

L.I. - Sunoco. Wed., Jan. 17, 1940.

BROWDER

There was ~~quite~~ an interesting opening to the trial of Earl Browder, our Number One Bolshevik, ^{accused of} ~~on trial for~~ passport frauds. His counsel, the eminent George Gordon Battle, contributed a ~~complete~~ surprise. He conceded that Browder in Nineteen Thirty-One used a passport that had been issued in the name of another man. Then he indicated what his defense would be. Browder, as ~~GENERAL SECRETARY~~ General Secretary of the American Reds, would have found all sorts of difficulties in his way if he had used his own name when traveling abroad.

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That plea brought an ~~instant~~ instant objection from the United States Attorney, John Cahill, ^{who} ~~he~~ jumped to his feet and protested that this argument was improper. The Government, he said, is not going into the motives or ramifications of the case. Browder is not going to be tried for being a Communist, he's being tried on the charge that he used passports issued in the names of other men. ~~And he added: "We are here to try facts and nothing but facts."~~ Federal Judge Cox agreed with ^{the} ~~Uncle Sam's~~ prosecutor, ^{and} sustained his objection.

The jury that is trying Browder consists of eleven men and one woman, a secretary. One of the ^{tail}smen from whom these

jurors were chosen provided an interesting moment. He was asked

whether he knew of any reason why he couldn't be a fair and proper

juror. ^{Whereupon the would be juror - a musician -}
~~and he~~ started to make a speech. ~~He's a musician by the way~~

~~and~~ He told the court that his feeling is that he has a soul to

~~— his own.~~

save. Evidently the lawyers were not interested in the soul of ~~this~~

~~physician~~ musician, for they interrupted him. ^{But} ~~then~~ he went on

to assure the court that he could give Browder a fair trial and

wouldn't hold any prejudice. Nevertheless, he was excused, ^{too}

^{much}
~~soul or the~~ soul.
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EXPLOSION

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Two weeks ago, the DuPont Company posted twenty-seven extra guards around one of their plants, a dynamite mixing plant at Gibbstown, New Jersey. Today the inhabitants of three states were shaken ~~up~~ when six thousand pounds of nitro-glycerin blew up in that factory. At first it was hoped that there had been no casualties. But as the excitement died down, it was discovered that at least two men had been killed, ^{and} two others seriously injured. That same factory at Gibbstown was wrecked three times during the World War, three times in the same year by explosions that killed ~~altogether~~ nineteen people ^{in all,}

As soon as ^{today's} ~~this~~ disaster became known in Washington, the Federal Bureau of Investigation ~~started on the job,~~ sent ~~out~~ investigators. So far it is not known just what caused the explosion. But it rocked the earth everywhere within a radius of fifty miles, ⁱⁿ Delaware, Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey.

DuPont officials are discounting the suggestion that the explosion was caused by sabotage since the explosives manufactured at that plant are for commercial purposes, not for war.

FINNISH LOAN

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It's evident now that ~~quite~~ some time will elapse before Congress makes any decision about lending more money to Finland. Nothing was done about it today except that the Banking Committee of the Senate, which has the matter under advisement, has invited Secretary of State Hull to appear next Wednesday and tell his arguments in favor of it. What they most want to know from him is how would it affect Uncle Sam's neutrality.

Jesse Jones, the Federal Loan Administrator, was a witness before the Committee today and told the lawmakers that as a banker he considered Finland ~~was~~ a good risk. The ten million dollar credit already extended to the Finnish Government by the Export-Import Bank is, in ^{Jesse} Jones's opinion, a good loan. The Senators on the Committee gave the impression that they aren't going to be in any hurry. ~~Privately, the isolationist senators, are opposed to it as strongly as ever.~~

HOOVER

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Former President Hoover expressed himself today in support of one proposal made by President Roosevelt. ~~This was~~ on the subject of Finland. Mr. Hoover spoke out and urged that Congress ~~should~~ approve Mr. Roosevelt's recommendation to grant credits to Finland for non-military purposes. However, the Ex-President went further. We shouldn't ~~lend~~ ^{merely lend} the money to the Finns. ^{Let's} Make it a gift and forget it, ^{That's} ~~is~~ his idea, and ^{Mr. Hoover} ~~is~~ points out that the Argentine Government has already given the Finns two million bushels of wheat, ^{and} The Brazilian Government presented them with six million pounds of coffee. Neither of these governments are taking any obligations or accepting any payments.

^{Mr.} And Hoover said further:- "The United States has a large surplus ~~supply~~ of food and could easily ^{spare} ~~supply~~ some of it to both the Finns and the Poles without depriving our people of one single atom."

