

RUSSIA

L.J. - Sumner. Tues., Aug. 27/35.

Answer  
N.B.

Here are a few words <sup>that are</sup> ~~which it is~~ pertinent to read. They go like this: "Your note of August twenty-fifth contains no facts that could be regarded as a violation on the part of the Soviet Government of its obligations." That communication was received today by American Ambassador Bullitt in Moscow, from Under-Commissar of Foreign Affairs, Krestinsky. The diplomatic missive continues by saying that the Soviet Government cannot assume obligations as regards the Communist Internationale. And the Under-Commissar concludes: "I cannot accept your protest and I am compelled to reject it." *Redundant, yet succinct!*

The explanation about the Communist Internationale goes back to Moscow's old position, that the Soviet Government is one thing, and the world revolutionary organization is another. That's the position the rest of the world does not accept. The set-up is this way: ~~Other~~ - the Communist Party in Russia runs the government. It also controls the <sup>Commintern-</sup> ~~commonly termed~~ The Communist Internationale. So you can say on the one hand that the government and the Internationale are separate things, and on the other hand you can say that they are both part of one and the same thing.

But in any case the Kremlin definitely turns down the protest of the American Government. <sup>Washington</sup> ~~We~~ pointed to the big Communist gathering in Moscow, which talked up ~~revolutionary~~ revolution all over the world <sup>including</sup> ~~and in~~ the United States, and declared the red radical schemes propounded were a violation of the Soviet pledge ~~to~~ not to try to stir up trouble <sup>over here.</sup> ~~in the United States.~~ Russia now replies - no violation.

The protest by Washington was so strongly worded, that it raised the instant surmise that we might break off diplomatic relations with the Red Kremlin and withdraw our recognition of the Soviet government. Now, the Moscow denial is just as decisive. What's the answer?

47  
The Russian Ambassador said that we have anti-Soviet agitation. True enough. But, it's over here. We don't foster agitation in Russia.



CONGRESS

Political wiseacres today were pointing out some of the wider political angles of Huey Long's filibuster last night - when the Kingfish defied all his colleagues by talking the Deficiency Bill to death, ~~and~~ <sup>ing</sup> caused Congress to adjourn without having adopted that most important appropriation.

The Kingfish is up for election in January. Not only that, two of his arch opponents in the Democratic ranks will appeal to the voters next year, Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi and Senator Joe Robinson of Arkansas. They're going to campaign against the Kingfish in his <sup>own balliwicks. And</sup> ~~election~~. He is going to campaign against them in theirs. Which means that Huey faces political death on one side and on the other is going to make a bid for Arkansas and Mississippi. If he should prevail in those two states, it would give him quite a block of strength for his Share-the-Wealth campaign in the ~~United~~ <sup>United</sup> nation.

That's why the issue was drawn so tense while Huey filibustered. That was the drama of it. He was beating the bill <sup>that was</sup> to give the President ~~the money~~ <sup>money</sup> current expenses with which to launch his recent projects, chief among them the Social Security <sup>plan.</sup>

48

The forces of labor were against him. Powerful labor organizations appealed to him not to block the money for the Social Program. But Huey chose to defy labor. He was fighting for action on those proposals to lend money to the cotton and wheat farmers. Between labor support and farm support, he chose the farm -- his old followers. He took his stand to the bitter end as the farmers's friend. He talked on. Congress was scheduled to adjourn at midnight; and, if he kept the floor long enough they would have quit without enacting the Deficiency Bill. And he talked it to death. So - as the champion of the farmer he'll go into the coming political battle, with Senators Harrison and Robinson trying to beat him in Louisiana, and with him trying to beat them in Mississippi and Arkansas.

Today they have been wondering what the Administration leaders will do without the money the Kingfish kept from them, how to launch the program without the cash. Not a dollar of all the giant relief money will be available for the Social Program. The President has been confering with his advisors and think some way will be found to get the money they need.

Anyhow Congress adjourned -- the Lower House singing and hoorahing.



## LAWS - FOLLOW CONGRESS

What did the 74th Congress do? Plenty. It passed a series of laws that combined importance, sensational news angles and intense factional bitterness. The most important was the one which did much to change the social fabric of the country. That is, the Social Security Act: unemployment insurance and old age pensions. A grandiose Federal stroke at the old-time terrors of the common man -- unemployment and penniless old age.

-----

The Wagner Labor Disputes Act was designed to reform the relations of Capital and Labor. It sets up a Labor Relations Board with wide powers in settling strikes.

-----

And the Guffey Coal Bill, which creates a little NRA in the coal industry, with extensive powers for the regulation of hours and wages, settling disagreements between the employers and the men.

