

EUROPE

C.J. - Sunoco Monday, Aug. 21, 1939.

The best description of the situation in Europe today came from an obscure member of the British Cabinet.

The Minister of Supply, addressing a visiting ~~REN~~ group of Canadian engineers and industrialists, explained it in these terms:- "Europe is in a sort of twilight when peace has certainly ended, but war has not yet begun."

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When it comes to actual facts, concrete actions, the excuses ~~or~~ being hopeful are ^{not so good.} ~~pretty shady~~. In many respects we see a picture of events ~~exactly~~ like that which preceded the war scare of Czecho-slovakia ~~which was~~ ended by the surrender at Munich. For instance, Britishers in Germany are either leaving or getting ready to leave ~~it~~ just as they did during the Sudeten row. ^{They're advised to leave Ger. + Poland.} It is reported that all the ~~railroads~~ ^{railroads,} ~~and~~ ^{and} all the highways in the outlying parts of Germany, are clogged with troops on the move, tanks, artillery, ~~and~~ caissons, supply trucks. ^R Naturally these movements are particularly heavy around the Polish frontier. The military experts of other countries in Berlin believe that by this time tomorrow Hitler will have two million men under arms. That will include a

heavy concentration of his soldiers ~~on~~ ^{and} the German fortifications that face the Maginot Line. Tomorrow night the German army is going to have air raid practice on a ~~xxxx~~ tremendous scale.

The entire ~~Rhin~~ Rhineland area will be blacked out.

~~And~~ To add to reports of alarm it was announced in Berlin that the Foreign Minister of Hungary is one hundred percent in favor of ~~xx~~ cooperation between Germany and Hungary.

Among the powers lined up in opposition to the axis there were just as frantic warlike preparations. Facing the quarter of a ^{million} billion Nazi troops in Slovakia, the Poles have ^{a huge} army ~~just as large~~, massed ^{on} ~~across~~ the frontier. And the Polish General Staff has ordered the ^{border} ~~frontiers~~ closed and has laid mines under all the important highways and bridges that connect Poland with what used to be Slovakia. ^{TR} The British, for their part, are ~~xx~~ preparing to mobilize the entire territorial army, the home guard. That will enable the war office to have an expeditionary force of thirty-two divisions ready to send overseas for service abroad. It is reported that the Firth of Forth, one of the bases of the home fleet, has been mined

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and that emergency precautions have been taken in every British seaport and harbor.

Prime Minister Chamberlain returned to London twenty-four hours earlier than he was expected. He returned without his umbrella. And that's taken to mean that appeasement is out!

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Other Ministers are on their way for a special session of the British Cabinet tomorrow. When an Englishman comes rushing back to London in August and cuts short his grouse shooting, then something really grave is afoot. It is reported that Chamberlain is about to summon Parliament back into session next week.

ADD EUROPE

Events are moving just as swiftly in France.

~~The~~ ^{Le Brun} President ~~of the Republic~~ cut short his vacation. An emergency meeting of the full Council of Ministers has been called for Thursday. The French have been almost on a war basis for weeks. All the military resources of the Republic are standing in leash waiting for the word to go.

BRUSSELS - Follow Europe

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There's just one silver lining to the European clouds. That's the appeal for peace made by King Leopold III of Belgium. He ^{has} called a conference of what is known as the Oslo Powers: Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg. The Oslo Powers are so-called because it was at the Norwegian Capital that they first got together and made plans to act in concert in case of just such a crisis as faces the world today. The foreign ministers of the Oslo countries will meet at Brussels Wednesday. The idea, ~~of course,~~ is that they will draw up an appeal ^l to the big powers for peace, and submit a practical plan for mediation. All those countries have just as sound and ~~xxx~~ sensible a reason for dreading war as any other country. In case of a European conflict their territory and their people would be in danger, from the war-making armies, just as Belgium and Luxembourg were in 1914. At the same time the Oslo countries will consider means of clubbing together their own resources and protecting themselves not only against aggression from the big powers, but against the terrible economic effects of a general war.

RUSSIA

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(Another ~~one~~ of the prime sources of anxiety in Europe today was the news of ~~that~~ trade agreement between Stalin and Hitler, Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany. A trade treaty of itself ^h could not be of world shattering importance at any time. But at this date the serious question is what lies behind it? Is there a secret military agreement between Hitler and Stalin, or even a neutrality agreement?)

