

L.J. - Sinoco. Thursday, Jan. 26, 1939.

SPAIN

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(The taking of Barcelona today was drama that turned into sheer spectacle. When morning broke over the Catalonian capital, the Franco troops were waiting in the outlying districts, while the fighting detachments closed the last gap in the armed circle around the city. The question was - Would Barcelona resist, fight to the end? Would the metropolis of two million have to be taken by bitter fighting from street to street? The suspense was heightened by one strange state of affairs - strange for Barcelona. Quiet, silence. For weeks the city had been accustomed to the incessant crashing and terror of sky bombs. For days it had been under artillery fire, a rain of explosive shells. But during the night the cannon ceased and during the morning not a bomb was dropped - a strange hush, as of peace or of greater horror. Would Barcelona fall in a final prolonged orgy of blood and fire?

(During the morning the headlines were - resistance to the end! The organization of Communists and Anarchists got together for a last minute defiance.) And the Barcelona ~~breasted~~

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broadcasting station flashed this flaming proclamation;; "The City," it declared, "will be defended inch by inch, street by street, house by house." And the Communist-Anarchist broadcast concluded with these defiant words:- "Every man and woman is fiercely determined not to yield a step!"

(Such was the drama of suspense when at noon, Spanish time, the Franco commanders gave the order - and a squadron of ~~armoured cars~~ *red cars rolled* into a broad spacious avenue ~~with~~ that leads to the Plaza Cataluna, the central square of Barcelona.) With machine guns pointed, the armoured cars made a dash at top speed. In brief minutes they sped along the broad boulevard and reached the Plaza Cataluna - and (not a shot was fired, not a sign of resistance! Instead, houses everywhere hung out bedsheets for white flags, and ~~now~~ *many* displayed the Franco colors, the traditional red and gold of old Spain.)

Following the armored cars, Franco regiments marched through the principal streets. So far from encountering bullets and resistance, they tramped along with military bands blaring - just a parade! And they were received with a wild ovation.



And so the drama of suspense turned into sheer spectacle. (The Communist and Anarchist defiance ~~was~~ sheer talk, just broadcast.) Having announced that they'd defend the city to the bitter end, (the embattled Reds made haste to get out - before the insurgent troops closed the last line of escape.) And instead of resisting to the last drop of blood, the capture of Barcelona ~~staged~~ <sup>was</sup> a fiesta to the last ounce of lung power. It doesn't seem hard to explain. The population consisted of a fraction of Left partisans, who got away if they could, also an element of Franco supporters - these ~~lingering~~ <sup>lingering</sup> on under-cover during the time of the Left regime. They of course shouted their heads off with joy today.

In between the extremes of Left and Right were the great bulk of the people, who didn't care one way or another. They had lived in terror and hunger, incessant bombings and food supplies running low. What they desired above all things was an end to the bombing and the coming of food. (Today, the Franco armored cars and marching regiments were followed by long

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lines of bread trucks, streaming through the streets for the instant distribution of food. Instead of bombs, Franco ~~was~~ bringing bread. So you ~~can~~ understand the fiesta in Barcelona today.)

The ~~scenes witnessed~~ scenes witnessed can best be described first hand. I have here a sheaf of dispatches from the United Press correspondent, who made the entry with Franco today, and here's what he writes:- "At the great Plaza Cataluna thousands surged forward. Girls ran from houses to embrace the incoming troops. Women weeping hysterically ran into the streets to crowd around our automobile. An old woman kissed the hand of a Nationalist officer with me. Men ran alongside shouting, 'Viva Spana! Now we're in Spain!' - meaning that they had never considered it Spain while the Leftists held the city. In the Plaza," continues the United Press correspondent, "officers I knew to be hard bitten men had tears in their eyes as they were embraced by girls and women so nearly hysterical that they could hardly speak."



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The United Press dispatch goes on with this characteristic detail - that when crowds of children ran to greet the Franco regiments, they immediately asked for something to eat. And the grown-ups, after they had done their bit of cheering and embracing - also asked for food.

That's the story of today's historical capture of Barcelona, a Spanish fiesta of food instead of bombs.

The fleeing Republicans are retiring to the tip of the Catalanian triangle, and there they say they'll continue the defense of the province. The Left government has established itself at *Figueras*, near the French frontier. Franco has ordered a swift pursuit to prevent the organization of a new defense line.

~~Military observers say that the occupation of the rest of Catalonia should be hardly more than a mopping-up operation. After that, Franco is expected to throw his mobilized power with a swift drive against the Republican area in central Spain. The fall of Barcelona is looked upon as a decisive event, which should bring the Spanish Civil War to a speedy close.~~

But meanwhile the Leftists are making a new gesture.

