

LEAGUE

L.S. - Sunoco. Monday, Dec. 11, 1939.

The League of Nations is about to ~~insert its bit into~~ <sup>speaks its word in</sup> the dispute between Red Russia and the defending Finns. The Finnish case was submitted to the League at Geneva today, whereupon a special committee was established. That special committee consisted of the delegates of Uruguay, Bolivia, Venezuela, Ireland, Canada, India, Egypt, Portugal, Sweden, Siam, Norway. Oh yes, and I almost forgot -- France and Great Britain. The Committee will send an ultimatum to Stalin. This ultimatum will say, "Withdraw your troops from Finnish soil in twenty-four hours and get ready for a peaceful discussion of your controversy with the Finns."

There were no teeth in this ultimatum, no threat as to what the League will do when Stalin refuses. <sup>It was really</sup> ~~I say "when" Stalin~~ <sup>an urgent demand that the quarrel be</sup> ~~refuses, because nobody needs to be a wizard to guess what the~~ <sup>mediated. And the Bolsheviks</sup> ~~reply will be. The Geneva body just asks for a reply within~~ <sup>emissary at Geneva indicated that</sup> ~~twenty-four hours.~~ <sup>there might be some chance.</sup>

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Forty-five nations were represented at Geneva today, but Russia was not one of them. However, a Russian ~~diplomat~~ was present, ~~not in the capacity as a Russian diplomat but~~ in his official function as permanent Under-Secretary of the ~~League~~ League.

Presiding over the Assembly at the afternoon session was the newly elected President, Carl Hambro of Norway, *whom we heard on the air on this program several years ago.*

NAZIS FOLLOW LEAGUE

Before the League assembled today, it received a warning from Berlin; ~~It was~~ a veiled threat directed at the neutral nations. A spokesman for the Nazis notified them that Hitler's Government will judge the neutrals according to the fashion in which they comport themselves at Geneva in this Soviet-Finnish controversy.



WAR

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The best of the late news about the war in Finland comes from Norway. A dispatch from a Norwegian port in the north <sup>relates</sup> ~~reports~~ that the Bolsheviks tried to make a landing from troop-ships concentrated in Petsamo Fjord, the Finnish harbor in the Arctic Circle. But Finnish sharpshooters were lying in wait for them, well concealed. The Norwegians report that the Finns decimated the Red soldiers, drove them back to their troop-ships. It should be added that this report is not officially confirmed. At the same time it is said that the Bolsheviki are having a tough time all along the ~~northern~~ <sup>arctic</sup> front. They have to cope with not only well posted Finnish defenders, trained in maneuvering on that difficult terrain, <sup>but</sup> also piercing cold ~~with~~ <sup>—</sup> the thermometer way below zero, and, broken lines of communication.

From Helsinki, the latest is that there was heavy fighting in the Karelian Isthmus and all along the southwestern front. The Reds attacked in two places but were repulsed. Of course that's the Finnish announcement which claims also that three whole companies of Red troops were annihilated seventy miles north of Lake Ladoga. That happened in a counter-attack that the Finns

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made upon the Bolsheviks. They say they have destroyed or

captured no fewer than a hundred and seven Russian tanks. The extreme cold is said to have wiped out entire units of the Soviet army, because of their poor uniforms. *So say the Finns.*

~~All this of course is the Finnish side of the story.~~

The Finns also made a counter-attack of propaganda today. Finnish pilots flew over Leningrad as well as over the lines of the Bolshevik army, dropping leaflets. Those leaflets, printed in Russian, told the subjects of Stalin that they had heard nothing but lies about the reasons for the invasion of Finland. The circulars dropped over the army lines promised substantial rewards to any Soviet pilots who would land their planes behind the Finnish lines and join the Finnish air force.

WHITE BOOK

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The Finnish Government made public a lengthy document today, a White Book telling the details of their negotiations with the Soviets. In this <sup>we are informed</sup> ~~they told the world~~ <sup>of</sup> for the first time <sup>of</sup> the exact demands that Stalin made upon them. First of all, the Bolsheviks wanted the port of Hangoe. That's a strategic point at the southwestern tip of Finland, commanding the Gulf of Finland. Incidentally, it would have given the Reds complete command of Helsinki. Ostensibly, what the Bolsheviks claimed was a thirty year lease, on not only the port of Hangoe but surrounding territory, and it was for the purpose of establishing a naval base with coast artillery. ~~They demanded, furthermore, the right to maintain a garrison of five thousand men at Hangoe.~~ They also wanted to use the adjoining bay as an anchorage for the Red fleet. And they demanded that the Finns should trade them certain islands in the Gulf of Finland as well as part of the Isthmus of Karelia in exchange for other territories, *way up north.*

Stalin also demanded that the Finns should suppress fortified zones situated on the frontier between Finland ~~the~~ and the Soviet Union, leaving only frontier guards. He also wanted the non-aggression treaty between Russia and Finland strengthened,



giving Moscow the right of supervision over any treaties into which the Finnish Government might want to enter.

