

RUSSIA

C.I. - Sumoco. Monday, Sept 14, 1942. *Cannon*

The war news from Stalingrad is indefinite tonight. The Nazi high command claimed^S that its divisions had^{ve} penetrated the fortifications on the outskirts of the city and stormed one of the heights overlooking the northwest suburb. At the same time, the communique admitted that the attacking German troops face particularly stiff resistance including artillery support.

As far ~~On the other hand,~~ the Russians^S are still confident. Radio Moscow declared^S that autumn has begun, the rains have set in, and the nights are cold. And -- Stalingrad still stands.

A summary of ~~the~~ German progress shows that Hitler's hordes this year have advanced four hundred miles to the east across the Steppes. They have also pushed two hundred miles into the Caucasus. They have captured one major city, Rostov, and a score of other

large and strategic ~~important~~ towns. They also have the Crimean fortress of Sevastopol, and the smallest, ~~and~~ *plus* least important of the Caucasus oil fields. ~~On the~~ *Which* ~~other hand, that oil field~~ was thoroughly and completely destroyed by the Russians before they gave it up.

Nazi
The offensive is now in its fourth month. In

that time, the Nazis have fought steadily day and night, hour after hour, with never a respite for the Russians.

and It is estimated that the Germans *have* lost well over seven hundred and fifty thousand men, killed; and probably a million wounded. That ~~is~~ according to Soviet figures.

and Allied observers consider that Hitler today is no closer to his chief objective than when he started. That objective *being* ~~is~~ the destruction of the Red Army, and Russia's power to resist. The Red Army still is in the

field, still intact. The Germans as well as the Russian communiques pay tribute to the amazing resilience of the Soviet fighting force.

RAIDS

Last night's Royal Air Force raids over the continent covered the widest area ^{yet.} ~~ever attempted.~~ They

^{ing} ~~Ranged~~ from Bremen in the North Sea, to Bulgaria, ~~in the~~

~~southeast. The big punch in the attack was landed on the~~

^{The} ~~old Hanseatic League~~ port of Bremen, ^{bore the brunt of it.} Between four and

^{nineteen were lost} five hundred bombers of the R.A.F. paid their hundredth

^{And According to} visit to Bremen, ~~and by~~ the wording of the Air Ministry

report they scored a century. ^{which} ~~That~~ is cricket talk,

the equivalent of saying that a man batted one thousand

ⁱⁿ ~~at a~~ baseball game. ^{TP} At the same time, the air force of

Soviet Russia sent a flight to the Rumanian oil fields

and set fire ^{s there.} ~~to one of the most important spots there.~~

~~At Bremen, the R.A.F. met with strong~~
~~resistance. Nineteen bombers failed to return.~~

British reconnaissance planes ^{flew over} ~~went to take a~~

~~look at~~ Dueseldorf where a thousand bombers dropped
loads of great ~~xxxxx~~ block busting bombs last Thursday.

The British photographers came home reporting that

Duesseldorf still was covered by a dense pall of smoke.

So dense
They were unable to take any photographs. *worth while* ~~revealing~~

JP
~~details.~~ But, they did find that many blocks of the

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City of Karlsruhe had been laid waste.

CONVOY

The enemy has been broadcasting stories of a great convoy battle in the Atlantic. The story was overheard coming from Radio Berlin. Later on, the Nazi high command broadcast another bulletin claiming that nineteen merchant ships had been sunk, totalling a hundred and twenty-two thousand tons, ^{plus} ~~also~~ three men-o-war, two destroyers and a corvette. The Nazis claim further that torpedoes from the ^{or} U-boats ~~had~~ damaged six other ships and that only small isolated parts of the convoy escaped. The U-boats, ~~they said,~~ ~~were~~ manned ~~mostly~~ by young crews, *says Berlin.*

Concerning all this, the
~~Of course this is a one-sided story and to be taken with reservations. The British Admiralty declined~~
to make ^{no} ~~any~~ comment.