Word comes that an uprising is being organized within Franco territory, an Anarchist uprising. They say it's all ready to start, just awaiting the order from Republican Premier Negrin.

That order is being delayed we hear, because Negrin doesn't want to grant <sup>too much</sup> ~~enough~~ power to the Anarchist leaders of the conspiracy. In this he is supported by the Communists, who are willing to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Anarchists from time to time, but don't agree with their ideology. Even with Barcelona falling, the Reds do love their ideology.



FOREIGN

Rome today heard about the fall of Barcelona from the familiar orator, Mussolini. He announced the Franco victory in a speech to the Roman populace.

"Spain has now been freed from the tyranny of the Reds," is the way the Duce described it.

He hailed the fall of Barcelona as an Italian victory, and this creates something of a dilemma <sup>for</sup> ~~from~~ Mussolini opponents. They've been emphasizing Italian intervention in the Spanish Civil War, and <sup>now</sup> ~~the~~ more <sup>that's</sup> ~~they~~ emphasized ~~that~~ the larger the bill Italy may feel justified in handing to Franco.

The Roman crowd today hailed Mussolini with shouts of "Nice, Savoy, Corsica, Tunis, Djibouti!" the familiar cry for French possessions. And that was merely vocalizing what the rest of the world was wondering about - with Franco victorious in Spain, what new demands will the Fascist powers make?

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- France has this very much in mind, and in the Paris Chamber of Deputies today Foreign Minister Bonnet made some

pertinent declarations. He told the deputies that France ~~and Great~~

*Britain are united against any*

~~assurance against~~ Italian domination in Spain. And furthermore -

that if a war should come, France and Great Britain will be united by a military alliance. "In time of war," proclaimed the Foreign Minister, "all the forces of Great Britain will be at our disposal and all of ours at the disposal of Great Britain."

Bonnet's declarations were followed by a vote. The Deputies decreed <sup>d</sup><sub>1</sub> - okay. ~~They~~ gave the government a vote of confidence.



## CHILE

The earthquake picture in southern Chile becomes clearer tonight, as disrupted communications are restored. The quake *turns out to be* disaster ~~is~~ the worst in Chilean history. Devastation throughout an area of forty thousand square miles, and the death list is *fully* — *perhaps far more.* estimated at *twenty thousand* ~~is~~ The picture shows us four cities in ruins, shaken down by the violent tremors of the earth.

Relief is being rushed with every resource at the command of the ~~Chilean~~ government, and today President Roosevelt cabled the Chilean president offering any help we can give. ~~It isn't probable that much will be needed, for the southern republic seems able to take care of its own rescue problem in a large and efficient way.~~

*And tonight*  
~~However,~~ a giant plane is taking off from Panama ~~tonight,~~ one of those flying fortresses of the army. ~~It is~~ **B**ound for the earthquake region of Chile, ~~and has~~ **A**board emergency medical supplies. That was announced at the White House this afternoon.

CAVALIER

I have here an interesting bit of comment on the loss  
of the CAVALIER. *An Alaskan mining engineer*  
Merle Guise<sup>1</sup> writes me that he's an amateur pilot  
who has done quite a bit of flying in the *far* north. Some years ago  
he was in a plane that was forced down ~~in the Rockies~~ by extreme  
cold, a freezing condition in the gas tank, and he wonders whether  
the CAVALIER wasn't forced down by the same cause. "In northern  
cold," he writes, "you've got to guard against water in the gas  
tank. If the gas is allowed to run low, water will form by  
condensation." ~~So therefore you must keep the gas tank pretty~~  
~~full.~~ In the loss of the CAVALIER we were told that the  
carbureter froze, and this might have been ~~the~~ caused *by* water  
that had condensed in the gas tank. Such is the opinion of *the*  
~~northern flyers~~ *flying Alaskan mining engineers.*

~~The rescue of the CAVALIER survivors by the oil~~  
~~tanker ESSO BAYTOWN has brought in some comment about oil tankers~~  
~~in general.~~ Captains of the tanker fleet of the Sun Oil Company  
*rescue*  
are proud of the exploit of their fellow skipper of Standard Oil.

*Esso*  
And they tell me that the BAYTOWN was built in the Sun shipyards



at Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania.

I am told that oil tanker officers and men are the best paid in the United States merchant marine. The tankers are the only American vessels that pay their own way. Of the ships that pass through the Panama Canal, ~~the~~ tankers make up one-sixth of the number and one-third of the tonnage. It takes an exploit like the rescue of the CAVALIER survivors to focus attention on the great day-by-day work that is being done by the American tanker fleet.

