

L. T. Sunoco - Thurs. Sept 2. 1937

CHINA

The China news is mostly the thunder of bombing tonight, <sup>one</sup> ~~a stupendous crashing of high explosive.~~ ~~One~~ unconfirmed report declares that Chinese war planes have raided and bombed Japan, the shore of the Island Empire itself!

Hitherto it's been Japanese sky terror striking the Chinese, the repeated bombing of Nanking hundres of miles inland, and rain of explosives on Canton, hundreds of miles to the south of Shanghai. <sup>Also the</sup> ~~The~~ Chinese planes have been hitting at Japanese forces on Chinese soil. But today's reports say -- Kagoshima bombed! That's an important <sup>city</sup> ~~point~~ on the southernmost tip of the <sup>main</sup> Japanese Island. China strikes <sup>is</sup> through the sky at Japan proper; if the account is true!

In Shanghai there was a turmoil of air raiding today. Japanese planes ~~did it~~, <sup>ing</sup> dropped showers of bombs on the Chinese entrenched near the International settlement, near the American concession. The marines on guard behind sand bags were in danger. Scattering fragments from the bursts fell near them. A ~~Ex~~ badly aimed sky torpedo might have exploded right among them. The air raid raised havoc among the Chinese civilians ~~on~~

<sup>in</sup>  
~~on the~~ populous Shanghai -- ~~them~~ -- the usual <sup>innocent</sup> ~~unmerited evil~~  
^ ^  
~~for the~~ victims of <sup>modern war,</sup> ~~war.~~  
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On the ground the heaviest fighting was on the  
outskirts of Shanghai, where the Japanese are trying to drive  
through the Chinese lines and encircle the city. There too the  
thunder of high explosive predominated. The Japanese poured <sup>ing</sup> a  
terrific fire of field guns and <sup>giant</sup> ~~great~~ naval cannon.  
^ ^



SPAIN

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( British Warships ordered to the Mediterranean - that's the Spanish news today.) It seems like an echo of the Ethiopian news a couple of years ago, when ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> powerful squadron of Britain steamed to deter Italy from attacking Ethiopia. Today ( the provocation is - torpedoing in the Mediterranean; and the cry of "pirate submarine" rings high in England. It is revealed today that a British freighter was sunk by an unidentified undersea boat, which rose and fired torpedoes at short range. This incident happened shortly after that other affair of torpedoes, in which a submarine tried to sink a British destroyer.)

Today we have the further news <sup>that</sup> the destroyer may have sunk the submersible. Not only did it drop depth charges, but another British war craft steamed up and did the same thing. They say they saw oil on the water afterwards - that telltale sign so frequently reported during the U-boat campaign in the World War.

Today, the British Cabinet ordered naval reinforcements to the Mediterranean to stop the pirate submarines. This time London is not sending her mighty battle squadrons. Destroyers

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are ordered to the Mediterranean, eight of them, it is believed - a flotilla. Destroyers are <sup>of course</sup> the kind of craft to use against subs.

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The most ominous part of the business is the fact, not unexpected - that (the torpedoing is attributed to Italian submarines. The British and French are loudly saying - it's an Italian job.) So the sinister idea is this - Mussolini torpedoing British ships, and the British out to sink Mussolini's submarines with depth charges. It seems rather like a nightmare idea.

What does Rome say about it? (The Italians deny everything. They claim the torpedoing has been done by the Spanish Left Wingers - for the purpose of stirring up International trouble.) Today the important Roman newspaper, Tribuna, had this to say: "The Spanish Red Fleet, often commanded by Soviet officers, possesses enough under-water craft to carry on silent warfare on a grand scale. The Reds, "declares the Fascist Newspaper, "are <sup>the</sup> organizers of <sup>this</sup> Mediterranean ~~the~~ piracy."



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That theory makes it all the more <sup>of</sup> a nightmare -  
the Spanish Left Wingers torpedoing to make it seem like  
Italian submarines striking at Britain.

From Spain itself reports come that the war in  
Northwestern Spain is about over. They say that Franco's men,  
having captured Bilbao and Santander, are about to take the  
sole remaining port left to the Government, ~~Gijon~~. It is about  
to surrender, they say. And Franco's men are pushing rapidly  
into the small territory that still remains to be conquered.  
Meanwhile, the battle is raging <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ the northeast of Spain, the  
Aragon front, with both sides claiming victories.

