

*L.I. Sunoco - Wednesday, Aug. 9, 1939*

*today*

46
 The capital of the horsey world <sup>today</sup> was transferred  
~~for one day~~ to Goshen, New York. There, at the celebrated  
 Good Time Track, some forty thousand people met to watch the  
 champion harness horses of America trot off that trotting classic,  
 the Hambletonian. <sup>P</sup> I'm rather glad it only happens once a year  
 because I always have to remember that in talking about that  
 event one mustn't use the word "run" and ~~must~~ not call it a "race."  
 So ~~let me get off my chest now, that~~ <sup>So</sup> it was a most successful  
 trotting match, and that the favorite, Peter Astra, won ~~that~~ <sup>the</sup>  
 forty thousand dollar match in two straight heats. <sup>P</sup> Peter Astra  
 was such a favorite ~~that~~ he started at a prohibitive price ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup>  
 the book-makers wouldn't touch, ~~him~~. He won the first heat by  
 three lengths over his nearest rival, and the second heat  
 comfortably by five lengths. The result was, of course, that no  
 record was broken as some of the fans had hoped:- there wasn't  
 a horse on the track to make Peter Astra go all out for the  
 Hambletonian today. He has made four starts this season and  
 not been defeated yet.

47

## DANZIG

Central Europe today is showing many of the symptoms that preceded the surrender of Czechoslovakia. ~~to Nazi Germany.~~ With Danzig as his goal, Hitler appears to be using the well tried technique that he employed so successfully for the absorption of not only Czechoslovakia but also Austria. (In Berlin, the ~~violent,~~ ~~scurrilous~~ campaign in the Nazi newspapers against Poland continues with increased vehemence. They <sup>are enraged by the</sup> ~~now~~ charge that the Poles have threatened to bombard Danzig. ~~and that~~, they say, will mean war.)

Albert Foerster, Nazi leader of Danzig, left Bavaria after passing two days with ~~Fuehrer~~ Hitler in his mountain <sup>retreat.</sup> ~~home.~~ ~~And he~~ <sup>He</sup> announced <sup>S</sup> that he will speak tomorrow night to a mass meeting of Nazis in Danzig in a public square. What he'll say to the mass meeting has been dictated, or at least approved, by the Nazi Fuehrer.

48  
In Paris it is admitted that the tension over that Danzig business is acute. But government spokesmen do not believe there will be any flare-up immediately.



# MUSSOLINI

Europe was considerably excited today over the rumors about ~~Duce~~ Mussolini's health, ~~The gossips have it that he had~~ a heart attack, complicated <sup>by</sup> ~~with~~ a stomach ailment. <sup>They say this was</sup> The real reason he stayed away from the monster military review at Turin, <sup>so he could</sup> ~~was that he had to~~ fly to Rome to consult his <sup>doctor,</sup> ~~medical~~ attendants.

Officially, <sup>it's</sup> ~~this is all~~ denied. The Duce is perfectly well, say the authorities, <sup>adding that he</sup> ~~he~~ came away from the big military show at Turin because King Victor Emanuel was <sup>there</sup> to preside <sup>for him,</sup> ~~over~~ the review.

## SPAIN

Francisco Franco, Generalissimo of Spain, no longer makes any bones about being a dictator. He announced today a reorganization of the government. And one thing he did was to abolish the office of Vice-Premier. The Premier is Franco himself. And he authorizes himself to make laws and public decrees without even asking the opinion of the Council of his Ministers.

49

He also establishes a Bureau of National Defense under his own direct control. <sup>This</sup> ~~he~~ includes a general staff with authority over ~~the~~ army, ~~the~~ navy and ~~the~~ air force, ~~in addition~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~to that there will be~~ separate ministers <sup>for</sup> ~~of the~~ army, ~~the~~ navy and ~~the~~ air. <sup>But</sup> ~~and~~ the real boss of ~~all these forces~~ will ~~also~~ be Franco, ~~at least so it is said.~~



## FLEET

There was <sup>an imposing</sup> ~~a brave~~ spectacle in the English Channel today.