HAGUE

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In Philadelphia today the United States Circuit Court of Appeals upheld an injunction against Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City. Organizations like the C.I.O. and the American Civil Liberties Union charged in court that Hague was suppressing free speech in Jersey City - the familiar charge of ~~Mr~~ ~~Jersey City~~ dictatorship. And now the Court of Appeals ~~upholds them,~~ sustains the injunction to stop Hague from stopping meetings.



## HINES

There's nothing so flat as an anti-climax, and ~~the~~ a complete anti-climax is, just having something all over again.

(The first trial of James J. Hines began with a blaze of headlines.

After all sorts of dramatics, it ended in a mistrial, and now is on again, without much blaze of headlines.) (I myself didn't feel

the impulse to mention it yesterday or the day before, while

they were picking jurors.)

Today the proceedings began in earnest, with Prosecutor Tom Dewey and Defense Counsel Lloyd Stryker making their opening addresses. During the first trial, there was a rush to get into the courtroom, the place jammed with spectators. Today, the court had no circus aspect at all, only a mere score of people looking on.

(The proceedings were the same as before, with District Attorney Dewey copiously presenting the case against Hines, the charge that he was political fixer for the Dutch Schultz policy mob,) sometimes getting as much as fifteen hundred dollars a week.

Defense Counsel Lloyd Stryker repeated <sup>ing</sup> his familiar contention,

that the prosecution witnesses were trying to frame Hines, ~~those~~

~~self-confessed Dutch Schultz henchmen, Weinberg, Schoenhaus and~~

## EXECUTIONS

At Sing Sing today there was joyful pandemonium in the death house, with the prisoners yelling and cheering and singing. From two young men there were exclamations of gladness, while three others remained plunged in gloomy silence.

Governor Lehman today made a decision in the case of the five youths sentenced to death for the murder of a policeman in a robbery. He had before him pleas and petitions, pointing out that the young killers were merely products of vicious slum conditions. The Governor's verdict spares the lives of two of the five. ~~But~~ He says there's no doubt of the guilt of the other three, but the two he points out were convicted on state's evidence. The testimony was given by two accomplices who <sup>were</sup> ~~had~~ turned <sup>loose,</sup> ~~at large.~~

When the news got to Sing Sing, the other inmates of the death house, broke into wild jubilation. The two whose lives were spared were stunned <sup>with relief.</sup> ~~hopeless and silent.~~ The other three

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DRUNK

Winter at its coldest, and here's a  
~~Here's an addition to the~~ weather story. At Somerville,

Massachusetts, the temperature sank to six above zero, when a man was noticed strolling down Pritchard Avenue. Was he clothed for the weather? He wasn't clothed at all, not a stitch -- just a nudist in a blizzard. All the protection he had against the cold was inside of him -- a lot of firewater. He was arrested, charged with drunkenness, and the judge may send him to the cooler to get warm.

## WOLVES

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~~trainer~~ Up in northern Ontario Joe La Flamme is a wolf  
trainer. Joe, a big French Canadian educates timber wolves until  
they are so tame a poodle dog is a roaring lion by comparison.  
The fame of Joe La Flamme extended to the Sportsman's Show in  
Boston, and he received an invitation to exhibit a pack of his  
tamest and best-trained wolves. So Joe selected eleven big grey  
fellows with long fangs -- but oh so gentle. The Canadian wolf  
tamer was in such a hurry to show his pets in Boston that he  
~~he~~ elected to fly down from the north. And today Joe is  
explaining that his wolves are all right. It's aviation that's  
wrong. There's something about flying in the sky that doesn't  
appeal to a timber wolf's temperament.

They took off with eleven wolves in the cabin, (and  
{ ~~rightly~~ right off the bat one of them got hold of a pair of  
Joe La Flamme's best moccasins and instantly tore them to pieces.  
{ However, explains Joe, even a dog might ~~shew~~ <sup>chew</sup> up moccasins.) They  
were flying at three thousand feet, and it must have been the  
58 1/2 altitude that caused the trouble. Two of the wolves got into a  
fight. They were chained to the sides of the cabin, but somehow  
they got at each other, and were ~~fol~~olling around at death grips,



one slashed and mangled so badly it probably won't live. The other nine went wild, trying to join in the fight. Chained to the walls of the cabin, they snarled and howled and bit and tugged -- almost pulling the cabin apart. It was one wild pandemonium of struggle <sup>fury</sup> and wolves -- flying at three thousand feet. Imagine the feelings of the pilot.

Joe La Flamme, the big French Canadian landed with his pets at Sudbury, Ontario, and decided to take the baggage car of a railroad train for the rest of the way to Boston. <sup>with</sup> ~~but not~~

no more aviation. <sup>he</sup> ~~he~~ hopes to show the Bostonians how gentle and sweet-tempered his wolves really are. Says Joe La Flamme,

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