## ROOSEVELT

President Roosevelt wound up the season today - so far as legislation is concerned. He signed the wild life restoration bill. The measure is praised far and wide as a means of protecting the birds and the beasts. He also vetoed a measure that has to do with the District of Columbia Airport.

Of all the laws passed by Congress during the recent session, these two were the last to come before the President. Altogether, nine hundred and thirty-seven bills were proposed by Congress and sent to the White House. The President okayed eight hundred and ninety-seven and vetoed forty. Twenty-three of the forty were pocket vetoes - he just didn't act on them.

After winding things up today, Mr. Roosevelt at Hyde Park boarded the Presidential Yacht for a cruise - down the Hudson and around New York City.

Meanwhile, Poughkeepsie is getting over a rather wild time. A warship, accompanying the Presidential cruise, gave a lot of shore leaves. Crowds of sailors landed, and there were fights all over Poughkeepsie.



CONVICT

The great Chain Gang battle between Georgia and Massachusetts rattled on today. In Boston, the Mutual Association for the advancement of Colored People has come forward with the declaration that they'll take care of Fleming Willis. He's the Chain Gang Negro whom Governor Rivers of Georgia parolled on condition that he go to Massachusetts for the period of his parole.

The Dixie Land Governor did this out of indignation because the Codfish Governor some time ago refused to extradite a negro fugitive from a ~~far~~ Georgia Chain Gang. That particular fugitive has been looked after by the Colored Advancement Society, given a job. And now the society proposes to do the same thing for Fleming Willis. "We are prepared," they announce "To house ~~in~~ and feed him, and get him a job."

Willis, who was convicted in Georgia for selling lottery tickets, is on his way North, thumbing his way, hitch-hiking, the Massachusetts welcome that awaits him doesn't seem to fill him with any wild ~~jubili~~ jubilation. "I'se goin' to a foreign land," he said as he left Georgia.

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Today there was a thrill of excitement in the Chain Gangs <sup>generally</sup> down South, visions of Massachusetts. Hope flashed among the convicts. They might be released - if they'd go to the venerable land of the Puritans. "Spend your parole at Cape Cod," is the Georgia Chain Gang slogan this evening. Today, Governor Rivers received six formal applications for freedom, and in each one occurs the historic name of Massachusetts. Four convicts serving life terms for murder and two in the Chain Gang for burglary, request clemency. And, they promise - they'll make Massachusetts their home forever.

Governor Rivers gives out this formal statement:

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"If Clemency applications from criminals willing to go to Massachusetts continue," he declares, "It ~~may~~ may not be necessary to have anyone in the Chain Gang."

It seems like the war of the States all over again, a cockeyed war this time - with the idea of one State unloading its convicts on another. That would be worse than Gettysburg.



BULLET

In a Hospital at Norfolk, Massachusetts, an operation was performed today - surgery with a tragic dilemma. The Doctors extracted a bullet from a prisoner. That bullet, imbedded in the man's body, might have caused his death. The bullet now that it's extracted, may also cause his death.

The man escaped from prison during a jail-break. There was a gunfight with the police of Newton, Massachusetts. One of the fugitives shot two policemen, killing one. But he himself received a bullet from one of the officers who was shot. That bullet can be matched with the Policeman's pistol - murder evidence.

Later on, one of the escapers was captured - wounded, a bullet in him. The Police thought the bullet in his body would tell the tale. It might be the murder evidence.

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But the Doctors could not operate on the man without his consent - that's the way the law reads. And he refused to give his consent. But now at last he has yielded. So today the surgeons with their instruments extracted the pellet of lead. It threatened to be fatal to the patient and it

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still may be fatal to him in another way, *a death penalty,* Right now the ballistic experts are studying the extracted bullet to answer the question - is it murder evidence to send the man to the chair?



