

L.T. - SUNOCO. TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1939.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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These August weeks are warmaneuve time. All over the world the nations are staging vast military games, with millions of soldiers under arms - for practice. This is a Number One factor in reckoning the war peril, which so many ~~people~~ believe will flare up with the approach of fall.

In Italy, the war manœuvres are over - came to an unexpected end before schedule. And this has provoked widespread speculation. - So Rome Correspondent J. B. Mathews cable<sup>S</sup> to the NEW YORK TIMES. (Why did Mussolini call off his giant military games so abruptly? There's no reply in Italy, but in France they're saying - it's because the Italian battle practice ~~was~~ proving <sup>one</sup> thing most unwelcome to the Fascist government. They say the mighty manœuvres in northern Italy were showing the fallacy of the theory of - a lightning war. The Germans call it - blitz ~~ke~~ krieg. Blitz - lightning. Krieg - war. It's a favorite

idea with the Totalitarians that by the overwhelming use of mechanism they could rip through the best of enemy defense,

like the French Maginot Line - and win in a hurry.) ~~The~~

~~Nazi Fascist idea is mobility, a war of movement, as against~~

~~the French strategy of basing war on a tremendous fortified line -~~

~~like the Maginot line.~~

Today's report, as carried in the NEW YORK TIMES, is that the Italian manoeuvres were designed to prove the theory of a lightning war, but in fact were proving just the opposite. Hence, they were called off.

In England today, five hundred balloons soared into the sky, to begin the great British manoeuvres. Britain is concerned above all with the war in the air, and that's what the balloons are for - the much publicized balloon barrage against air raids, a vast line of gas bags floating high and dangling long cables to snare hostile aircraft, a kind of protecting fence in the sky. ~~Behind the balloon barrage across southeast England,~~

*British* ~~the manoeuvres get going, a mobilization of troops, a massing of~~  
~~the mechanism of war.~~ *take the form of tremendous bombing raids.*

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In our own land, we're having manoeuvres too - ~~the~~ the big war games haven't started yet. A sort of preview was staged in Virginia <sup>today,</sup> and the first result we hear is that the doughboys did pretty well against the tanks. They ~~practiced~~ <sup>re were</sup> tank attacks against infantry, and <sup>they</sup> didn't do so well. The Hundred and Twenty-First Engineers brought out their defense and tank traps, they dug trenches and threw up barricades of trees. Did it so fast that the tanks were stopped. Many of them put out of commission - all in theory, of course. The defense used beer cans, beer cans fitted with a small percussion cap to represent explosive power. When a percussion cap beer can went pop under a tank, the rolling fort was ruled - out of commission. In that fashion the day's preliminary army-game taught a lesson of anti-tank defense.

The manoeuvres were staged on historic ground - the battlefield of Bull Run. The mythical battle ~~XXXX~~ came to a focus at the very hill where <sup>Stonewall</sup> Jackson and his division took their position in the first great battle of the Civil War. (At Bull Run in Civil War Days, Jackson won the victory and gained his nickname of "Stonewall." But today the forces ~~of Stonewall Jackson~~)

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on Stonewall Jackson's hill were defeated; reversing that old battle of Bull Run - in theory.

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was a declaration in a Polish newspaper which said that if Danzig

would not join the Hitler camp, Polish military honors

would be conferred.

Another irritation in that week pertained to the

of the world - namely statements that the Kolisko anti-aircraft

was fired on a German airplane, a passenger plane which drifted

over Polish territory.

Tonight the Danzig Nazi leaders, whom they call the

Danzig Hitler, are converging with the rest of Hitler. Berlin says

it's important - an important step on the path to a settlement

of the Danzig question, *So says the* in the *secretary* Nazi spokesman.

*So important that British Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax is abruptly breaking off his vacation. The British have reports of a white flag - a scheme to get Danzig peacefully.*

POLAND

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Nazi Germany started a wordy war on Poland today, the Hitler press breaking into loud fulminations. Danzig Nazis are in a verbal fury of newspaper attack. What irks them most is a declaration in a Polish newspaper which said that if Danzig made any move to join the Hitler Reich, Polish military bombers would straf Danzig.

There's further irritation in that much irritated corner of the world - Danzig statements that the Polish anti-aircraft guns fired on a German airliner, a passenger plane which drifted over Polish territory.

Tonight the Danzig Nazi leader, whom they call the Danzig Hitler, is conferring with the real Hitler. Berlin says it's important - "an important step on the path to a settlement

of the Danzig question," <sup>So says the</sup> ~~in the words of~~ Nazi spokesman. So important that British Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax is abruptly breaking off his vacation. The British have reports of a white anschluss - a scheme to get Danzig peaceably.

JAPAN

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Once more there's word that Japan is about to join in a military alliance with Germany and Italy. This was stated in Rome by the Mikado's ambassador to Mussolini. He declared that the military alliance is as good as made, and only needs the working out of final details to become a reality.