Lying at anchor off the breakwater <sup>at</sup> of Portland; ~~there were~~ fourteen lines of battleships, each of those fourteen lines four miles long.

All that display of power represented the <sup>home</sup> reserve ~~fleet~~ of the British Royal Navy, ~~only one part of the naval power of John Bull.~~ It included every kind of man'o'war, from the ~~big~~ super-super-dreadnought <sup>s</sup> ~~battleships~~ to ~~little~~ motor torpedo boats that ~~reminded observers of~~ <sup>like</sup> a swarm of wasps. Every fighting vessel was completely manned, twelve thousand men of the naval reserves having been called to the colors <sup>plus the regular crews.</sup>

At the pierhead lay the royal yacht, and on it stepped an <sup>officer</sup> ~~tall gentleman~~ in the undress uniform of an Admiral of the Fleet.

Surrounded by the lords of the admiralty, high ranking admirals together with Admiral Darlan, Commander-in-Chief of the French Navy, he <sup>went a</sup> ~~stepped on~~ board the royal yacht. It was King George the Sixth, Admiral of the Fleet and Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Navy. As he stepped aboard, the guns of the fleet thundered out the royal salute and the white mist on Weymouth Bay was pierced by flashes of flames from the saluting guns of ships that looked like ghost vessels.

The King then made a personal inspection of several of his men'o'war, after which his barge passed up and down the line of ships while the crews in review-formation stood at attention on the decks. After the review, His Majesty, as Commander-in-Chief, ordered the signal hoisted which read "Splice the main brace." That's a signal always received with cheers in the Royal Navy. It means an extra tot of grog for every man in the fleet. <sup>The words for "have a drink on me!"</sup> And thereupon those hundred and thirty-three warships weighed anchor and steamed out to sea in the mist, to join the home fleet for the biggest manoeuvres held in many a year. For this <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ the first time in fifteen years that the reserve fleet <sup>has been</sup> ~~was~~ mobilized at full strength and put on active service. <sup>now</sup> ~~So now~~ Britannia <sup>has</sup> on active duty, ready for war at a moment's notice, the most formidable force that has strutted the high seas since the days of the World War.

<sup>Q</sup> ~~One~~ British answer to the mobilization of eight million men on the continent ~~of Europe~~.

51

## AIR MANEUVRES

In addition to the gesture of that fleet review, the Royal air force held manœuvres on a scale ~~quite~~ without precedent. A fleet of five hundred war planes flew across the Channel from Paris in a sham raid ~~of~~<sup>on</sup> the English coast. From the home airports, eight hundred fighting planes went aloft to defend the country from the raiders, while all the anti-aircraft units of the country were mobilized. ~~All the while~~<sup>The</sup> squadrons of warplanes engaged in sham dog fights over London, and bombers dropped imitation bombs.



Gibraltar  
AIR TEST FOLLOW FLEET

PP Meanwhile And while King George was reviewing his reserve fleet,  
the garrison of Gibraltar was making extraordinary preparations.

2 The Governor of Gibraltar had ordered exercises for the evening to drill the garrison and population in the routine of what has to be done to guard against air raids. He ordered a complete blackout, lights to be turned off in every house at nine o'clock, all motor cars and pedestrians off the streets. And for the first time in such an anti-air raid drill units of the territorial forces took part as well as the special constabulary recruited from civilians.

Tomorrow night there ~~to~~ to be a blackout, an ~~anti-air raid~~ anti-air raid test in London, also.

George Bernard Shaw is at it again. He has published another one of those verbal slaps in the face to the British public, which he so much enjoys administering and which the British appear to love.

despite the fact that  
G.B.S. has written another play, ~~though~~ in the last few years he has frequently intimated that he thinks he has lived too long and that somebody ought to stop him from writing plays.

His latest is about a fascinating subject, King Charles the Second, the so-called "Merry Monarch." <sup>Shaw's</sup> ~~his~~ latest stunt is to warn people to stay away from the theatre where ~~that~~ play is being acted, if they're interested merely in the charms of King Charles's lady friends. He says that side of the Merry Monarch doesn't interest him and he doubts if it ever did interest any grown up person.