Here's another tragic dilemma of crime - two hold up men arrested, and they nearly fainted with joy. Two amateurs, they staged a stick-up in New York. And they used their pistol---blazed away at the victim, and fled. They fled ~~xxx~~ haunted by ~~xxx~~ the shadow of ~~the~~ murder, visions of the electric chair. Fear had them tortured. The police picked them up in the subway. The charge against them? They grew white as they asked! "Robbery", responded the cops. "Not murder? No - the bullet they fired had missed. Saved by their own bad marksmanship - and ~~they~~ were *they* overjoyed! They sure were.

Still another tragedy of crime tells of two stick-up men who took every penny from their victim - but he begged them to give him back a nickel, — one lone nickel — so he'd have carfare home. They were charitable crooks, and they did. The victim used the nickel to put in a quick call for the police, and the hold up men were promptly captured. Today in jail they moaned; "We were awful suckers to give that guy back a nickel."

TALLULAH

According to the old phrase -- somebody gets

married and settles down. But not Tallulah; <sup>not Tallulah!</sup> ~~Bankshead. In~~

<sup>Glamorous Tallulah Bankshead</sup>  
In marriage, ~~she~~ has found happiness -- but not the settle-down

kind. To reporters she said today, " I am oh so happy, happier than I've ever been before." But she also said "If I wanted to settle down I wouldn't marry an actor."

Her idea seems to be to remain unsettled -- and

have a husband to be unsettled with. " I expect to have more

fun than ever before now that I have some one to have fun

<sup>allowing husky voiced</sup>  
with me." Such is the <sup>^</sup>Tallulah philosophy of marriage, to

which she contributes a final reflection on her entrance into

the wedded state. "I suppose now, " she smiled, "they think

I'm a respectable woman at last! But, I'm not going to

settle down, <sup>^</sup>said Tallulah.



## WOMAN

The word from Texas is that the nudist stowaway down there will be deported. The immigration authorities announced today that Mrs. Esther Worman will be sent back to England tomorrow - fully clothed. I suppose that's all right by Mrs. Esther Worman because she was a nudist in spite of herself.

Several weeks ago, she stowed away on a ship to come to America. She's described as a plump and prepossessing blonde, and her motive was to look for her husband. He is said to be an English pugilist in the U. S. A., fighting in the ring some place in this broad land. The lady hid herself in the hold of the freighter. When out at sea it got mighty hot down there. It was near the engine room. It became so broiling that she was simply compelled to disrobe. So there she was like Eve, stowed away, when <sup>suddenly</sup> a fire broke out in the hold. She had to escape from the flames in a hurry - no time to dress. So she dashed up on deck, blonde and plump to the surprise of the astounded sailors. I suppose she felt like jumping overboard, and the sailors like jumping overboard after her.

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Anyway, that's the story of the nudist stowaway.

When the freighter put in at Galveston, she was turned over to the immigration authorities. Today they condemned her to be deported. Fully garbed, from shoes to hat.



BREVITIES

There's a rare old bit of comic verse - I don't remember it quite but it goes something like this:

"It was all right for you to dissemble your love

"But why did you kick me downstairs?"

That may seem to be humorous extravagance, but it was more than matched by a scene in a New York Court.

A man of seventy-two, whose wife is seventy, was telling the Judge. He said he loved his wife. His Honor was astonished by this sentimental declaration, because the prisoner was on trial for throwing a bottle at his wife's head - when he came home drunk.

"How?" asked the bewildered magistrate, "How can you balance love with throwing a bottle at her?"

"It was an empty bottle," responded the aged prisoner.

He was full but the bottle was empty.

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In Cleveland there's a good hearted pawn-broker, although that may seem to be a paradox, But the heart of pawn-broker Dick Bergman simply melted when an aged couple

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1/2  
walked into his Hockshop. On the counter they plunked a wedding ring, the golden circlet used at their wedding forty years ago. They wanted to borrow six dollars on it.

Yes, even a pawn-broker's eye might grow moist at something so pathetic as that. Dick Bergman looked at the old gentleman and the old lady and asked: "Why do you need the money?" Maybe he was about to give them some cash so they might have food and shelter. So why must they pawn their forty year old wedding ring to raise six dollars?<sup>?</sup>

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The dear old lady responded wistfully: "We've got a tip on the horses, three winners. We want to play them two, two and two." I suppose the pawn-broker made the loan with a cold heart, and took the wedding ring. & a-l-u-t-m.  
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