CHINA LOAN

China is getting a huge loan from Soviet Russia, seven hundred million Rubles. Figured in American money, that comes to a hundred and forty million dollars. This is of the utmost importance to desperately fighting China - especially as Japan is pressing Great Britain hard, to make British finance stop supporting Chinese currency.

CHINESE

The police in Cleveland are raiding the Chinese. They're rounding up leaders of the Chinese inhabitants of the Ohio metropolis. There are charges of terror and torture - ~~and also~~ all in behalf of war-stricken China.

Yesterday, the body of Wong Youn was found floating in Lake Erie. He had been beaten to death. Today it appears that he was a victim of the ferocious methods of enforcing the collection of China War Relief money - he had been remiss in his payments.

This has brought several Chinese forward with stories of how they themselves were tortured. Today they told ~~a story of~~ how Chinese were assessed regular payments for the relief of refugees fleeing from the Japanese, ~~in China~~. If they failed to meet the assessment<sup>s</sup>, they were brought before a secret tribunal and were sentenced to punishment. Sometimes they were forced to march through the Chinese district, decorated with placards pronouncing them to be - slackers. One Chinese reported today that he had been held a prisoner for nine hours. Sometimes they were flogged with bamboo switches, whipped till they were half dead. A Chinese graduate of an American science school told the police



today of a Chinese woman who has been a leader in the terrorist drive to extract money. She frightened delinquents with bloodcurdling threats of - a torture chamber.

All this now culminates in ~~the killing of Wong Youn~~ and an official investigation into the practices of the Chinese secret societies in collecting Chinese relief funds - *by Chinese methods.*

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## WHEAT

There's an old familiar phrase that summarizes today's story about wheat, the world's grain crop. The phrase is, "an embarrassment of riches."

Today, the International Institute of Agriculture, meeting at Rome, declared that this year's world production of wheat will be the second largest since the World War. Only last year's bumper crop was larger. One big factor is Soviet Russia. Huge crops are burdening the fields in the Ukraine, in central Russia, and in Siberia.

The Canadian wheat production is estimated at ~~twelve~~ twelve million, two hundred <sup>thousand</sup> ~~million~~ tons. Last year it was nine and a half million tons. ~~The average Canadian wheat production for the last five years has been six million, and seven hundred thousand tons. So you can see that an unusual volume of grain Canada has this year. It is~~ nine million tons more than Canada can consume, nine million tons for export.

The crop in the United States is estimated at nineteen million, ~~and~~ five hundred thousand tons - a lot more than the United States can consume.

The summary of today's report is that the surplus world production of wheat would be sufficient to fill the world's needs for one year. The surplus equals one year's consumption. So the market will be over-supplied in Nineteen Forty, and possibly in Nineteen Forty-One.

## FOOD STAMPS

The food stamp system which the government has been trying out, is to be extended - made nationwide. It has been so successful that it's to be extended to cities throughout the country - so said Secretary of Agriculture Wallace today.

The experiment began at Rochester, New York, and had two objectives. One, to enable people on relief to get more food. The other, to encourage the consumption of various kinds of agricultural products, of which there is a surplus. To the people on relief stamps were sold. Orange stamps, with which they could buy their money's worth of any kind of food they liked. With the orange stamps they got some blue stamps free. With these blue stamps they could get certain specified kinds of food - the kinds of which there was a surplus. ~~Merchants accepting the blue stamps could cash them in with the government, get money for them.~~

The plan has been tried out in four cities, and as evidence of its success, ~~thereby~~ the Secretary of Agriculture points to Rochester. There, he states, food sales have increased eight per cent since the stamp plan was started. ~~Of this increase,~~

As a result, the stamp surplus idea is to become nationwide.

The process will be gradual, and it will be continued only as long as it proves to be successful.

FAIR

(All the talk about the business the New York Fair is doing turned into cold figures today - an auditor's report. It covers the period from April Thirtieth, when the Fair opened, to July Fifth, a month ago. How many people went to the Fair during those nine weeks? Deduct the free passes, and here's <sup>the</sup> ~~A~~ figure for paid admissions - five million, six hundred and eighty thousand, two hundred and fifty-two.

The significant point is, how does that compare with expectations - compare with the amount of business the Fair people thought they'd do to make money? It's ~~xxxx~~ about half.) In cash it represents gate receipts of four million, three hundred and seventy thousand, six hundred and nineteen <sup>dollars --</sup> - about half of what they'd take in. The daily average - eighty-five thousand people paying their money to get into the Fair. The expectation was more than twice eighty-five thousand daily.

