

The passport history of Earl Browder was expounded today with ample detail and plenty of complication. The testimony produced by the government at the Browder trial pictures America's Number One Communist as quite a nimble citizen with passports, juggling those documents around with the dexterity of a magician pulling rabbits out of a plug hat.

This afternoon the prosecution rested its case, after only two days of testimony, but the evidence was graphic in presenting Browder as the big passport and visa man, <sup>claiming</sup> ~~The Government~~ *that he took out 3 false passport* sought to ~~prove only one point - that Browder had made a false~~ *under fictitious names,* ~~statement when he got out a passport in his own name in Nineteen~~ ~~Thirty-Four - the statement that he had never had a passport before.~~ *a fraudulent declaration* ~~A false statement~~ of this sort is an offense that can be punished by as much as ten years in prison. Today's proceedings were designed to show that he had had three before, taken out at three different times, ~~in three different names.~~

The first - in Nineteen Twenty-One. That was the time, claimed the prosecution, when Browder, in getting the United States papers to go abroad, used the name, identity and credentials of

Dozenberg, the Soviet secret agent - who testified against Browder yesterday. <sup>R</sup>The second, in Nineteen Twenty-Seven. The evidence stated that in that year Browder took out a passport under the name of George Morris. On the stand today appeared George E. Powers, formerly of the International Workers Order. He was a passport witness for Browder at the time the Communist chieftain got out his papers under the name of "Morris." Later on, the government authorities became suspicious and questioned the passport witness, who told them roundly that Mr. Morris was Mr. Morris. But when did Mr. Morris become Mr. Browder? The witness testified that it was only several years later that he met Mr. Browder as Mr. Browder. It was all a little confusing - the Morris-Browder transformation.

The government charged that a third passport taken out by the American Bolshevik chieftain was in NineteenThirty-One, and that he used the name of Albert Henry Richards. On this occasion Browder identified himself as a musician. And he wasn't so far wrong at that. A dozen years before, Browder played in the band at the Leavenworth Federal Prison. That was when he was serving a term for evading the World War draft. He played the flute.

One of the witnesses today was Max Bedacht, National Secretary of the International Workers Order and a member of the Communist Party - a Red comrade of Browder's. He testified that he saw the Number One American Communist in Moscow in Nineteen Twenty-One, ~~He~~ encountered Browder at the headquarters of the Communist Internationale. And again in Nineteen Thirty-Three he saw Browder in Moscow, among the comrades. At both of these times Browder was not on record as holding an American passport - not under his own name.

~~The purport of all this was to indicate that Earl Browder had made a false statement when he got papers in his own name in Nineteen Thirty-Four -- declaring at that time that he had never had a passport before.~~ The last witness today was a handwriting expert from the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington. He testified that in his opinion the handwriting on all of these variegated passports was the same, the documents issued in the names of Dozenberg, Morris, Richards and Browder. And, said he, it was the handwriting of Earl Browder, former Communist candidate for the presidency of the United States.

The case was adjourned, and the defense will have its innings on Monday. The defense attorney, the eminent George Gordon Battle, declared he was trying to make up his mind whether or not to put Browder on the witness stand.

FINLAND

The war in Finland is about the same. Soviet planes bombed Helsinki today, without hitting the center of the city. Soviet troops are said to have made a flanking attempt on the Mannerheim Line, but were beaten back. Chief fighting is away up in the Arctic in the Sala<sup>l</sup> area. And the Red Army units are said to be in retreat. But apparently the Finns ~~are~~ will not achieve another one of those <sup>encircling</sup> triumphs. More and more the ~~are~~ reports from Finland indicate that the Soviet drive got farther into Finland than had been admitted, -- came nearer to cutting the country in two. ~~Now~~ there is strong resistance in the Sala<sup>l</sup> area, a methodical Soviet retreat.

POLAND

From Poland come insistent reports that German troops have moved into parts of the <sup>conquered</sup> country assigned to Soviet Russia.

These stories are attributed to Poles who have fled ~~thence~~

across the border and <sup>have</sup> seen Nazi army units in such places as the

— <sup>Lemberg</sup> —  
City of Lwow - assigned to the Soviets. There's no hint of an

explanation, no suggestion of why German forces should be in

Red army territory. So we can only guess - what do the stories

mean? And are they true?

## MINES

Day after day, we get reports of sea and air fights on the North Sea. ~~We~~ Usually they come from Holland or Denmark, stories of heavy gunfire <sup>being</sup> ~~being~~ heard from far out over the waters, and <sup>tales</sup> ~~details~~ of battles of cannon and bombs. And usually these are denied by both the British and the Germans. Today we have a similar story, but this time it makes more sense. From Denmark comes a report of thundering explosions out at sea. No, not a battle of any sort. The account ascribes the explosions to mines -- mines and ice. Masses of drift ice <sup>sweeping</sup> ~~swept~~ into the German ice fields, colliding with the charges of high explosiv<sup>e</sup> and blowing them up.