LEND-LEASE

The chorus of voices that have been telling us we are not doing enough in the war effort was increased today by that of President Roosevelt himself. We have not reached the maximum of our effort, not by fifty per cent, said the President. ^{Thus} in a letter to Congress with his

quarterly Lend-Lease report. *In other words, we must do twice as much as we are doing.*

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One paragraph of the President's letter read as follows: "Not until we have reached the maximum can our fighting men and those of our Allies be assured of the vastly greater quantities of weapons required to turn the tide." And the President added:- "We can reach this maximum only by stripping our civilian economy to the bone."

Mr. Roosevelt pointed out that Great Britain has become an offensive base. In July alone, five hundred British workmen were employed on a construction project for the American army. He also told Congress

that we are obtaining help from our Allies as well as giving it. American soldiers in the southwest Pacific are receiving arms and supplies from Australia and New Zealand. Fighting French in Africa and New Caledonia are helping with materials, facilities and services. The British have been transferring to American forces a formidable amount of food, aircraft and other supplies.

In the last eighteen months ending with the Thirty-First of August, we furnished supplies and services amounting to six billion, four hundred and eighty-nine million dollars. Of these, the actual exports amounted to three billion, five hundred and twenty-five millions. They went not only to the British Commonwealth of nations but to thirty-five other countries. The Lend-Lease program is now helping our Allies to the tune of eight billion dollars a year.

INFLATION

Congress ^{went} ~~got~~ to work in earnest ^{today,} on a cost of living bill, ~~today~~. Senator Prentiss Brown of Michigan offered a measure instructing the President and investing him with authority to stabilize prices, wages, salaries and any other factor effecting the cost of living. The Brown bill directs that the stabilization shall be worked out on the general basis of levels existing on August Fifteenth. It is not the kind of blank check that was foreshadowed ^d ~~last~~ last week by Speaker Sam Rayburn of the House.

This bill was drafted after several days of conferences. Senator Brown himself will have the task of steering it through the upper Chamber. Senator Bob Wagner of New York is ~~the~~ co-author of the bill.

Here are some of the things it provides. First of all, the President shall do nothing inconsistent with the Wage-Hour Act of Nineteen Thirty-Eight. Nor should

he do anything to reduce wages below the highest level paid between January first and September fifteenth, Nineteen Forty-Two. — *this year.*

It also empowers the President to make any adjustment necessary to correct gross inequalities or to aid in the prosecution of the war.

As for farm prices, the Government is not to fix any maximum below either parity as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture or the highest market price reached between January First and September Fifteenth.

Aside from that, one section of the bill empowers the President to suspend any provisions of law relating to the establishment or maintenance of prices, wages or salaries, which are inconsistent with the purposes of this joint resolution.

ADD INFLATION

At the same time, a similar bill was introduced into the House by Congressman Steagall of Alabama, Chairman of the Banking Committee. Its principal difference from the Brown-Wagner measure in the Senate was that the Steagall bill would enable farm prices to continue to rise.

TRUMAN

Another blast against the inferiority of Uncle Sam's pursuit planes resounded in the Senate today.

It was voiced by members of the Truman Committee, which has been investigating our war effort. The Chairman, Democratic Senator Truman of Missouri, repeated what he had said months ago, that our fighter planes are inferior to those of both the British and the Germans.

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Last January, said Truman, his Committee offered evidence to that effect. Subsequent facts, he now declares, have corroborated it. And he expressed himself in these words:- "Scarcely a week now goes by ^{without} ~~when~~ some prominent flyer returning to this country and asking why we cannot give the boys better pursuit planes." *Then he* continued:- "The Committee believes that the Army should give less attention to concocting publicity blurbs intended to emphasize the fact that poor planes are better than none at all. The Army should concentrate on

production of better planes. Our boys," he added, "have proved their superiority as pilots of inferior planes. They are entitled to the best we can give them."