-----

Under the heading of relief Congress gave the President some eight hundred million dollars for direct relief.

-----

And that giant Work Relief Bill of more than four billion.

Opposite that, there's the Tax Bill, with its tax-the-rich social angle, Huge imposts on high incomes and big inheritances.

Then the Banking Act which tends to centralize banking control in Washington. And the Railroad Pension Act and extensions and amendments in the alphabet agencies, NRA, AAA, and TVA. Also, our Neutrality Bill - which Europe is laughing about just now -- designed to keep us out of complications threatening from the Italian-Abyssinian dispute.

The most bitterly disputed of all was the Utilities Bill, which caused all sorts of fireworks. A savage struggle over the death sentence clause, and an investigation of the Lobby. The President won a half-a-loaf victory with a modified death sentence.

Such were the momentous doings of the 74th Congress which passes into history -- an historic session.



## MISSISSIPPI

People were voting in Mississippi today. (They weren't electing, just nominating. But you know how it is in the good *out* old solid South. There aren't enough Republican votes to make a contest. So "nominated" on the Democratic ticket always means "elected.")

Today's victor becomes Governor of Mississippi -- and, after one of the bitterest campaigns on record. Newspaper men call it the dirtiest personality vote-getting battle that Mississippi ever had. And right in the thick of it is Senator Bilbo, one of the free-hitting, rough-and-tumble political fighters of the day.

There is one stroke that Bilbo put over in this campaign which reminds us of the story they tell of a Bilbo stroke in another campaign. It's related that in the Hoover-Smith battle of 1928, Bilbo launched the following blow at Hoover. He made the statement that during the flood time in 1927, Herbert Hoover, then Secretary of Commerce, got off the flood relief train at Bayou, Mississippi, and on the station platform, danced with a negro woman. That was a shrewdly timed punch to the body. The Southern Hoover leaders were stumped. The story was losing them Southern white votes, but to deny it would have lost negro votes. They couldn't do anything about it.

2  
1  
The same Bilbo tactics were used in the Mississippi battle that ends today. Senator Bilbo supported Candidate Hugh White against Candidate Paul Johnson. He came out with a late declaration that Johnson was backed by Huey Long. That cost Johnson the votes of people who don't like the ~~Kingfish~~ Kingfish. But Johnson didn't dare ~~be~~ deny it, because that would have turned friends of the Kingfish against him. So he was in the middle. *And Bilbo was chortling on the side-lines.*



GARNER

I hope there'll be no diplomatic incident with Japan - as an outcome of the visit of the Congressional delegation to Tokio. The delegation will be headed by Vice-President Jack Garner. There's enough trouble these days, without the Vice-President taking any chance of getting us into a war with the Far Eastern Empire. So my advice to Mr. Garner is this: "Keep your shirt on, Jack, and take your shoes off."

The possibility of an international crisis was revealed by a report from the White House. The Vice-President was in conference with the President. Messrs. Garner and Roosevelt were discussing the statecraft of that visiting Congressional delegation. The lawmakers are to attend the inauguration of the new Philippine Government, created under the Independence Act, and are going to Japan to be received by the Nipponese Emperor. The discussion proceeded smoothly, until the President reminded the Vice-President of one thing - that it is the custom of the Japanese to take their shoes off when going into their houses. It's the polite, and respectable thing to do in old Nippon. So Mr. Roosevelt, as chief magistrate, told Mr. Garner that when he got to Japan he would have to take his shoes off on all ceremonial occasions. They say that

the Vice-President broke down and wept but didn't dare to defy the President to his face right there in the White House, but that later on he declared to his friends that he would not take his shoes off, that he would not appear in public in his bare tootsies, Japan or no Japan. So there's trouble on the diplomatic horizon, big trouble, two big troubles, two big vice-presidential feet.

It is to be said in defense of Texas Jack that he's a big man and has an ample foundation. Number twelve - maybe that's the size of shoe he wears. And when he takes 'em off in the locker room it's something to see. So naturally he doesn't want to appear at a royal and imperial reception with all that gaudy expanse of heel, instep and toes. However, it's the honorable custom in Japan. It would be an international incident indeed for the Vice-President of the U.S.A. to enter with a clumpity clump of brogans into one of those exquisite Japanese receptions, flowers all around. But, on the other hand, if the Vice-President were to take his shoes and socks off and walk in barefoot, to an audience with the Son of Heaven, the Emperor might take one look at Cactus



GARNER - 3

Jack's feet and instantly declare war. It looks like trouble either way, unless the Vice-President has an amputation performed at the ankles, or stays home.

