O.P.A. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Regional Office at Atlanta, Georgia, reveals that four hundred and fifty spotters are on the

job in the southeastern states - checking up on passenger cars.

The pleasure driving dispatches include the mention of one automobile trip that was not pleasure at all - unless you consider talking on the radio an ecstatic delight. I don't know how the cop in Boston would have figured it - he didn't get a chance after the explanation he got.

A radio performer was driving in his car to the broadcasting studio, when he was stopped by a cop who was checking on pleasure drivers.

"Where are you going?" demanded the officer of the law.

"To work," responded the radio wisecracker, and he added: "I'm an oratorical engineer."

"Go ahead," said the cop, who apparently felt that "oratorical" was some kind of radio mechanism

SOCIAL SECURITY

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Well, Congress is going to get word from the White House about a great program for Social Security - freedom from want. Security which the presidential message to Congress characterized in the following words, "from the cradle to the grave."

At today's ~~White House~~ news conference, President Roosevelt stated that he will submit to Congress information and data on the subject - "facts," said he ~~with~~ emphasis. Upon receiving those facts, it will be up to Congress to work out a plan <sup>for</sup> ~~to~~ expanded the social security - freedom from want.

~~Asked whether this was a controversial issue, the President stated that there was no controversy as to the objective to be attained, but there were differences of opinion about the method.~~

## TAXES

President Roosevelt today had something to say about the plan for pay-as-you-go incometax. The Ruml Plan - which proposes to deduct taxation from income as it is earned, ~~tax money taken out of wages as these are paid to employees.~~ The scheme would involve the cancellation of one year of taxes - because if you were paying last year's taxation this year, and also this year's taxes this year, you'd be paying double. Would the cancellation of a year of taxes deprive the Treasury of that much money? Not at all, argues Tax Expert Ruml - and he explains the cancellation would be theoretical, with the Treasury merely collecting this year's money instead of last year's.

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President Roosevelt stated today that he was in favor of the pay-as-you-go tax idea, but added that the cancellation of a year of taxation would involve serious problems. He admitted it would be a good idea

to have people pay their income taxes when they earn the income. <sup>Then</sup> ~~Maybe~~ they wouldn't have the difficulty of accumulating money to pay the income tax bill when

<sup>For as we all know it's</sup> it fell due. ~~It is~~ hard to save the cash. And,

moreover, if you pay it as you earn it, you don't ~~xxxxx~~ spend it. However, the cancellation of a year of taxes would cost the Treasury money - the President contended.

*TP* He was asked - "How?" There were a series of complicated questions. One concerned the case of income taxes to be deducted from estates at the death of a taxpayer. The President refused to go into all the intricate complications. He threw up his hands - an eloquent gesture to express how intricate and complicated the whole thing is.

MESSAGE

Here is something that was not in yesterday's presidential message, but should have been. In giving figures on American production, President Roosevelt should have stated: "In Nineteen Forty-Two, we built eight million, ninety thousand tons of merchant shipping. In this we exceeded the goal set," he should have said. <sup>TP</sup> Why didn't he? In a news conference today he explained that it was left out of the typed copy of the message - a slip by the typists. There was plenty of typing - there were many drafts of the message to Congress, as it was changed, cut and <sup>edited to,</sup> ~~added,~~ There was one version after another, and in the ninth draft the typists dropped out the line about our production of merchant shipping, *and nobody noticed the absence of it.*

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N.Y.A.

An economy blast was fired at the National Youth Administration today. A joint congressional economy committee is investigating the case of the N.Y.A., that New Deal agency which was created during the depression to give help and training to youth. Senator Byrd of Virginia gave some figures to support the contention that <sup>now,</sup>~~today,~~ in wartime, the Youth Administration is a wasteful extravagance.

In fourteen states there ~~were~~ seven thousand, eight hundred and ten N.Y.A. training ~~stations,~~ <sup>stations,</sup> ~~xxxxxxx~~, in which only five thousand, six hundred and eighty-five youths ~~were~~ registered to get training. In ~~Wisconsin,~~ for example, there are two thousand, eight hundred and seventy-six ~~xxxxxx~~ stations, and only one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six students. In thirty-seven states, there are more than seventeen thousand N.Y.A. stations that are not in use at all. In other words,

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the Senator sought to picture a huge organization, which is being put to mighty little use.