Nobody knows that except Hitler and Stalin. But it has been prophesied that such an agreement was inevitable. The differences between a Nazi regime and a Bolshevik Soviet regime ^{many consider} today ~~are~~ a matter of name.

(In Warsaw officials of the Polish government were openly hinting that Soviet Russia was playing a double game.) As a matter of fact the Poles have never trusted Russia. Russia has been Poland's historic enemy for many centuries. By the same token it's no secret that Stalin distrusts Great Britain, his suspicions of British policy, and moreso since the surrender of Czechoslovakia in Munich last year.

However, a dispatch from Moscow brings a Soviet denial of these suspicions. Spokesmen for Stalin says the signing of that trade treaty with Germany at this time is just a happenstance, that it has been under negotiation for a long time, months before the British and French military missions were sent to Moscow. Negotiations between the military chiefs of the three powers were going on all day, today.

(Here's a late and most important sounding bulletin:- Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop, says the United Press dispatch, will leave on Wednesday, for Moscow, to conclude negotiations for a German-Soviet Non-aggression pact. This is an official announcement made in Berlin tonight.

And here's a later one -- just off the wire:- This announcement came like a bombshell in Europe tonight, says the United Press.)

DIES

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A Nazi German Consul was the subject of the testimony before the Dies Committee today. Hitler's Consul at New Orleans was described as having indulged in some mighty queer and undiplomatic activities. The witness was Dr. John Harvey Sherman, President of the University of Tampa.)

The story that he told was characteristic of many others ~~that~~ we have heard. For two years the Chair of German ~~ex~~ language and literature at Dr. Sherman's University has been held by Professor Otto Kraus, who came here from Vienna and became a naturalized American citizen. Now Dr. Kraus is a typical Viennese, and a man of Democratic opinions, bitterly anti-Nazi. Soon after he took the Chair at the University of Tampa a whispering campaign was started at the expense of Dr. Kraus. Rumor, Innuendo, slurs upon his knowledge, attacks on his personal character. President Sherman says that he and the faculty of the University of Tampa ignored those attacks, took them for what they were worth. Then Dr. Sherman ~~xx~~ was approached by the German Consul at Tampa, who said he had a friend who might

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give the University a library. That friend, it turned out,
was the high, well-born Baron Edgar von Spigel, ^{— of U-Boat fame.} When the high,
well-born Baron was introduced to ^{him,} Dr. Sherman asked whether he
was the gentleman who wanted to give the library. The ~~high,~~

~~well-born~~ Baron replied: "Not I, but my Government." The Baron,
^{now German consul in New Orleans,}
then explained that they were in that way, encouraging the study
of German in the colleges, and that they had given books elsewhere.
And, added the Baron, of course they would have to be sure that
the Professor in charge of the Department was educated.

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At that point, says Dr. Sherman, the conversation
ceased to be pleasant. The German Consul told President Sherman
that it was a mistake to have Jews at the University and on
the Board of Trustees and on the Faculty, a mistake that the
university would eventually regret. Dr. Sherman told the Consul
that the University wasn't interested in his offer of books and
he did not believe their professor would be acceptable to the
German Government. "In short," says Dr. Sherman, "he got rid
of the Baron as quickly as he could, and wishes now he had thrown
him out." Dr. Sherman also testified that the ~~next~~ President of

Tulane University told him he had had similar experiences with the ~~high, well-borne~~ Baron and that he was displeased ^{with} ~~with~~ the *ex-U-Boat ace* activities of that ~~man~~ ^{man} around ~~the~~ his campus.

In New Orleans the ~~high, well-borne~~ Baron declared that Dr. Sherman's testimony was a wanton invention. He said that he had made presents of ~~ex~~ German books to many other colleges and universities in the eight states under his jurisdiction. They had been gladly accepted.

FARLEY

Postmaster General ~~Jim~~ Farley of the United States occasionally takes a rest. But Chairman "Sunny Jim" of the Democratic National Committee is always on the job. After his visit to the Pope, Jim was in Paris today. And of course, the correspondents got hold of him. ^{As} ~~As~~ Postmaster General he said nothing. But as National Chairman he gave tongue. What he said was only what you'd expect a National Chairman to say. And it only becomes news because it's cabled from Paris. "A Democratic victory in 1940 is certain," says Chairman Jim. "But," he adds, "we must have a united party."