SWEDEN

There was excitement in the Swedish Parliament today; *the atmosphere tense over a*
~~The atmosphere in the Riksdag started to become tense over a~~
throw
proposal to ~~kick~~ out all Communist members. Prime Minister Hansson of Sweden, turned thumbs down on the idea. As he put it, "If the Communists betray their country, the Swedish Government will handle them as they deserve."

The Prime Minister then went on to squelch ~~a rumor that~~
~~has been running around the earth,~~ the rumor that Great Britain had offered to help the Swedes in case their independence ~~were was~~ threatened. No such offer has been received, said Premier Hansson, and he added that if the press continues to spread sensational yarns of that tenor, the Government might be compelled to take measures to stop it.

Swedish Parliamentary occurred
The big ~~explosion blew up in Stockholm,~~ when a former Minister of the Cabinet ~~got up to~~ ^{ed} attack the Government. ~~Not an~~
important man in Swedish politics, Richard Sandler, who was Foreign Minister before the recent reorganization of the Cabinet. That former Swedish Foreign Minister had resigned because he was for a more aggressive policy. And it was on that count that he attacked the Government today. The most important thing he said

was that Sweden should have sent armed forces to the Aaland Islands to insure their neutrality. Those are the islands that lie between Sweden and Finland in the mouth of the Gulf of Bothnia. ~~That~~^{is}

~~attack by Sandler was cheered not only by the spectators in the galleries but by several deputies on the floor of the House~~

RUMOR

Here's one from the rumor factory. It's an old acquaintance, the hard-working, you might almost say over-worked gag that the Nazis are about to invade Belgium. This time the gossips are even precise about a date. Hitler has scheduled an attack for tonight or tomorrow.

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Some are a
~~People are a little~~ bit tired of this particular yarn. ~~But~~, you never can tell. So I'm repeating it for what it may be worth. The claim is that it comes from that good old standby, "unofficial but usually reliable quarters." Officially, it is neither confirmed nor denied, just calm silence. The French military declare they have information that the Germans have concentrated seventy divisions, about one million men, along the frontiers of Belgium and Holland. ~~It should be remembered, that~~ Each time this rumor has appeared so far, it ~~has~~ quickly ~~disproved~~ evaporated.

HITLER PLOT

Naturally there was much ado in France over the accusation that there's a pro-Hitler conspiracy in the Republic, a plot in which several members of the Chamber of Deputies are involved.

~~mixed up~~ The charge was made by a deputy belonging to the ^{French} Independent Republican Party.

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The Committee on Foreign Affairs in the Chamber met in Paris today to consider the evidence. But the deputy who brought the accusation did not appear. He said he would not turn over the material he had gathered to any secret meeting of a committee. He wants it dragged out into the open. What will probably happen, is that the military authorities will take the matter up, sift the evidence and decide whether there should be any prosecutions.

ITALY

A war note was sounded in Italy today. It came from a high ranking Fascist, the Secretary General of the Black Shirts, ~~to be precise~~. He was addressing an assembly of Fascist officials and uttered the warning that they must not sleep in the illusion that Italy's present attitude toward the war will last forever. "Fascist Italy," said the Secretary General of the Party, "may find itself at any moment faced with the necessity of ~~the duty of~~ taking up arms."

WEATHER FOLLOW FINLAND

But ~~those cruel~~ ^{such} temperatures are not peculiar to
the ^e northern war zone. ~~The cold wave that we are having in the~~
~~mid-western and eastern United States would be almost summerlike~~
~~in northern Europe~~ ^{northern Europe today} The thermometer dropped seventy-nine degrees
in thirty-six hours.

The latest report from Moscow is forty below and still
falling. Soviet schools are closed, parents urged by the government
to keep their children at home. The temperature at Riga is more
than forty-seven below.

In Germany the chimes of a church were frozen and at
another place the hands of the clock on the town hall dropped down
on the street. In Berlin the temperature dropped forty degrees,
but the military censors won't let it be known exactly how cold
it is in Hitler's capital.

WEATHER

The cold wave is going to last a week, says the weather-man. It comes to us all the way from the basin of the icebound McKenzie River in the Arctic. Jack Frost ^{today} laid his fingers most ^{icily} ~~firmly~~ over the Dakotas, the Ohio valley, and the states around the Great Lakes. ~~But it's also attacking~~ ^{And he's also clutching at} the east.

WHITE FACE MOUNTAIN

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Bill Cody, Government Meteorologist high up in the Adirondacks, sends me a message that the wind has been blowing up there, blowing like sixty! In fact, at the rate of a hundred miles an hour. At the Government ~~wi~~ weather station on the icy, bald summit of White Face Mountain, the hundred-mile gale carried away Uncle Sam's antennae and wind-recording equipment.

