

L. T. Sumoco, Mon., Oct. 19, 1936

Where are the Presidential candidates tonight? Governor Landon's campaign special is rolling through New Mexico to the refrain of "California here I come."

A spectacular move in the most bitterly fought campaign in a quarter of a century. Governor Landon is invading territory which President Roosevelt evidently considers so safe for Democracy that he's not even going near it. The closest he went to the Pacific Coast was Cheyenne, Wyoming. California has been Democratic ever since those dramatic last moments in November 1916. Until those crucial returns from the Golden Gate came in everybody thought Ex-Justice Charles Evan Hughes was the next president of the United States. Many of you will remember how California put Woodrow Wilson back in power. - California and Hiram Johnson. Now the Republicans are convinced that an appearance by the Kansas governor in Los Angeles will give him such a majority in Southern California that the Golden State will return to the Republican fold.

From the back platform of his train as it stopped in Albuquerque, Mr. Landon took occasion to issue a challenge to Mr. Roosevelt. "The country demands to know," said Mr. Landon,

"whether it's your intention to revive and perpetuate the N.R.A., whether we like it or not." And then he added:- "The President must tell us specifically whether the views of his son James as expressed in Gardner, Massachusetts, are his own." And that put the finger on what James Roosevelt said over the weekend about changing the constitution and reviving the N. R. A.

The President meanwhile had a day crammed full of business at the White House. With one hand he had to attend to the volume of affairs of State that piled up while he was touring the West. With the other hand he was making plans for his oratorical dash into New England. While his rival is invading territory considered safe for the Democrats the President is carrying the fight into the region which the Republicans claim as entirely their own. Mr. Roosevelt will leave for Rhode Island tomorrow. From there ~~in~~ he goes to Connecticut and Massachusetts.

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As he expects to make a whirling tour of Pennsylvania, parts of Ohio and Indiana next week he will be on the stump until right up to the election.

SUPREME COURT

One of the first dramatic measures of the New Deal was the so-called "Truth ~~and~~ Securities Act". It was the new law designed to compel promoters to tell all when they floated new ~~issues~~ of stock. This was also one of the first measures to be attacked. The standard bearer of the ~~attack~~ ^{assault} was a Wall Street broker, ~~MA~~ J. Edward Jones. For a couple of years now,

Broker

~~MA~~ Jones has been at loggerheads with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Not in so many words, but in effect, Mr. Jones told the Commission to go jump into the river. The Commission didn't feel like doing it, so they've been arguing it out in the courts. [¶] The first engagement was a victory for

Broker

~~MA~~ Jones. The Commission had summoned him to appear and tell them all about a certain issue of securities that he had floated. Mr. Jones ~~incidentally had~~ ^{drawn} his registration of ~~that~~ ^{the stock}

— pulled it out.

~~issue~~ with the Commission. Nevertheless, said the Commission, "We'd like you to tell us all about it." Said Mr. Jones:

"I'll be hanged if I do." It went all the way up ~~to~~ the courts, reaching finally the highest tribunal. Last spring the Supreme Court in a six-to-three opinion said ~~MA~~ ^{Broker} Jones did not have to

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testify since he had withdrawn the registration of the stock in question. But the justices didn't say whether or not they thought the Act was constitutional. All in all, it was considered a defeat for the Commission.

Today, ~~he~~ J. Edward Jones appeared before the Supreme Court again. ~~Stripped of legal technicalities, he asked the Court to say that the Commission had no authority to compel him to register securities.~~ The Commission had obtained an injunction in the lower court forbidding Mr. Jones and his employees from using the mails to sell securities that were not registered. Mr. Jones wanted that injunction dissolved. In the lower courts, the S.E.C. won all along the line. The Supreme Court today merely declined to review the case. So Mr. Jones and the S.E.C. are now what you might call "Even Steven." However, there's one thing to be noted. The highest tribunal has not yet expressed an opinion whether or not the "Truth ~~and~~ ⁱⁿ Securities Act" is constitutional. That's a question which may come up later.

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Another ruling in Washington concerns the much vexed elect^{ric}~~ion~~ power question in the south. Two southern utilities companies have protested against the Government's granting loans to municipalities to help them establish publicly owned electric systems in Texas and Alabama. The District Court dismissed the appeal of the utilities companies for an injunction. So they applied to the Supreme Court for a review of the case. The nine justices made no decision but declined to pass on it until it has come before the Circuit Court of Appeals. In other words, it will not go over the head of the Court of Appeals. An interesting fact in this litigation is that the attorney for those southern utilities companies is ~~who was~~ Newton D. Baker, *who was* President Wilson's Secretary of War.