Truman was backed up by Senator Wallgren of Washington, ^{who has} ~~he~~ just returned from Alaska on a special sub-committee investigating bases up there. One bit of information ^{Sen. Wallgren} ~~he~~ brought back from the ^{North} ~~territory in~~ was that we need better fighter planes. "American bombers and interceptors are the world's best," ^{said he.} "But our fighters are too heavily armed and have too much protective power." That ^{then} ~~is~~ what Senator Wallgren learned in Alaska, and ^{he} added: - ^{As for} ~~The~~ Navy ^{its'} ~~is~~ using a plane that is a joke."

The Truman Committee also let loose on the War Production Board and its Chairman, Donald Nelson. ^{he said} No personal criticism of Nelson was intended ^{except} that he has failed to make proper use of his wide powers.

"The W.P.B. has mishandled the steel program," says

Truman, "in such fashion as to imperil the whole war effort." The Committee said further that Nelson has been not only obstructed in various departments of the government but in the armed forces.

SOLOMONS

Six foot soldiers, we have been told, are not ideal pilots for war planes, particularly fighter planes. All the services prefer ^{shorter} ^{weight for flying.} ~~lighter men for the aviation arms.~~

^{And} Then along comes Captain John L. Smith of Lexington, Oklahoma, ~~to vindicate the prowess of big men.~~ Captain John Smith, like another captain John Smith in history, ~~is himself a six footer,~~ pilot of a marine fighter plane, ~~on duty in the Far Pacific.~~ ~~in the Solomons.~~ During the month of August, Captain

John Smith shot down four twin-engined Japanese bombers ^{Jap} ~~and one of those tough Zero fighters.~~ ^{in the Solomon Islands,} On August Thirtieth ^{then} Captain John Smith ^{of Oklaoma} in his plane "Tocahontas" shot down four Zeros in less than ^{he bagged} fifteen minutes. In other words, ~~as of August Thirtieth,~~ ^{he had shot down} nine Jap planes in nine days. That sounds like shootting by Babe Ruth and Joe DiMaggio standards.

The story about Captain John Smith came through only today. His first Zero, he said, never knew what

hit him, because he came on the Jap from behind. He then saw another Zero attacking his wingman. The man from Oklahoma banked sharply and caught the Zero full in ^{his} ~~the~~ sights. The third Zero came right up under the belly of Smith's plane, sowing bullets up and down the fuselage. Smith explained:- "I dropped the nose of my plane and came at him head on. One of his bullets hit my

windshield right in front of my nose, but, it missed me."

The he goes on:-

He continued:- "Many bullets were tearing him apart *(the Jap)* by that time and huge chunks of his plane were dropping

all over the place. We tore past each other less than

fifteen feet apart. When I looked over my shoulder, he

had lost control and was ^{in a} ~~beginning to~~ spin ^{around} ~~around.~~"

John Smith's gas was low by this time and he had

only a few rounds of ammunition left, so he headed for

home, skimming over the tops of coconut palms. There he

ran into a Jap plane hedgehopping along the shore.

me, says he,
"That, ~~said Smith,~~ "wasn't even a fight. I just came
up behind him, pushed the button, and my bullets hit
him at a vital spot. He crashed into the sea as the
last bullet left my gun."

It was In that air battle, near ~~Quadalcanal,~~ *that* eighteen
shot down that day.
Jap Zeros were ~~destroyed in all.~~

~~An extraordinary attempt was made to wreck one of~~
~~the crack railroad trains of the west.~~ ^{Golden} The ~~Denver~~ Zephyr,
^{famous} ~~streamline express on the Burlington Road,~~ ^{on the run} ~~was hurtling~~
~~from Denver to Chicago.~~ ^{from Denver to Chicago} She was
~~across Iowa at eighty miles an hour early today.~~ ^{nothing} When
~~only seventy miles away from~~ ^{out of} Omaha, the hundred and
 eighty-seven passengers and crew were startled by
 violent explosions under the wheels, ~~Those~~ ^{that} explosions
~~promptly locked~~ ^{tripped} the airbrakes on the ~~train~~ ^{Zephyr} causing them
~~to be locked violently.~~ ^{suddenly.} ~~However, the sudden application~~ ^{And that}
~~of the brakes caused the train to come to a dead stop.~~ ^{changed} ~~after sliding for a mile,~~ ^{slide a mile before} flattening several wheels on
~~that crack streamliner.~~ ^{So strong was the pressure it}