N.Y.A. Director Aubrey Williams gave testimony defending his agency. ~~He indicated that some~~  
~~xxxx youth administration stations were active and~~  
~~some were inactive. In Wisconsin many stations were~~  
~~established in vocational schools, said he, and school~~  
~~facilities were used. As for the inactive stations,~~  
~~the N.Y.A. equipment~~<sup>he said</sup> ~~is either in warehouses or has~~  
~~been loaned to war agencies.~~

Aubrey Williams argued that the N.Y.A. should be kept going, because it would be useful after the war. ~~He said that, as an experienced agency, it would be~~  
~~valuable in dealing with post war unemployment.~~

REGIMENTATION

A startling statement was made at Denver, Colorado, today. The speaker was Governor Carr, who is retiring from office. He told the joint<sup>t</sup> session of the State Legislature that there is inexistence a plan to remodel the United States on a dictatorial and regional basis. He said that in Washington, surveys are being made for a scheme to regulate the nation's physical resources - and to control industry, farming, education - and our lives, said Governor Carr. He ~~contended that the plan was really to establish government control over everything.~~ He said the country is being divided into regions, and these would amount to what he called "regional dictatorships."

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The Colorado Governor characterized the scheme in these words: "The most violent attack upon the American constitutional <sup>system</sup> ~~life~~ that has ever been made." When it is <sup>published</sup> ~~made public~~, it will shock the entire nation and will, "in the Governor's words, "develop the

bitterest issue that the American people have encountered since slavery." He added that the plan for what he described as regional dictatorships, will be released within six months - "unless something intervenes," said he.

FLYNN

President Roosevelt has appointed Edward J. Flynn Ambassador to Australia, <sup>and</sup> personal representative of the President. ~~there~~. Flynn, long time political leader of the Democratic organization in the Bronx, managed President Roosevelt's last campaign for the presidency and is Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. He will resign his chairmanship to go as ambassador and presidential representative in Australia.

HOPKINS

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Today there were vigorous denials of the story that Lord Beaverbrook gave an immensely valuable wedding present of emeralds to Mrs. Harry Hopkins. There is talk about congressional inquiry into the subject. - Harry Hopkins at the time of his wedding was Lend-Lease expeditor and Lord Beaverbrook was then British Minister of Supplies - on the receiving end of Lend-Lease.

Today in Washington Mrs. Harry Hopkins stated:

"Baloney. I don't even own an emerald. It's a lie."

In London, Lord Beaverbrook said: "It 'is all nonsense. The story is pure fabrication from the first to last word. But," he added, "the Germans will like it."

President Roosevelt today added some comment to the <sup>views</sup> ~~news~~ about the duration of the war that he expressed in his message to Congress yesterday. He was asked about the possibility of the war ending in Nineteen Forty-Four - by the end of next year. <sup>And</sup> He said Yes, he hoped ~~that~~ this would be the case, but <sup>that</sup> it was no more than a hope. He added that <sup>"quick victory was"</sup> ~~it was~~

<sup>a</sup> ~~possibility~~", but he refused to expatiate on how possible that possibility was.

The President's tone was one of caution - and that fits in with official Washington opinions about too much optimism. They say a wave of over-confidence has swept over the country - talk about a quick ending of the war, victory in a hurry. (~~Government officials feel that this is decidedly a bad thing.~~) The optimism is excessive, and ~~it~~ hurts public morale.

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(~~People feel that, if the war is going to end so soon -~~

FLAG

At Henderson Field, on the island of Guadalcanal, they have lowered the flag. They hauled down the Stars and Stripes - and then went ahead fighting the Japs harder than ever. It came hard for the marines and army soldiers out there to see their colors ~~when they~~ fluttered down from the flagpole. ~~ixxxxxxxx~~ They had been flying there day and night, ever since the first marine landed on the island - four and a half months ago. But now it was a part of military strategy to lower the flag.

When the flying field was captured from the Japs, one of the first things the leathernecks did was to put up a flag pole - and hoist Old Glory. The flagpole was hastily made, hewn roughly out of a length of timber, and after a while the flag was ~~xxxxxxx~~ weather worn and tattered. It was bombed by hundreds of Japanese planes. In the early Guadalcanal days,

when enemy air power was hitting hard, the Japs in their daily air raids concentrated on the flag. *Also* It was shelled ~~by night~~ ~~at night~~ by submarines, and Japanese battleships hurled giant fourteen inch projectiles at it.

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The flag came ~~xxxx~~ to be a symbol for our fighting men. They felt that everything would be all right - so long as the Stars and Stripes were flying at the top of the Henderson Field flagpole.

Recently, however, the commanding officers became <sup>aware</sup> ~~weary~~ that the flag was being used by the enemy for range finding and for sighting bombs. So they had it hauled down.

A storied flag it is, and probably in the course of time will be taken to Marine Corps Barracks at Quantico, Virginia, and placed with the many other trophies of famous Marine Corps battles.