If you deal with chain stores or own chain store stocks, another of today's Supreme Court rulings will interest you. The State of Colorado has a law regulating the operation of lunch counters in drug stores and in the Five and Ten. This was attacked by the chain stores as unconstitutional. The federal court in Colorado dismissed the action and today the Supreme Court

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declines to review the proceedings.

But there's a point of more general interest in a case that comes all the way from Oregon. That's one of the states which has a law against criminal syndicalism. Under that law, a prominent west coast Communist was arrested, convicted, and sentenced to seven years in the state prison. He appealed, claiming that the statute against criminal syndicalism violates the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, which provides for free speech and free assembly. Also, the Fourteenth Amendment, since he had been deprived of his liberty without due process of law. The Supreme Court of Oregon upheld the law.

And that's the decision which the United States Supreme Court ~~now~~ *agrees to consider. Surely* ~~will consider. It's~~ a question of considerable political moment.

~~German terminology are called "Marxists."~~

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Whatever you call them, the defenders of Madrid have ~~precious~~ little to encourage them today. There's no question about the capture of Oviedo by the Rebels, the ^{final} routing of the Asturian miners who maintained that desperate three months' siege of the city. The defense of Oviedo by the Rebel garrison is being hailed today as second only to the defense of the Toledo Alcazar.

Around Madrid, the government militia stands almost literally with its back to the wall. They are now holding the last line of defense outside the city itself. The onslaught of General Franco's Rebel army is comparable to that of an irresistible machine, moving gradually but inexorably over its opponents.

The latest action of the Madrid government recalls that of the French in Nineteen Fourteen, when the army defending Paris was rushed to the front in taxicabs, to turn the vast German tide at the Battle of the Marne. In Madrid today taxicabs are

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also being mobilized. For some time the government has been using big double deck buses to carry reinforcements to the front. The cabs are being held in reserve as a last resource. ~~†~~ The members of every union in the capital have been notified by their leaders to hold themselves in readiness for a final desperate defense.

SPAIN

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Some time ago I mentioned that an American aircraft factory was being established on English soil to manufacture Vincent Burnelli all-wing monoplanes for the British government. So I was interested to learn last night that John Bull is heavily in the market for planes of American manufacture. But what interested me a little bit more was the source of the information. It came from Germany. It came in a short wave news broadcast. Officially, it was sponsored by the Hitler Youth Organization. In other words, it was an official message coming through government sponsored sources, in a broadcast directed specifically and avowedly for American and Canadian listeners.

~~That same German news broadcast dwelt with much gusto on the latest advices from Spain, the increasing triumphs of the Rebel forces. And it was interesting to note that the Germans describe the Rebels as "Spanish Nationalists." As the German Fascisti call themselves "National Socialists," the kinship and sympathy is thus openly avowed. The government forces in~~

DISASTERS

From three parts of the world come stories of disaster, earthquake, storm and fire. In northern Italy, terror stalks ~~abroad~~ abroad while fresh temblors continue to shake the countryside.

In one region almost the entire population is camping in the open.

Walls are tumbling, houses ~~crashing to the ground~~ ^{collapsing.} In one crash alone, seven members of one family died, seven out of eight.

TP Communications are interrupted, a great power house crippled.

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The worst of the terror today seemed to be centered at Vittorio in northern Italy. It's there that Italy won a great victory over Austrian troops in Nineteen Eighteen. Today, the countryside trembles while the earth continues to shake. Virtually every house in that town has suffered. Several streets are impassably blocked, masonry tumbling, timbers crashing to earth. In all the afflicted territory, laborers reinforced by Fascist militia, are working ^{with} might and main ~~in~~ to rescue the distressed and to restore order.

From further south comes a story of terror that might have been far worse. There's nothing more awful and terrifying than

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a fire at sea. So the port of Palermo in Sicily was convulsed with news that flames had broken out aboard the motor-ship VULCANIA, one of the star luxury vessels of Italy's mercantile marine. The VULCANIA, on her way to New York, was only forty-five miles out of Naples, when the air over the Mediterranean crackled to the sounds of a call for help. The flames had broken out in the third class quarters. The call for help brought several vessels to the rescue. Every seaport on the Mediterranean was agog with the news. For two hours the flames raged. But the crew put them out unaided, just as a torpedo boat destroyer, two fire boats, a Trans-Atlantic liner and two freighters reached her side, ready to render aid. When the VULCANIA reached Palermo, it was learned that four of the crew had perished. One of them, a musician, jumped overboard in ^{leap}~~terror~~ and was drowned.