The Finns say they made repeated concessions to Stalin. But the more concessions they made, the sterner grew the attitude of the Soviet Government. <sup>AP</sup> The Finns ~~even~~ offered a compromise, which Molotov turned down flatly.

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FINNISH MINISTER

Members of the former Finnish Legation in Moscow had a hard time getting away from the Reds, they say. The Finnish Minister reached Berlin today and told a tale of grim treatment. He and his wife and the entire legation staff, twenty-six people, were arrested at the frontier and locked up for six hours. The Finnish diplomat said he had been Minister to Moscow for nine years <sup>and</sup> ~~but he~~ was now glad and relieved to get out of the country.

He was asked about the collapse of the negotiations with the Soviet Foreign Office. And the Finnish Minister said that the stumbling block was over Stalin's demand for a naval base on Finnish territory. That was when conversations broke down, said the Finnish diplomat, and he added:- "Finland never, never will consent to any Russian military establishment on Finnish soil."



FINNS

Former President Hoover will make an address all the way across the continent ~~by telephone~~ tonight. He will speak from California to a mass meeting <sup>at</sup> ~~at Madison Square Garden, New York,~~ at Manhattan Center, New York, organized by the American Committee to Aid Finland. The proceeds will go to the Finnish Relief Fund which Ex-President Hoover has organized and incorporated.

Mr. Hoover wires me that a large number of newspapers throughout the nation are gallantly cooperating to raise money for those starving victims of war horrors in this small republic.

So send in your checks to help the Finns.

POPE

The Roman Catholic Church tonight has a new Camerlengo, which means Chamberlain. He is Cardinal Lauri, seventy-five years old. As Chamberlain he ~~becomes a most important prince of the Church. For it is he who~~ is the reigning prelate in the interval between the death of one pope and the election of his successor. ~~Before he was elected to the Holy See, the present Pope served as Chamberlain of the Church.~~

This appointment was announced today after Pope Pius the Twelfth had held his first consistory. As a token that the Church is in mourning, mourning over the warfare that ravages Europe, Pope Pius made a signal departure from one of ~~the~~ the oldest traditions of <sup>Rome.</sup> ~~the Church.~~ He did not appoint any new Cardinals. ~~And he also departed from tradition by not <sup>announcing a new</sup> appointing a Secretary of State~~

The Pontiff also made several American appointments. As announced this morning, Archbishop Spellman of New York becomes Bishop-in-Ordinary for the Army and Navy Diocese, head of all Catholic chaplains with the American armed forces. <sup>And the Pope</sup> ~~And he~~ named

Father O'Hara, President of Notre Dame, as Titular Bishop of Milasa, also Auxiliary Bishop of the Army Diocese under Archbishop Spellman.

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The same Father O'Hara who was heard on this program a year ago.

COMMUNISTS

Another Red comrade has fallen afoul of Uncle Sam! He is a Tovarish named Harry Gannes, writer of a column on the DAILY WORKER, the Communist newspaper. He was indicted last week but the court only opened the True Bill today. The grand jury charges him with having sworn to false statements when obtaining a passport, also traveling on an American passport under a name that ~~was~~ wasn't his own.

As this became known in New York, a court in Oregon was dealing with Nicholas Dozenberg, who has been described as the Number Two Bolshevik in America. A judge at Portland, Oregon, signed papers for the removal of Dozenberg to New York where he is to be tried. That makes a total of four comrades under indictment so far.



N.L.R.B.

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~~We've been waiting a long while for the~~ widely <sup>heralded</sup> publicized

congressional investigation into the National Labor Relations Board.

~~It was worth waiting for, since it certainly~~ <sup>it</sup> opened with a bang.

~~And the fireworks brought to light the fact that many of the rumors about what was going on side the machinery of the Board were pretty~~

~~well founded.~~ <sup>And</sup> In fact, the revelations at the first hearing today even out-stripped the rumors.

The first witness was William M. Leiserson, the latest member to be appointed to the Board by President Roosevelt. The most spectacular fact he revealed was that he called upon his colleagues to dismiss Nathan Witt, Secretary of the Board, also various officials in the Secretary's office, whom he described as amateur detectives. And then he declared that he had declined to take part in several cases because they were based upon irregularities on the part of Secretary Witt, irregularities so crude that they positively smelled, <sup>said he.</sup> A memorandum introduced as evidence showed that it was Chairman Madden who first used the word "smelled" as applied to some of the work of the Secretary <sup>of</sup> the N.L.R.B.

Leiserson had not been a member of the Board two months

N.L.R.B.

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before he wrote to the Chairman that "it was time they looked around for a secretary who understands the duties of the job and sticks to them." Leiserson also testified that the other members were basing their decisions in certain cases on so-called findings of fact prepared by the Secretary and his amateur detectives. In a case that involved the International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees, Leiserson objected to acting on the basis of what he called "partial and unintelligible oral recitations of the Secretary and his assistants."