{ (The ~~train~~ ^{Zephyr which} was due in Denver ^{at} nine-thirty this
~~morning.~~ ^{was stopped} ~~The accident occurred~~ at about midnight, near a
 place called Nodaway, Iowa.) Not a ~~single~~ one of the
 hundred and eighty-seven passengers was hurt, nor any
 member of the crew, though several passengers were

shaken, startled and shocked. ^{And} Several windows were broken by the explosions ^{under} the wheels.

Investigation showed that ~~there were~~ no fewer ^{had been planted} - all than twelve charges of dynamite, connected with electric wires ^{along a stretch of some} ~~for a space of~~ five hundred and sixteen feet, ~~along the west bound track of the Burlington.~~ (Being connected, ^{all of the charges} ~~by the electric wires~~ all went off at once.) The Zephyr's power unit was unscathed, but ten of the cars ~~it was~~ ^{somewhat} ~~hauling~~ were damaged underneath. (Amazingly, ~~enough, there~~ ^{was no damage to the track. The rails on the Burlington} ~~are of the~~ ^{variety} ~~were~~ hundred and ten pound affairs.) That track, incidentally, is in use today as though nothing had happened. The Zephyr was delayed four hours by the explosion but ^{pulled on} ~~subsequently drew~~ into Omaha under its own power.

^{Who planted the dynamite}
~~We do not yet know who attempted the outrage,~~
^{is unknown - so we are told,}
~~which would have been quite appalling if it had come off,~~
~~nor the motive.~~

If the Republicans win the elections in Connecticut, our Congress will have a real live playwright in its midst. Clare Booth^e Luce, author of "The Women", "Kiss the Boys Good-bye" and of many sparkling articles on contemporary history, ^{has been} ~~was~~ nominated by the Connecticut G.O.P. for Congress in the Fourth District.

Just ^{well,} That happened at the convention ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ Bridgeport today. There were originally six candidates, in addition to Mrs. Luce. Five of them withdrew but the sixth, an inventor named Lester Barlow of Stamford, Connecticut, fought on to the bitter end. When it came to a roll call vote, Mrs. Luce had eighty-four votes. ^{And,} Lester Barlow had two, including his own.

The delegate from Greenwich who nominated Mrs. Luce described her as an ideal candidate. Anybody who ever saw her will admit that she is ideal from the pictorial point of view. Even the most conservative of

commentators would have to admit that Clare Booth Luce

is just about
~~is far and away~~ the most pulchritudinous ~~individual~~ ^{character} ever to

be nominated for a public office *in these parts.*

And she is indeed a live
 wire, one that snaps,
 and crackles and sizzles.

And if she is elected to
 Congress that not always
 august body is likely to
 behave as though given a
 shot in the arm — or
 somewhere.

From the British Navy comes the latest story of high life on the high seas. One of King George's corvettes came upon an aged ~~mariner~~ ^{British} mariner clinging to a raft in the ~~icy~~ ^{near} waters ~~off the coast of~~ ^{icy mountains.} Greenland. He was a sixty-five year old captain of an American merchant vessel which had been torpedoed. The sailors took him aboard and gave him a quick examination. One of them tapped his leg and exclaimed, "Why, blimey, he's frozen stiff."

^{But} In a most unfrozen voice, with a good Down East accent, the American captain said:- "It's all right, son: that's only a wooden leg." And he added:- "This is the third time I have had to swim for it, but that leg has never hurt me yet."

Thereupon he removed his leg, and one of the Britishers hurried it off to the engine room to dry it out. As he went he heard the captain say:- "Be careful

with that leg, son, there's five hundred dollars in it."

— *inside the leg.*

Hugh, have you got five hundred dollars in

either of your legs? *Or even on your hip.*