The fire has given rise to an investigation by the authorities. The ~~eruption~~ eruption of those flames ^{so}~~xxx~~ soon after the VULCANIA had left Naples, has aroused the suspicion that this mysterious blaze may have been started by a fire-bug.

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The storm tragedy occurred right at our own doors, in our own waters. Nineteen of the crew of that Canadian sand-sucker are at the bottom of icy Lake Erie. Only seven out of twenty-six survived to tell a harrowing tale of suffering. In that furious gale, the ship overturned, absolutely -- without warning. So says the Captain who is one of the rescued. "It was the most terrible night you could possibly imagine," he declares. "I had given the signal to man the boats and at that identical moment a fresh blast hit us and we capsized like a flash!"

That's the second major disaster on the Great Lakes this season.

EKINS

Just about forty years ago, a famous character created a sensation by going around the world in eighty days. He was, of course, an imaginary character, but old Phileas Fogg has been discussed every since as though he had been a real living person. One description of his creator, Jules Verne, reads: "He cleverly exaggerated the possibilities of science." That is the way highbrow literary critics used to put Jules Verne in his place. It might be fun one of these days to take a few hours off and enumerate the number of Jules Verne's so-called exaggerations which have not merely come true but been far surpassed, some of them even in his lifetime. As a matter of fact, he didn't die until two years after those history-making experiments of the Wright brothers at Kittyhawk, North Carolina.

As for his "Around the World in Eighty Days", the phrase now is, "around the world in eighteen days!" And today it's no piece of ingenious literary imagination. Bud Ekins of the NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM and Scripps-Howard papers, finished his exploit shortly before noon, today. His actual ~~days~~ elapsed

routes.

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time from the minute he left the World Telegram Building on the evening of September Thirtieth, to the minute he returned today, was eighteen days, fourteen hours, fifty-six minutes, fifty-seven seconds. At the moment of his return he was ten thousand miles ahead of his rivals. Leo Kieran of the NEW YORK TIMES and North American Newspaper Alliance and Dorothy Kilgallen of the EVENING JOURNAL and Universal News Service, are still waiting in Manila for the tail end of the typhoon to die down and let the CHINA CLIPPER take off for Guam, Wake Island, Honolulu, and the U.S.A. They'll be along by and by.

One of the outstanding things about his journey is that anybody who has a mind to, and five thousand dollars to spare, can follow in his footsteps.

LORD MAYOR

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In London there is a most stately and dignified personage who right ~~ix~~ now is officially - non-existent. His name is Sir George Broadbridge, which sounds substantial enough. Nevertheless, Sir George Broadbridge is officially in a condition of non-being. He got that ^{way} ~~was~~ when he was elected Lord Mayor. ~~For~~ ^{But}, although elected, he is not Lord Mayor - he is non-existent.

That sounds a bit complicated, but it works out this way:-

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According to those venerable traditions which the British cherish ^{from the lowliest commoner almost to the King,} so highly, [^] Sir George Broadbridge, with ~~all sorts of~~ stately ceremony, was chosen to be London's next Lord Mayor - succeeding Sir Percy Vincent. But Sir George won't take office until November ninth. Meanwhile, Sir Percy ^{ival} rounds out his term in a blaze of festivity. Tradition makes it exceedingly bad form for Sir George to be seen any place where Sir Percy is present. I suppose the ^{sight} ~~appearance~~ of the coming Lord Mayor would diminish the dignity of the ^{passing Lord Mayor. What? So} ~~one who is passing out~~. Now, as Sir Percy attends a round of public entertainments, Sir George is not permitted to be at any of them. As Sir Percy is seen everywhere,

it follows that Sir George is seen nowhere. He is in seclusion,
for all public purposes - non-existent, *and all that sort of*
things

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This will continue until November Ninth, when he will
blossom forth in full splendid reality - at his induction
as the new Lord Mayor, with an elaborate parade and with the
ancient ritual of the Lord Mayor's banquet.

But meanwhile, Sir George Broddbridge may be broad,
if not a bridge - but he is non-existent. And I better make myself
non-existent, and -

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SO LONG UNTIL ~~MONDAY~~ *tomorrow* .