<sup>also</sup>  
There's fair news from Michigan - it's better than fair in an ethical sense, it's positively lofty. Well, Michigan is the state of Governor Dickinson, who found so much sin and shame at the New York Exposition. Michigan is having a state fair, and

Governor Dickinson is seeing that it shall include no Michigan primrose path , no cursed drink which leads girls astray. Today,

the Executive Committee of the Michigan Fair, spurred on by the Governor, issued a decree - no highjinks, <sup>not a high ball - -</sup> not even a glass of beer.

~~let alone the insidious cocktail or a slow destroying highball.~~

The Executive Committee specifies the beverages to be had, and uses <sup>virtuous</sup> these words:- "Michigan dairy products and unfermented juices from Michigan fruits."

They'll have educational features instead of girl shows - no displays of what may well be called, "the fair sex," *at that fair.*

## YACHT

When the Coast Guard starts searching for a vessel in distress, you can depend on the good old Coast Guard to do its utmost. ~~Search far and wide over the sea, comb every square mile of the watery expanse, and never give up until the vessel in distress is found.~~

On Sunday night, distress signals were flashed to the Coast Guard - reporting that the yacht VIRGINIA with five persons aboard, was adrift ~~out at sea~~ off the New England coast, helpless, at the mercy of wind and ~~sea~~ <sup>wave.</sup> The Coast Guard ~~has been~~ <sup>started to</sup> ~~searching ever since~~ <sup>and has been at it ever since</sup> ~~with these doughty cutters and the sky circling airplanes.~~ No sign of the missing VIRGINIA, drifting so helplessly. But the Coast Guard kept on and on, seeking the imperilled craft, eager to save lives - good old Coast Guard!

The search ended today when it was discovered that the yacht VIRGINIA was tied up to a dock at Marblehead, Massachusetts, had been there most of the time while the heroic search was going on. The VIRGINIA had been in distress out at sea all right, but shortly after sending the alarm to the Coast Guard, another boat came along and towed the craft to port. All was well, except -



they forgot to tell it to the Coast Guard. ~~And the distress signals still stood, with the Coast Guard doing its stuff to no purpose whatever.~~ And is the Coast Guard sore today, after all that strenuous, arduous and futile searching!

## BIGAMIST

One hardly goes to college to become a plasterer, and one hardly takes up the trade of plastering to become a Don Juan or Casanova with the women. Oh yes, but one does - is what a debonair young man might be saying out in Chicago tonight. Saying it in a prison cell. ~~Colleges should have taught him that you can't~~ get married to four legal wives simultaneously without committing bigamy, positive polygamy. And working as a plasterer should have taught him not to lay it on too thick.

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He went to college, but failed to get through. He took to plastering, but found marriage an easier mode of livelihood. His fourth wife, a beautiful night-club singer, had him arrested for getting eleven thousand dollars from her. He said he needed it to clear up a one hundred thousand dollar estate. She says he also pawned ten thousand dollars' worth of her furs and jewelry - living the life of a wealthy boulevardier, with two huge and thoroughbred great Danes trotting at his heels down the avenue.

His third wife enters the picture, claiming that he got seven thousand dollars in cash from her and thirty-two hundred dollars' worth of ~~XXX~~ securities. This, claims wife Number Three,

he spent on a glorious and expensive honeymoon with wife  
Number Four. Further in the background appear two other  
wives whom he wedded - finding matrimony a lot better than  
either college or plastering.

HEART

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Tonight over in the Philippine Islands at Manila, a baby girl lies sleeping quietly - one of the most extraordinary medical freaks on record. The child was born with its heart on the outside, the heart <sup>lying</sup> ~~hanging~~ outside ~~of~~ the chest. The amazed doctors stared and gasped, the more so as the infant breathed normally, and the heart on the outside beat normally.

They've placed a cocktail glass over it to keep it warm and free of germs. And now they are debating. They can't guess whether the child will live or whether they should attempt an operation and put the heart inside the chest cavity.

While the doctors are agitating, the little Filipino girl sleeps quietly, her heart not quite on her sleeve, but almost.

And Ma Huang - I mean why  
until tomorrow

HAY FEVER

7/2  
News for ~~the~~ hay fever victims! News in two Chinese words -  
Ma Huang. Sounds something like "Mother hanging", but it doesn't  
mean that at all - it means ephederin. If you don't know what that  
means, you don't have hay fever. Ephederin is the alkaloid commonly  
used to ease ~~the~~ sneezing and sniffing. Ephederin is made from the  
tall Chinese grass called Ma Huang, the production of which was  
gravely handicapped by the war in China. Because the Japanese  
militarists invaded China, tens of thousands of Americans had to  
sneeze and sniffle <sup>all this year</sup> the more <sup>from</sup> hay fever. But today the report is  
that the harvesting of Ma Huang grass is back to normal in China.

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The Department of Commerce announces that the imports to the  
United States are up to where they should be - Ma Huang for *hay fever*.  
~~ephederin for hay fever.~~

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And Ma Huang - I mean *solong*  
until tomorrow.