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On the other side of the globe, in Los Angeles, a Democrat of a different type had his say on the same topic. ~~He was~~ Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, a leader of the anti-New Deal Bloc in the Senate that defeated several of Mr. Roosevelt's pet measures. He also is of the opinion that the chances for the Democratic party next year are excellent. He also thinks that if Mr. Roosevelt wants the nomination he can have it. "But," he added, "it would be a great mistake." And he also said that if there's a split the Democrats can't win.

ITU

Peace in the labor world, friendship between the American Federation of Labor and the C.I.O. is the aim of the strongest union ~~in the world; that is,~~ ^{of them all} the International Typeographical Union which ~~began~~ ^{is holding} its annual convention at Fort Worth, Texas. Not long ago the I.T.U. was suspended by the A. F. of L. for being twenty-two thousand dollars in arrears on its assessments for the war chest in the struggle between the A. F. of L. and the C. I.O. The printers deliberately withheld ~~the~~ ^{their} assessments, refused to be assessed for any such cause.

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Resolutions were offered today for a conference of all the unions to bring an end to ~~that~~ ^{the} warfare. The same Resolution provides that the printers will not even try to get back into the Federation until the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O. are at peace.

MILK

~~The majority of strikes are just affairs that the ordinary citizen reads about in the newspapers or hears about on the air.~~

~~But that~~ ^{This} milk strike in New York State is ^{now} being felt in the homes and kitchens ⁿ of hundreds of thousands. In ^e great New York City ^{today} there were restaurants and drugstores where it was impossible to get a drink [^] of milk. The supply available for children in homes was less than half normal. New York needs almost four and a half million quarts a day.

Mayor La Guardia called a conference to settle the strike. [#] The President of the Dairy Farmers Union offered to supply consumers direct so long as the strike lasts.

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Upstate, where the milk comes from, there were no such peaceful gestures. ~~It~~ At bottling plants and on highways there were fights ^{again today,} State policemen beaten, milk dumped by the wayside.

Some of the milk trucks were routed from Western New York State to New York City through Pennsylvania. There they were guarded by Pennsylvania motor police, and when they reached the New Jersey State line they were protected by Jersey troopers.

WOOL STRIKE - follow Milk

Unpleasant reports of a similar nature come from South Barre (Bar-re), Massachusetts, where the workers at a combing wool ~~reming~~ mill are out. Two women who tried to get through the picket line were stripped ~~all of all~~ their clothes. A man was dragged from ~~out of~~ his car and beaten up. And there were stories of violence in various parts of the city.

FOREST FIRES

Near the border between Oregon and California *there*
is a ~~an entire~~ town ~~is~~ *tonight,* in ashes. More than a hundred and fifty
homes, a hotel, *and other* many buildings, ~~were~~ burned to the ground.

The flames reached as far as the Klamath Indian Reservation
and Siskiyou National Forest. ~~That fierce~~ forest fire is

now under control ~~today,~~ but a pall of smoke still hangs over

Portland, Oregon, and more than a thousand weary men ~~are~~ still
fighting the flames on Mt. Hood, *at* Tillamook, *at* and Estacada.

There were forest fires in California too, but they
also are under control.

HEAVEN

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An aristocratic villa at aristocratic Newport, Rhode Island, echoed today with unaristocratic cries of "Peace, it's wonderful." In a mansion where Ambassadors, potentates, millionaires, fashionable people and sometimes also even nice people, used to dine, ~~a humble~~ ^{a sumptuous} meal was served to six of the negro Angels of Father Divine. But those six aren't going to have that million dollar mansion all to themselves. They ~~are only~~ ^{are} the advance guard of three hundred more.

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Gilt-edged social register tongues still wagged caustically on the subject of Mrs. Angela Kaufman, ~~the~~ ^{formerly} the owner of ~~that once fashionable~~ ^{the} mansion. They criticized her for turning ~~over~~ her castle into a ~~negro~~ ^{Divine} heaven. Mrs. Kaufman retorted by saying that the time will come when fashionable Newporters will find Father Divine's heaven a great social help to Newport. The Angels, as she put it, will bring to that beautiful seaside town loving hearts brimming with human kindness. *And a-l-u-t-m-*

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