

L.J. - Sunoco. Monday, July 29, 1940.

RUMANIA

Rumania is now definitely a part of the Nazi-Fascist Axis. After King Carol's Ministers returned from Saltzburg, where they had gone to take orders from Hitler, it was reported he had told the Rumanians that they must come to terms with Hungary and Bulgaria. They must consult ~~peaceably~~ peaceably about returning the territory taken from the aMagyars and Bulgars and given to the Rumanians at the Treaty of Versailles.

Just a few minutes ago it was officially announced that King Carol's Government has agreed in principle to come to an understanding with Hungary and Bulgaria.

BRITAIN

Another battle in the air off the British coast. This time the point of attack for the Nazi raiders was the historic old port of Dover. The London Air Ministry described it as the most violent assault ~~that~~ the Germans had yet made - a hundred and seventy dive bombers escorted by fighting planes, dropping their explosive rain on those famous white chalk cliffs.

But again ^{the} raiders were driven off. The Air Ministry reports that twenty German ^{planes} ~~air-ships~~ were shot down, other accounts put the number at twenty-seven.

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And the British did their share of raiding. Flyers of the R.A.F. attacked the French port of Cherbourg where the Nazis have been accumulating a huge oil reserves in preparation for the blitzkrieg on England. As the British raiders left, they saw a yellow glow where those oil tanks had been, and a heavy ~~in~~ pall of smoke hung over Cherbourg.

GERMANS

The Nazi high command today puts out an alarming story about the number of British vessels destroyed by U-boats in the last few days. According to this communique from Berlin, within seventy-two hours the British have lost two hundred and forty-five thousand tons of shipping. This is not confirmed by the British Admiralty. The story is published by Berlin to corroborate the report ~~that~~ the Nazis had issued earlier about the supposed food shortage in Great Britain. Of course there are no means of telling how true that is.

CHURCHILL

There are no words that sound like peace in the statement of Prime Minister Winston Churchill which is made public today. It ^(is) ~~sounds~~ ^{indeed — coming as it does} ominous at a time while the world is waiting for the ^{official} British reply to the terms that Hitler sent last week. Churchill's utterance today was not made in the House of Commons but in a message to British sympathizers in Argentina. Here are the words of the British Prime Minister. I QUOTE: "Backed by a united empire we are resolved to pursue to a victorious conclusion, the struggle against Nazidom and all that it implies to the whole world."

^{But} ~~Once again~~ we hear that the Prime Minister will ^{give his} ~~sound an~~ answer to Hitler in the House of Commons tomorrow. We heard the same thing exactly a week ago. But nothing happened. Today, the advices from London are that Churchill will tell the House not only about Hitler but also about British relations with Japan, Spain and the Balkan states.

GIBRALTAR

Late war
News about Gibraltar, the Rock that stands as a symbol of British power. The news is rather mysterious, and it comes from Spanish sources. Observers on the Spanish side report a tremendous explosion at the Rock ~~with guns~~ that guards the Straits. Late last night some airplanes flew over Gibraltar but it was impossible to distinguish their nationality. They were driven away by anti-aircraft batteries and later on loud explosions were heard from some distance away and they were thought to come from a point out at sea.

But the big explosion on the Rock is reported to have been heard at about eleven o'clock this morning. The rumor is that either a gas or ^{an} ammunition chamber blew up. Reports reached the Spanish side that four people had been killed and several others injured.

story
There's a further ~~report~~ that the explosion was caused by a hand grenade dropped by one of the soldiers on a munitions dump in an anti-aircraft battery.

The defense of Gibraltar had been strengthened recently by several airplanes built in the United States, also a number of tanks.

SWITZERLAND

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Excitement in Europe mounted high when the news leaked out that Hitler's generals had stopped all railroad traffic except the movement of military trains. Observers remembered that a similar move preceded the invasion of Holland and Belgium. At first it was believed that this latest stoppage of non-military traffic was the signal for the long expected blitzkrieg against England. But later there were indications that it was aimed at Switzerland. The basis for this was an order issued by the high command of the Swiss army, an order to the citizen soldiers to prepare to resist invasion. At the same time, there were reports that the Nazis had demanded possession of the reserves of foods and other stuffs that the Swiss have been accumulating in preparation for hard times.

However, there are certain large question marks about that story. Of course everybody has expected that Hitler would try to bring Switzerland within the Nazi economic scheme of things, eventually. After all, one small country can't indefinitely remain as a free independent island, surrounded by totalitarian nations. ~~on every side~~. Also, Switzerland, as it is today, is the only ~~center~~ ^{center} remaining ~~spot~~ ^{for} on the continent ~~that's the center of~~ propaganda

against Naziism and Fascism. And there's also the argument that Hitler wants to grab all ^{of} the economic resources of the Swiss.