CANADA

There may soon be regular air service between Toronto and New York. This became known when the Civil Aeronautics Authority at Washington today issued a permit to Trans-Canada Airlines, permission to make a survey flight between the two cities. When and as the service is established, planes will stop at Buffalo, Rochester and Elmira, New York; Scranton, Wilkesbarre and Allentown, Pennsylvania, Camden and Newark, New Jersey.

Frank E. Gannett of Rochester, the multiple newspaper owner, has resigned as a director of the Associated Press, although he was reelected for a term of three years in Nineteen Thirty-Eight. He resigns as a natural sequence to the announcement that he is a candidate for the Republican nomination for president.

And that candidacy produces an interesting situation in New York, ^{in G. O. P. ranks,} ~~particularly the Grand Old Party in the Empire State.~~

For Gannett not only owns ^{quite a} ~~a strong and large~~ string of newspapers ^{but}

he's one of the leaders of the party in up-state New York. One of his backers is former Senator Jim Wadsworth, now a Representative in the lower House, but ^{always} ~~ways~~ a strong political factor in Empire State politics.

And that ^{puts him in} ~~opens up a direct~~ conflict with District Attorney Tom Dewey of New York City. ~~Most of the support for Dewey is in the southern part of the state, although it includes the Chairman of the State Executive Committee. Political soothsayers declare that Gannett will have a strong edge on the New York City prosecutor in all the up-state counties.~~ As for the rest of the country,

there is already a "Gannett-for-President" club in Indiana.

Candidates are cropping up almost every week now.

A trial examiner of the National Labor Relations Board was explaining today how he came to give money to a witness. He told it to the Committee of Congressmen investigating the N.L.R.B. He ~~told the Committee~~ ^{said} he didn't see anything wrong about it.

One of the Representatives asked him whether he believed it was the conduct of ~~an~~ a fair and impartial officer, ~~and he said: "I~~ ^{to which he replied: "I} certainly do."

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He explained that the witness in question was a negro, a member of a union who had been discharged from a mill at Gaffney, South Carolina. The negro told the trial examiner for the Board how he came to be discharged. Whittemore, the trial examiner, visited the negro after he had given his evidence, visited his house in company with Warren Woods, attorney of the N.L.R.B. All he gave him was four one-dollar bills, the man's testimony had been completed, and he ~~just~~ left him the money because the man was hard up, had ten children, and only a possum for dinner. In spite of that, he asked the Labor Relations Board's trial examiner to have dinner with him. And, said Whittemore, "Any man of this Committee would have done the same ^{as I did."} ~~upon seeing the things that I saw there."~~

LOUISIANA

The latest from ~~that~~^{the} Louisiana state primary is that there'll have to be another one. Governor Earl Long, brother of the late Huey, failed to get enough votes to renominate. ~~him~~ The law in Louisiana is that the successful candidate must get a majority of all the votes. ~~Now~~ Earl Long got more than any single one of his antagonists; ~~He~~ got thirty-five thousand more than his nearest competitor, ~~that is~~ on the basis of the returns from less than half the precincts. ^{Which} ~~That~~ is considered remarkable, on the ground that it shows the once all-powerful Long machine is not ^{now so} ~~as~~ all-powerful, ~~as it used to be. So there'll have to be another election, on~~ ~~February Twentieth, with only two candidates, Governor Earl Long~~ ~~running against Sam Houston Jones.~~

CARAVAN

A party of Utopians left southern California today, and that sounds a bit strange. The rest of the country has always been given to believe that "Utopia" was in southern California.

The twenty-one people, of comfortable means and substantial position in life, are leaving Pasadena, to find the Never-Never-land

on a tiny island in the Bahamas. They put their ~~comfortable~~ ^{line California} homes in the hands of agents with instructions to sell them, then they packed all their portable belongings into cars, trucks and trailers and set out for Tampa, Florida. There they will buy a boat and in that boat

they ~~will~~ ^{all} sail ~~seven~~ ⁵⁰⁷ hundred miles to the Island of East Caicos.

That islet is ~~partially~~ ^{by} owned and the rest of it has been leased by the leader of the twenty-one ^{by} Utopia hunters. There they will start a new life,

a new way of living, as the leader puts it. ~~There is going to be~~ ^{There isle is} a paradise for old age; a place where ~~a place where old-age can be comfortable, resting and harmonious,~~

~~without depending on pensions and things like that. And he added:~~

they ^{all} will be away from traffic and politics." ^H But we non-Utopians have traffic and we

~~money to build themselves substantial homes on that islet in the~~ have cars and we need M-Blue Bahamas, where they will get away from it all. Sunoco. So here's Hugh James.

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