Even more pyrotechnic was the cracker fired at the procedure of the National Labor Relations Board by one of its Regional Directors, Mrs. Elinore M. Herrick of New York. Mrs. Herrick's office was under investigation and she sent a telegram to Chairman Madden, that the furtive manner with which that investigation was conducted was un-American, indecent, destructive, what one might expect from the Soviet OGPU, but not from fellow administrators of an agency of the American government.

On the other side of the picture, Board Member Leiserson did not find the N.L.R.B. entirely bad. The main burden of his

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testimony was to defend the record. He pointed to the fact that in fifteen cases, the Supreme Court of the United States had backed up the decisions of the Labor Board. And he said also that the Board is aware of what he calls "many deficiencies in operations, of troublesome mistakes, doubtful policies and weaknesses in organization and personnel."



CLEVELAND RELIEF

Everything will be all right in Cleveland before the end of the week. Mayor Burton announces today that relief will be handed out on a normal basis by the fifteenth without any reduction in the City's services or <sup>any</sup> cut in salaries. The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation <sup>has</sup> brought fresh supplies into the City on the lakes, <sup>^</sup> navy beans, squash and onions.

And Steve Early, ~~Secretary~~ Secretary to President Roosevelt, made it known that three new W.P.A. projects for Cleveland have been approved by the White House. These in addition to others already authorized will provide employment for more than ~~fit~~ fourteen thousand people in the next six months.

AD CLUB

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In New York, the subject of femininity is being taken up in a large way - all in the spirit of approaching Christmas. The New York Ad Club, in planning Yuletide festivities, decided to have a lady Santa Claus - and one of ample proportions. So the Advertising Club advertised for a female Kriss Kringle who must be more than six feet tall and weigh more than two hundred and fifty pounds. That was a tall order, also a large order. They've ~~got~~ had a copious response from lofty and buxom ladies, one of whom wires modestly:- "I've been sick and now weigh only two hundred and eighty-six pounds." But <sup>just</sup> wait till ~~she~~ <sup>I</sup> get <sup>my</sup> ~~her~~ health back,!" ~~then~~  
~~watch the scale break down~~

One gigantic applicant in the hugest of skirts showed up, ~~and~~ and might have got the job of being the lady Santa Claus - only Mayor LaGuardia happened to be at the Ad Club at the time. Not that His Honor, the Mayor, is any special fancier of gigantic femininity, he himself stands about five feet, ~~two, or three,~~ although he's not exactly skinny. It happens, however, that Mayor LaGuardia knows just about all the newspaper reporters in New York. The Little Flower is not quite as shrinking as the

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proverbial violet, and reporters are as familiar to him as

*Ad Club Sec. Tom Burdick Talk in*  
toys ~~are~~ to Santa Claus. ~~Q~~ he instantly spotted the monster

*-- saw she was*  
female - ~~it was~~ a hoax. ~~Q~~ New York newspaper had assigned

*male*  
its tallest and fattest ~~Q~~ reporter to dress up as a lady and try to

qualify as the feminine Kriss Kringle. It didn't work. They

*corps of*  
summoned a ~~corps~~ piano movers, ~~got a derrick~~ and threw ~~the~~ him

~~newspaper man out~~, out, skirts flying.



DIVINE

Here's a new one from Father Divine, whom thousands of negroes, and white people too, acclaim as God. The dusky Messiah has entered the field of international politics and diplomacy. He has sent telegrams to President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Hull, Secretary of War Woodring, Speaker Bankhead of the House of Representatives, and Vice-President John Garner. He has also sent special delivery, registered airmail letters with return receipts requested to the presidents of all <sup>the</sup> twenty-one republics throughout the Americas.

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And what for? He wants all America to be under one flag, from the Great Lakes to Cape Horn. The method of procedure ~~will be~~ would be for Uncle Sam to annex Central and South America. Those republics, which are unwilling to be thus added to the Stars and Stripes, are to be bought out. In this way, says the negro Jehovah, we shall establish Utopia in the Western Hemisphere. As he puts it himself - I use his words + "All can be as I am, for this leaves me well COMMA, healthy COMMA joyful COMMA peaceful COMMA lively COMMA laughing COMMA successful COMMA prosperous -- wait a minute, there's one more adjective - "and

happy in spirit COMMA body and mind COMMA and in every organ COMMA  
muscleCOMMA sinew COMMA joint COMMA limb COMMA vein and bone COMMA  
and even in every atomCOMMA fibre and cell of my bodily form.

Those are Father Divine's words. Period.

Peace, it's wonderful EXCLAMATION POINT, but Father  
Divine left one thing out :- where to get the money to buy  
nations. Though he's reputed to be both mysteriously and infinitely  
rich, he has not yet offered to provide the funds for buying up  
MEXICO COMMA Nicaragua COMMA Honduras COMMA Ecuador COMMA  
Venezuela COMMA Brazil COMMA Chile COMMA Bolivia COMMA Uruguay  
COMMA Paraguay COMMA and the Argentine Republic, not to mention a  
couple of others that I've left out for lack of commas.

And now Hugh, what commas from you?