The big question mark, however, lies in the fact that only the other day it was reported that the Swiss were sending supplies into Germany. And if the Nazis were to seize everything in Switzerland it would only be a drop in the bucket. As a matter of fact, today the Swiss are in a pretty parlous condition themselves. They have to import large quantities of wheat and other cereals. And, surrounded as they are, they now can't get delivery of any imports.

~~All in all, that Swiss tale seems a bit doubtful.~~

FRANCE

The word from France today is that the Petain Government is going to bring to trial three ex-Premiers, at least two other Cabinet Ministers, and the Ex-Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

The Minister of Justice has drawn up a decree for the approval of a Council of Ministers, a decree establishing the high court to hold ~~xxxxxxx~~ a trial of those former officials on charges of being to blame ^{for} the war and the defeat of France.

The Premiers are Eduard Daladier, Paul Reynaud, and

~~Popular Communist~~ Leon Blum. Among the other ex-Cabinet Ministers ^{to}

be tried are
~~will be~~ Georges Mandel, former Minister of the Interior, Pierre

~~Koh~~
Cot, former Air Minister. The Ex-Commander-in-Chief - Generalissimo

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Maurice Gustave Gamelin, the man who when the war broke out, was hailed by all Frenchmen as the soldier who would save France.

~~XXXXXXXX~~

Another former Air Minister, who will be put on trial, is

Guy LaChambre, who served under Daladier. He will be tried in his absence as he is now in the United States. Pierre Cot is in England and his American wife is in this country.

The German radio in Berlin professed to have even closer information about that trial. The high court, say the

Germans, will not be bound by hitherto existing French law nor by the regulations of the French military courts. And the Germans declare further that the inquiry will be a sweeping one. It will go back as far as Nineteen Nineteen. It will also investigate why the general staff of the French army remained on the defensive for nine months and waited for the German attack.

Another bitter Italian editorial against France, evidently official because it's in Mussolini's newspaper. The editorial reads:-"France must not forget she was severely beaten and will therefore be forced to pay." Then it goes on:- "France has not yet settled her accounts and does not arouse pity in our hearts whatever her government leaders may do."

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CLIPPER

The YANKEE CLIPPER from Lisbon landed at New York today with an imperial cargo. More accurately, I should say ex-imperial. There were two archdukes aboard and two archduchesses, archdukes and archduchesses of the Hapsburg family. They came to join their Mother, the Ex-Empress Zita, their brothers, the Archdukes Otto and Felix, and their sister, the Archduchess Elizabeth, who have been in this country for several weeks. The entire ex-imperial family is now in America, all except one. The twenty-six year old Archduke Robert is serving with the British army in Great Britain.

CONFERENCE

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And here's the latest from the Pan-American Conference at Havana. This morning it was announced triumphantly that Argentina had consented to the declaration of Havana, the establishment of a trusteeship to be held by the twenty-one American republics over the Western Hemisphere possessions of France and Holland. The latest cable from Havana reports that the Argentinian Foreign Minister still has three reservations to that Havana declaration. The Argentinians ~~apparently~~ among other things, ^{apparently} don't want to give up their claim to the Faulkland islands now held by Britain

Norfolk, Virginia, was on parade today, standing at attention as the Commander-in-Chief of all our military forces arrived to make an official inspection of the defenses at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay. It was the first time that President Roosevelt had inspected the great naval base at Hampton Roads. He found the shipyards at Newport News already started on a program of expansion that wasn't even equalled during the World War. Rear Admiral Simons, Commander of the Navy Yard, reported that fifty million dollars had already been spent there to meet the emergency program. Admiral Simons also reported to the President that the officials of the Yard had already exhausted all the supply of skilled labor available and they are now intensively training apprentices and helpers to provide more skilled expert artisans.

* * *

While the President was at Newport News, a letter from him to the Senate was made public. In it he asked Congress to give him authority to ^{call out} ~~allow~~ the National Guard and the Reserves ^{to be mobilized} for intensive training, ^{He wants authority also to use them} ~~also~~ if necessary, for defense of the Western Hemisphere and possessions of the United States.

The security of a nation, he told the Senate, demands that the National Guard should be brought to the highest possible

state of training efficiency, more rapidly than the present program permits. Then he added that he could not with clear conscience any longer postpone what he called "that vitally essential step in our progress toward adequate preparedness."