53  
What interests him is a picture of what might have happened if King Charles had <sup>met</sup> ~~met~~ the human prodigy, Isaac Newton, or a prodigy of another sort, George Fox, whom Shaw describes as "Founder of the morally minded Society of Friends, ~~vulgarly~~ called Quakers."

And Shaw continues:- "Anybody who is more interested in Sweet Nell of Old Drury than in ~~Isaac~~ Isaac Newton had better avoid

my plays." And he adds that anybody who is more fascinated by the charms of Lady Castlemaine than by Fox's foundation of a great cult of friendship, should keep away from the theatres and frequent worse places.

After all that diatribe against people of carnal tastes, the great G.B.S. admits that not only Sweet Nell of Old Drury but Lady Castlemaine and the French woman, Louise (Carougey) *Dutchess of Portsmouth* deKerouaille, appear on the stage in his play. He says he brings them on to relieve the intellectual tension.

Well G.B.S., I never heard it called that before.



NAVAL ACADEMY

4

If war breaks out, we shall need a larger Naval Academy at Annapolis. ~~So much was reported to~~ <sup>the</sup> President <sup>was</sup> ~~told~~ <sup>told</sup> ~~Roosevelt~~ today by the official Board of Visitors. In war-time we ~~shall~~ <sup>will</sup> need more midshipmen and, says the Board, any considerable influx of midshipmen would have to be quartered on the already over-crowded drill grounds, ~~and that at a time when they'd be more than ever needed for exactly the purposes for which they are now used.~~ The Board therefore recommends that additional land should be purchased adjacent to the Academy at Annapolis to allow <sup>for wartime</sup> ~~the United States~~ expansion. ~~if war breaks out.~~

MURPHY

The Honorable Frank Murphy, Attorney-General of the United States, seems to be seeking a reputation for a ~~strict~~ and ~~even~~ rigorous attitude formerly associated with the people of ancient Sparta. His latest <sup>abiter</sup> ~~oviter~~ dictum is that public officials should give all their attention to their jobs and none of it to seeking other offices. He wants a rule made which will prohibit Attorneys-General from looking for ~~any~~ elective jobs. He added that it should apply also to other important officials in the Department of Justice. He <sup>made no</sup> ~~studiously kept away from~~ mentioning <sup>of</sup> ~~any~~ other Cabinet officers. ~~He~~ But even an Attorney General can't prevent people from having their own thoughts about it.

## MISSISSIPPI

25  
The folks in Mississippi held a primary election yesterday to decide who should be Democratic candidate for Governor. One of <sup>those</sup> ~~the principles~~ in the race was <sup>one</sup> ~~a gentleman~~ ~~named~~ Paul Burney Johnson, who waged his campaign on the statement that President Roosevelt is the best friend <sup>ever had.</sup> of the South. His most important rival was Martin Sennet Conner, <sup>"Mike"</sup> ~~more~~ ~~popularly known as~~ <sup>who</sup> ~~Mike.~~ He is considered a friend of Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi <sup>and Mike</sup> ~~who~~ has acidly criticized some of ~~Mr.~~ Roosevelt's policies. So far as the returns have come in, the Roosevelt champion is in the lead by a few hundred votes; ~~But that's~~ based on only twenty per cent of the election precincts.



BRIDGES

The lawyers defending the Australian Labor Leader, Harry Bridges, are basing their defense on a spectacular accusation. They charge that the efforts to deport the Australian are the result of a conspiracy by organizations of employers, officials of the Immigration Service, and Pacific Coast ~~cops~~ *police*.

56  
Today, the defense called <sup>*Police*</sup> Captain John Keegan of the <sup>*Oregon,*</sup> Portland, ~~Police Force~~ as a witness. They hoped through him to establish a conspiracy. But he disappointed them, and testified that neither the United States Department of Labor nor anyone else ever asked him to investigate Harry Bridges. He said ~~that~~ Portland ~~cops~~ had become interested in Bridges in Nineteen Thirty-Seven, when the Marine Federation of the Pacific held a convention <sup>*there*</sup> ~~in Portland~~. Then he went on to explain:- "We had had a bitter experience in the maritime strike of Nineteen Thirty-Four. At that time we were not prepared to police the waterfront adequately. So when the convention was held in Nineteen Thirty-Seven, I wanted to find out if another strike was to be called." "But," said Police Captain Keegan, "no conspiracy against Bridges!"