## LIVERPOOL

The Berlin wireless flashed a headline report today -- the harbor of Liverpool has been closed. Berlin stated that because of the success of the German sea war against British shipping, the British government had stopped all sea going traffic to and from Liverpool -- too dangerous. That tended to make it appear that things might be ~~xxxx~~ serious for Britain -- *the* closing <sup>of</sup> the great harbor on the Irish Sea.

The word from Berlin was promptly countered by London -- the harbor of Liverpool has not been closed. It's wide open, busy as ever. London states that yesterday it was thought that they might stop Liverpool ship traffic briefly -- because <sup>of</sup> the danger created by a damaged steamer. A big boat was crippled by an explosion, and lay in the shipping lane. However, the vessel was towed out of the way and beached. So this perhaps is what inspired the Berlin statement -- that Liverpool was closed.



## EXPLOSIONS

The latest from London about the big munitions plant explosion yesterday is an official statement - that there is no reason to suspect sabotage or any kind of plot.

This follows all sorts of rumors about German secret agents, conspirators of the Irish Republican Army, sinister doings and dark scheming. It was said that in recent weeks there had been three attempts to sabotage the great munitions plant which blew up. Moreover - that there had been a previous explosion in that ~~factory~~ high explosive factory. Then last night - a mysterious fire broke out in another plant making war supplies - a plant not far from the scene of yesterday's explosion.

Furthermore - a boiler blew up in <sup>still another</sup> a factory today. On top of it all, Scotland Yard jumped into action with a new system of precautions, in all centers of war supplies in Great Britain. The Woolwich Arsenal in particular <sup>is now</sup> was under close guard; ~~today~~ <sup>patrols</sup> ~~That's~~ Britain's greatest armament establishment. Heavy <sup>guards</sup> of sentries and constabulary were placed on duty at Woolwich.

All of these things were certainly of a sort to excite rumors that yesterday's disaster was the result of some kind of plot,

yet this afternoon the Home Office in London issued a statement using these words:- "The Home Office and the Minister<sup>y</sup> of Supply wish it to be known that on information <sup>at</sup> present<sup>ly</sup> available, there is no reason to suspect that the explosions were caused by sabotage."

BURTON

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The world interest in the Hore-Belisha case is indicated by a cablegram sent to London today. It was addressed to the former British Secretary for War, who was ousted amid such a flock of rumors and arguments. The cable offers Hore-Belisha a thousand Pounds a week to come to America on a lecture tour. A thousand Pounds is between four and five thousand dollars, a lot of money per week.

The offer is made by a prominent British theatrical manager, Percy Burton, who is in America ~~right~~ now. *He once managed*

*Sarah Bernhardt, Forbes Robertson and*  
~~He handled my lectures in England, and we got out a book together~~  
*50. Henry Irving, and he thinks*  
~~called "Adventures Among the Immortals." I talked to him today~~

~~and he assured me that he thought~~ that the interest in Hore-Belisha so great it would be profitable to pay him a thousand pounds a week for a series of non-partisan lectures in the United States.

MAILS

The latest order of the British Government concerning United States mails has caused a stir in Washington. Secretary of State Hull today said that possibly the air service between the United States and Europe, via Bermuda, might be discontinued - might be routed some other way. This - because the British authorities in Bermuda are going to search the mails of American Clipper ships when they stop at the islands.

Secretary Hull spoke cautiously and said he was not predicting the abandonment of the run to Bermuda, but that this might have to be considered. He thought the Clipper planes might be re-routed to avoid British possessions - might fly via the Azores. That involves problems, however. The ~~same~~ jump from the United States to the Asores is a long hop, and would decrease the pay-load the Clippers could carry. - They'd have to stock up with ~~so much~~ more gas. The question is, whether the big planes could afford to continue the service, with the amount of pay-load cut down.

The new order to search the mails aboard the Clippers at Bermuda is not likely to cause any strong diplomatic protest -

since Bermuda is British. In recent diplomatic correspondence  
about the mails, the State Department <sup>has</sup> recognized the jurisdiction  
of the British Government over all mail that enters its territory.  
The previous complaints were about interfering with American mails  
on the high seas, the searching of ships, and the censoring of  
the United States <sup>letter bags,</sup> ~~mail~~. London has turned down our protest on  
that score.