WALKER

I guess we'll be seeing Jimmy Walker back on these fair shores pretty soon. The one-time-playboy-Mayor of New York, who glittered so brightly and passed out of the political picture so abruptly - has been saying that he'll return from Europe as soon as his income tax affairs are straightened out.

There seemed to be possibilities of proceedings against him, but today the answer is "No." The Department of Justice announces that it will not prosecute Jimmy Walker. The Attorney General's office has studied his income tax affairs and says it can find no ground for federal action.

What will Jimmy do when he comes back, make after-dinner speeches, wear a different suit of clothes every few hours, and always be late? From thatched cottage in England, to Broadway again - maybe.



HUSBAND

Now for a little domestic disturbances in the household of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Davis of Harlem. They're colored. The Davises had a disagreement, a regular fuss. And Mrs. Davis rushed out of the house. Mr. Davis sat meditating. He had a pretty shrewd notion what Mrs. Davis was

going to do - that she was on her way to the court to get a summons for him. He didn't mind her coming back with the summons. He could take care of that all right. But he suspected that she would be prudent enough to bring a policeman along with her.

56  
So Mr. Davis decided he'd fool her. He went over to the bed and grabbed some sheets, tore them up and began knotting them together, making a rope. He tied up a rope long enough to reach from the third floor window to the ground.

And sure enough, he was right. Presently he heard Mrs. Davis return. She was coming up the stairs, <sup>waving</sup> ~~laden with~~ a summons, and a big burly policeman was following her. So Mr. Davis grabbed his rope of sheets, ran to the window, tied one end of the rope, tossed the rest of it out, and started climbing down. He was about half way down, congratulating himself on his clever escape and saying no wife could ever fool him, ~~his wife leaning out of the window and hollering: "Hey, come back here,"~~ when it developed that his intelligence was greater than his knot-tying ability. The rope of sheets parted. And Mr. Davis fell the rest of the way to the ground.



He lay there moaning, a crowd gathering, when Mrs. Davis, still <sup>waving</sup>~~holding~~ the summons, came running out and tried to serve it on him. The police shooed her away until they found out how badly he was hurt. They were putting him in an ambulance when she tried to serve the summons on him again, but the doctors shooed her away. She went to the hospital, hoping to get him as he came out, but there she was told that Mr. Davis had a broken hip and it would be weeks before he'd be up and around again. So was she disappointed! Her husband certainly had put one over on her -- a regular triumph.

## ETHIOPIA

Italian-Ethiopian news tonight comes under three date lines - Paris, Addis Ababa and Bolzano.

Paris tells us that England has made a proposal to France. *Premier Laval has been talking to the British & Italian ambassadors.*

It is said on good authority that the British government has asked Premier Laval to join in what is called a "moral indictment" of Italy. "Moral indictment" was <sup>the</sup> a term used some time ago in reproaching Germany for rearming in violation of the Versailles Treaty. Such a policy is a declaration of immutable principles but not anything so dangerous as sanctions -- economic or military measures against Italy. It remains to be seen how France will take to the idea of joining Great Britain in putting the badge of guilt on Italy with a moral indictment - calling Mussolini a sinner, a war-maker. France seems inclined to ease things off by calling an Italian East African ~~campaign~~ <sup>scrap</sup> not a regular war but a colonial campaign. Empires regard their fighting in the colonies as something special. But London is against that bit of verbal jugglery and insists on regarding an Italian push against Ethiopia as a full fledged war, not a mere colonial campaign in its own back yard.



Addis Ababa. From the capital of the King of Kings we have a rumor that twelve thousand Somalis from the Italian provinces have flocked into Ethiopia, offering to fight for the Conquering Lion of Judah. They are said to be Somali soldiers deserting from the native regiments in the Italian colonies. The Ethiopian Government does not confirm the report, but it is said that the black troops in the Italian possessions are supporting the cause of the black kingdom. This bears on the whole problem of black and white. The Italian Somalis joining up with Ethiopia is taken as an indication of a hostile mass reaction among the blacks - a reaction against white aggression.

Bolzano. That's the center of the great Italian war maneuvers on the Alpine front. Mussolini has his headquarters there, and the report is that on Friday or Saturday the Duce will make a historic address. He will speak to the gigantic army that he has mobilized half a million men. What will he tell them? That's the question. They say it will be something of tremendous import. Perhaps it will be an announcement of the marching date in East Africa, a command to advance. Avanti! Perhaps. And it's avanti for me - marching orders for me, right now, and -- SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.