## AIRPLANE

Closer to the American coast, there was the report of another mishap at sea. At the entrance of Narragansett Bay, a seaplane is down on the surface of the water, a large four-motored plane. She was reported two miles south of the Brenton Reef Lighthouse<sup>+</sup>, near Newport, Rhode Island.

57  
A Coast Guard cutter was quickly on its way to the scene of the accident and an amphibian plane was sent out from the sea base at Salem, Massachusetts. ~~It isn't known yet~~

~~what seaplane it was, who the people were on board her, or~~

Here's the latest! — it's a  
~~even how many of them.~~

big Navy plane which had to make a forced landing at sea. No casualties.



## SHIP FIRE

More dramatic news from mid-Atlantic! ~~Today it's~~  
~~summed up in those two ominous words,~~ "ship afire!" Seven  
hundred miles northeast of Boston, an American freighter is in  
distress with fire in one of her holds. She radioed a call for  
help, which was received by the Coast Guard Cutter CHAMPLAIN,  
~~which is~~ on international ice patrol duty a hundred and sixty  
miles ~~away~~ from ~~that~~<sup>2</sup> fire, ~~at sea. It was also picked up by the~~  
~~cutter CHELAN, which is three hundred and twenty miles away.~~

At first it was reported ~~that~~ the fire was not  
serious. But later ~~the~~ Coast Guard headquarters received word  
that the outcome was uncertain, ~~and Coast Guard assistance desired.~~

*So two*  
~~Both~~<sup>2</sup> cutters are on their way, ~~to that burning ship.~~



## TREASURE SHIP

58  
Some ~~Several~~ years ago, the Ward liner MERIDA went to the bottom of the sea off Norfolk, Virginia. She took with her a ~~small~~ fortune in silver and gold certificates. The Italian treasure ship, FALCO, undertook the job of salvaging that treasure, which was supposed to include twenty-two tons of silver bullion. For two seasons, the FALCO has been at work on ~~that salvage~~ job. And at the end of all those labors, all that could be found was one small bar of silver worth about seven dollars and twenty cents. The crew of ~~that~~<sup>e</sup> treasure ship <sup>now</sup> have brought to the surface the entire contents of the baggage room of the sunken MERIDA. And ~~that's all that comes to light,~~<sup>all they have for it,</sup> seven dollars and twenty cents, instead of twenty-two tons of silver, and ~~fifty thousand dollars of gold certificates.~~

58 1/2  
However, they're going to make one more last try.

-----  
There was a still more picturesque rumor in connection with the wreck of the MERIDA. In spite of all denials, there were persistent reports that in her cargo was a valuable consignment of historic jewels. They were the crown jewels of Mexico, the gems that unhappy Emperor Maximillian gave to

PAY CUT

The noble state of Michigan has <sup>a most</sup> ~~one of the most~~ <sup>altruistic</sup> ~~extraordinary~~ citizens I ever heard of. And I'll bet you've heard of few like him. He asked <sup>3</sup> to have his salary cut. ~~When~~ <sup>Yes -</sup> I add that he's a public office holder, you will be still more amazed.

9  
The <sup>is</sup> Michigander ~~I'm talking about~~ is Director of Drugs and Drug Stores of the State Pharmacy Board. His name is E. J. Parr. He went to the Auditor-General of the State at Lansing and uttered a sentence that sounded ~~utterly~~ incredible. So unbelievable ~~in fact~~ that the Auditor-General asked him to say it again. And Director Parr repeated these words:- "I want to have my salary cut from five thousand to four thousand dollars a year." Then he explained:- "I used to hold this job at four thousand and that's all it's worth."

59 1/4  
The Auditor-General fainted.

~~If there's a Mrs. E.J. Parr, one wonders what the little woman had to say about it.~~