## TELEVISION

The advance of television is indicated by a request made today to the Federal Communications Commission. The Radio Corporation of America asked the Commission to authorize the sponsorship of a television program<sup>s</sup>. Tentative plans to this effect have already been drawn up, waiting for the right time. The right time has come, R.C.A. tells the F.C.C. So put the tentative plans ~~in~~ into effect right away, and have a limited sponsorship of television programs.

Today the Senate of the United States had only a brief session -- adjourned until tomorrow. The Senators had no interest in the legislative tasks at hand. Their only thought was - Borah. The stricken Senator lingered today, growing weaker, sinking slowly. Here's the latest bulletin of his physician, ~~a bulletin~~ released only a few minutes ago. It says:- "Senator Borah's pulse is weaker, and there is no way of telling how long he can hold out."

Senate colleagues today spoke mournfully of the Grand Old Man from Idaho, told stories and anecdotes of Borah's high qualities, his humanity, his ability, his troubles and his triumphs. <sup>R</sup> One story illustrates the resourcefulness of the Gentleman from Idaho. It goes back to his younger days, when he was a lawyer - defending a client. The client was a little fellow, accused of hitting a huge, big fellow over the head with a wrench. The giant swore in court that the blow had caused him to lose his memory. Borah asked the small client to enact the scene of how he had swung the wrench, <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~ handed his client a small wrench, ~~a mere pigmy wrench~~. "But," shouted the big fellow, "he hit me with a bigger wrench than that." "Oh," responded the attorney for the defense, "so you haven't lost your memory. <sup>he</sup> ~~And~~ won the case."



TRAVEL

In the Pan-American movement they are working up  
a travel angle, <sup>The Good Neighbor</sup> ~~The~~ policy is being reinforced by a  
Pres. Roosevelt has issued a proclamation.  
tourist campaign. <sup>Harry</sup> ~~to~~ Somerville of the ~~Hotel~~ Willard  
in Washington is working on <sup>the idea</sup> ~~it~~ from the hotel men's angle,  
as is Thomas D. Green, President of the American Hotel  
Association. They feel that since the war in Europe has  
cut out American travel across the Atlantic, why not  
encourage a vogue of Pan-American travel. Latin-Americans  
normally spend about One Hundred and Fifty Million Dollars  
a year in trips to Europe. Much of this <sup>it</sup> ~~is~~ expected will be  
diverted to North America, the United States. The hotel  
men are turning out one hundred thousand <sup>pieces of</sup> ~~papers of like~~  
literature in Spanish and Portuguese -- to be circulated  
among the ~~republics~~ republics to the South. The idea --  
for good neighbors to visit each other.

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## WEATHER

The United Press weather report today uses the term - "misplaced Arctic Circle." It's Arctic all right, and it certainly is misplaced - down in Dixie. The bitter cold has been easing up in the northern and central parts of the country, and has rolled southward, down into those usually temperate climes toward the Gulf of Mexico. Here are a couple of temperature readings, which seem misplaced. Memphis - three below zero; Atlanta, twelve above, sinking rapidly. Birmingham, way down in Alabama, deepest of the deep south, had a snowstorm today, and the temperature was two above. What business has that misplaced Arctic Circle down there in the southland?

In the northeast, the cold continues. Buffalo, New York, reports an icy chill with heavy snows and high winds, rural schools closed, transportation disrupted. Oswego County is white - with from two to four feet of snow. Roads blocked, railroad traffic stalled, and in one place a freight train was nearly buried. A rescue crew had to hurry and dig it out.

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New York City has picked this particular time to have a coal strike. Union men are out, and coal deliveries are said

to be only ten per cent of normal - danger of a fuel shortage in the big town as the bitter wind blows. Mayor LaGuardia is trying to settle this most inconvenient labor trouble and today told the companies and unions they've got to choose one of three different courses - negotiate a settlement, agree to arbitration, or turn the whole controversy over to the State Mediation Board.

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Here's a cold weather novelty from Broadway. It tells of a mishap to one of those huge animated signs which flash electric light pictures, and are covered with ~~simply~~ innumerable electric light bulbs and tubes. I've often wondered - what if a brick were tossed in the middle of all those myriad bulbs of glass? That didn't happen - it was worse. Douglas Leigh, a creator of those big signs, phones me and tells me about one on Columbus Circle which was flashing a great picture of icicles - as a weather report. ~~xxxxxxx~~ What they didn't know was that <sup>a real</sup> ~~a huge~~ icicle was forming right at the top of the animated sign, a long, bulky, heavy formation of ice. The great icicle got so heavy that it broke loose and fell, and <sup>th</sup> sliced right down the face of the animated sign, plowing through the thousands of

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electric bulbs and Neon tubes. It cut a swath of devastation -  
and shattering glass.

An icicle on the rampage where it hurt the most.

And now, Hugh, tell us something that will help the most. —

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*something*