PACIFIC

Today's Navy bulletin tells of more bombings of those two much bombed places -- Kiska in the Aleutians and Munda in the Solomons. <sup>TH</sup> In New Guinea waters United Nations air power smashed up a big Jap convoy -- two transports sunk and another damaged. Allied planes are still hitting at the remnants of the convoy.

China reports the sinking of two Jap transports by American submarines. They were sent to the bottom three hundred miles off China. And the Chinese say that of a thousand troops aboard only forty-two were rescued.

## AFRICA

The war news from North Africa today tells of the defeat of an Italian force that was trying to ~~gain~~ get from Tripoli into Tunisia -- to join the Axis defenders there. They were near the border of Tunisia, <sup>when</sup> and they were intercepted by a French Camel Corps. Sharp fighting ensued from which only a hundred and fifty of four hundred Fascist soldiers escaped.

Things ~~were~~ quiet in Tunisia, while in Lybia there are indications that Rommel's ~~Nazi-North~~ Afrika Korps is preparing to abandon their positions at Zem Zem where it was believed they would make a stand.

Apparently Rommel is preparing to withdraw, because Allied war planes spotted and bombed ~~ex~~ heavy columns moving back toward Tripoli. One line of trucks that they hit was only forty miles east of Tripoli. <sup>TP</sup> Enemy

~~sources indicate that a battle is going on in <sup>Lybia,</sup> Tripoli, which suggests that General Montgomery's Eighth Army has renewed its drive against the Germans. Allied headquarters, however, make no mention of this.~~

RUSSIA

Soviet Russia announces new advances in the Caucasus. Red Army forces have captured the railroad town of Zimovniki, which is thirty-five miles southwest of the important city of Kotelnikovski -- which the Soviets took from the Germans previously.

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The Russians are now only sixty miles from Rostov. They are driving toward the key of the Caucasus from two directions, north and east. Moscow reports that the situation of the German Army in the Caucasus is desperate, the trap closing in on them.

SEA BATTLE

The sea battle reported by London today was a fantastic Arctic affair. A big convoy was on its way to Soviet Russia, and German warships attacked it. *They* ~~They~~ <sup>struck with</sup> ~~included~~ large naval units - perhaps one of the Nazi pocket battleships.

The weather was abominable, the long Arctic darkness, extreme cold, snow, ice, fog. The Germans launched four attacks, which were beaten off. During the last one, British naval reinforcements arrived on the scene, and the Nazi warships beat a quick retreat. One British destroyer was sunk, <sup>and</sup> another was damaged in the northern fantasy of war. The Germans lost a ~~destroyer~~ destroyer - as they have <sup>previously</sup> ~~previously~~ announced, ~~and~~ London tells us today that all the cargo ships of the convoy got through to a Soviet port.

GERMAN PAPERS

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In a New York court today there was a disclosure of the way the Nazis tried to take over the German language newspapers in the United States. This way back in the early days of Hitler. The Government is taking action to revoke the citizenship of twenty members of the German-American Bund <sup>including Fritz Kuhn,</sup> on the grounds that as Nazis their real loyalty was, not to Uncle Sam, but to Hitler. Various witnesses have appeared to show how the Nazis were operating in the United States, and today testimony was given by Victor Ridder, publisher of the NEW YORK STAATS-ZEITUNG, one of the oldest and best known of <sup>our</sup> German language newspapers. ~~in this country.~~

Back in Nineteen Thirty-Three, shortly after Hitler took power, a Nazi named Spanknoebel <sup>a representative of Schickselgruber,</sup> came to the United States to found a pro-Hitler organization that was the predecessor of the German-American Bund. This Spanknoebel went to the office of the STAATS-ZEITUNG

and saw Publisher Ridder. He showed Ridder his Nazi credentials and informed him that he was taking control of German language newspapers in the United States.

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"From now on," he informed the publisher, "you will not be permitted to publish pro-Jewish articles in your paper."

Ridder responded by asking what would happen if he went to Germany and announced that on the authority of the United States, he was taking control of the Nazi newspapers. Suppose he told them they could no longer print anti-Jewish articles.

*Schickelgruber's representative*  
"Why that is unthinkable," replied Spanknoebel.

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Victor Ridder said today that at this point his brother Bernard Ridder walked in the office, and Victor introduced Spanknoebel to Bernard in these words: "Our new boss." Bernard Ridder looked in bewilderment, then when the whole thing was explained to him, he

turned to the Nazi emissary and said: "All I can say to you, Spanknoebel, is - get the devil out of here and stay out!"

So Schickelgruber is Spanknoebel  
~~So the Nazi~~ got out, and stayed out.

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And, now, Hugh, come in!