With his message Mr. Roosevelt submitted the draft of a bill which he asked the Congress to pass ^{was to} ~~to require~~ equip him with the necessary authority.

Of equal importance, he said, is the Officers Reserve Corps. It has had little opportunity for service with troops. Therefore, their training should now be perfected, said the President, by an adequate period of active service.

That message in the bill created no end of a stir in the Senate. Correspondents report that as soon as its text became available, Republican senators all crowded around the desk of their leader, Senator McNary of Oregon, who ~~read~~ read it to them in an under-tone. The first reaction appeared favorable, ~~since it~~

~~came from~~ Senator Austin of Vermont, Assistant Republican leader, *said he approved of the idea.*

But, other members of the upper House started to organize an

opposition. ~~Rep~~ Republican Senator Capper of Kansas compared

it to the Hitler system of organizing for war.

SEARCHLIGHTS

Uncle Sam's Army is going to have searchlights that can throw a beam of light more than eight miles into the air. ~~That sounds almost fantastic. But~~ a beam ^{to} ~~like that can~~ reach even higher than fighting airplanes can fly. ~~today~~. Searchlights of that strength will be established at all the fixed fortifications of the army. ^{also}, every mobile anti-aircraft regiment will have them. The army is going to build a plant somewhere near Cincinnati, Ohio, a plant to cost five hundred and twenty thousand dollars just to build those monster searchlights and ^{the} mirrors ~~as well~~ ^{that go} with them.

PICKPOCKET

From time to time we have had stories about the arrest of men whom police described as "the meanest of all criminals."

A pretty young girl has been arrested in Pittsburgh, and a curious charge is made against her by the cops. They say that she was in the habit of attending funeral masses for the purpose of robbing the mourners.

According to the officers, she had been under suspicion before she was taken into custody. She's a pretty girl and was always well dressed. Her method, say the detectives, was to attend the funeral mass, walk into the church with the chief mourners, and sit as close behind them as possible. While the close relatives of the deceased were kneeling, their heads bowed in grief, this pretty young girl would empty their purses. The cops laid a trap for her and a patrolman was watching her during the last funeral mass she attended. *There it was that they* ~~and that is where they~~ caught her, ~~in the trap~~.

TEXAS

The returns from the primary election in Texas are practically complete. And as a result, one fact is definite: the folks of the Lone Star State are ^{fairly well} quite satisfied with Governor.

~~Lee O'Daniel. You will remember him. "Pass-the-biscuits-Pappy,"~~
^{even if} ~~To be sure, Pappy didn't pass the biscuits that he had promised,~~
^{when he became} Governor.

~~but~~ His constituents evidently took the will for the deed. At any rate, Pappy ^{Gov. Lee O'Daniel} is renominated and that means ~~he's~~ elected, since ^{you} ~~nobody ever heard of a~~ Republican Governor in Texas, ^{don't hear about} that is, not since the Reconstruction Era.

^{whoop-er-up}
You may remember that ~~amazing~~ election of two years ago down in the Lone Star State, and how O'Daniel, ~~who up to that time~~ ^{was} a flour salesman, took a hill billy band through the state and sang himself into the executive mansion. Pass-the-biscuits-Pappy was the burden of his song, so the voters passed him the biscuits in the shape of votes. ^{And} They did it again last week, ^{gave him} fifty-four per cent of all the ~~entire~~ Democratic votes in Texas.

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In that same primary, the energetic Senator Tom Connally was also renominated, which practically gives him election for a third term in succession. Nineteen representatives also were renominated. The pugnacious Ex-Representative Tom Blanton tried to

get his seat in the House back again but his opponent walked over him.

WEATHER

58'12
In case you don't know it, the weather you're suffering is a fresh heat wave. Nobody knew that the first heat wave had stopped, nobody outside of Uncle Sam's Weather Bureau. We have to take their word ~~from~~ for it that for a couple of days it wasn't ^{really} so hot. They explain that the humidity was so frightfully high that we couldn't ~~realize~~ realize there ^{had} been any fall in temperature. ^{TP well,} ~~As it is~~ tonight, almost all of the United States East of the Rocky Mountains lies under ^a ~~this~~ suffocating blanket of hot moist air.

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From Texas all the way up through ~~Oklahoma~~ Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas into Kentucky and Ohio there ^{are} ~~are~~ ~~hundred-degree~~ hundred-degree temperatures. In eleven days nearly six hundred people have died, ~~and~~ two hundred and eighty-one from the heat, two-hundred-and-ninety-one drowned.

59'14
Welcome back from your vacation, Hugh. I hope you escaped last week's heat.