

L.I. - Sunoco. Tuesday, July 1, 1941.

Tonight the Nazi Blitzkrieg is claimed to have reached the Beresina River -- on an eighty<sup>-five</sup> mile front. That name, Beresina, is intimately familiar to students of the campaigns of Napoleon. One of the outstanding events in his ill-fated Moscow adventure was the crossing of the Beresina.<sup>TR</sup> That river runs north and south across the road to Moscow. It's fifty-two miles east of the key city of Minsk past which the blitzkrieg forces have driven <sup>at</sup> ~~in~~ high speed. The Beresina is about half-way between the original start of the Nazi drive and the Soviet capital, ~~Moscow~~<sup>TR</sup> Moscow. It would appear tonight that Hitler's mechanized army has thrust ~~ix~~ not merely an arrow spearhead or two through the Beresina, but is there on a broad front. The specific places mentioned are two towns named Borisov and Bobruisk. They are in the Beresina area, and are eighty-five miles apart -- indicating an eighty-five mile front.

The dramatic part of it is that there are still Soviet forces behind that Nazi front. Meaning -- encirclement. The blitzkrieg commanders have followed their usual strategy of slicing around hostile forces -- to trap them in pockets. In this light, the front along the Beresina River represents an eastern line of

47  
of encirclement, with huge Red Army forces caught in an immense -  
pocket, -- ~~the area to the~~ west of Minsk. We're told that this now  
consists, not of one pocket -- but three. Meaning that subordinate  
Nazi drives have cut the trapped forces into three sections.

Today's news told of desperate efforts by the encircled Red  
Army segments -- efforts to break away. Storming the lines thrown  
around them, plunging with masses of tanks. Hurling themselves  
— *terrifying clash of tanks.*  
against the ring of steel, trying to get out, But the encircling  
lines are standing fast against the attacks. The trap is holding.

This picture of the battle comes from Berlin in official  
statements by the German High Command. The Nazi version is not  
confirmed by Moscow, but neither is it directly disputed. Indeed  
the Red Army communique speaks of fighting at those key places which  
give an indication of the front along the Beresina. <sup>IP</sup> The question  
tonight is this! - Will the blitzkrieg lines hold until the  
encircled Red Army segments are forced to surrender or <sup>be</sup> ~~by~~ annihilated?  
Or will the trapped Soviet forces break their way out? It's to be  
remarked ~~about~~ that in this Russian war the lines are much longer  
than in previous Nazi campaigns -- the spaces of Russia are so much  
greater. And the line, being longer, may be thinner -- <sup>is</sup> easy to

break. Hitherto, forces encircled by the blitzkrieg have not been able to crack the rings of steel. But now perhaps with the theater of battle on the huge Russian scale of magnitude, the Red Army may do it. On this point is likely to hinge the great issue of the Nazi-Soviet War.

The foregoing applies to the northern half of the battle line, which has been the most decisive thus far. It is the part north of the vast Pripet Marshes, which split the country thereabout in two. South of the marshes the largest action is in the area of Lwow - Lemberg. The Germans having captured that Soviet stronghold, are driving on.

The other areas of the Russian War are all subordinate. In the Baltic States the Nazis are advancing, and here's the latest. Berlin has just announced the fall of Riga. In Finland the Finns and Germans are attacking the great naval base which the Soviets took from the Finns -- Hango. And, a large Red Army force is said to be trapped.

In the north of Finland there's a thrust into Arctic Russia aimed at the port of Murmansk. But these areas are aside from the main field of action.

CHINA

49

~~49~~  
—

Today a whole string of countries joined in recognizing the puppet state in China, the Nanking government which the Japanese have set up. The countries according to the recognition are those that in one way or another are under Nazi influence. They include the Vichy regime in France and Franco Spain.

Why all the favorable gesture<sup>s</sup> toward ~~the~~ Japanese-controlled ~~government at~~ Nanking?

The supposition is that it's a Hitler attempt to win Japan <sup>to</sup> ~~on~~ the German side in the war with Soviet Russia - persuade the Japanese to strike in the Far East, and give the Red army still ~~some~~ more trouble.

While the war in the east is raging, there is no let-up to the war in the west. Britain's Royal Air Force continues to take full advantage of the absence of the bulk of the Nazi air force now so busy in Russia. The R.A.F. has complete command of the air over the area surrounding Britain.

Here are a few vivid details cabled by the United Press correspondent at Folkstone, the southern coast of England. The dispatch reads as follows:- "The greatest force of R.A.F. bombers I've ever seen in daylight since the war's beginning, roared across Dover Straits this evening."

It continues by stating that a fleet of British bombers flying in waves toward France, was so numerous, it required twenty minutes to fly over certain points.

And the dispatch went on to say:- "Channel residents said the drone of planes was louder than when the German Luftwaffe was sending over four and five hundred planes to attack Britian at the height of last autumn's air war."

The London Air Ministry officially reports that today there were two huge daylight raids by the Royal Air Force.

SOVIET AID

Moscow has told Washington what Moscow needs in the war with Nazi Germany. This - in response to President Roosevelt's declaration of aid to Soviet Russia. Moscow wants certain strategical materials of war from this country. What kind? We are not told. Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles today revealed the Soviet request but did not disclose a list of articles desired. (~~He indicate<sup>s</sup> that any such material would not be given to Soviet Russia gratis under Lend-Lease - but would be purchased.~~)

TEXAS

Down in Texas, it looks as if Pappy did pass the biscuits.

That is - the latest election returns show Governor Lee O'Daniel, the ~~probable~~ winner in the contest for the United States Senate.

~~Lee O'Daniel~~ <sup>He</sup> is famous for his political slogan - "Pass the biscuits Pappy." And Pappy <sup>the</sup> public seems to have obliged.

Aside from the humorous angle, this election for Senator in Texas is of national importance- even international. ~~The foreign policy of the United States was an issue in the campaign, support of the attitude of the administration in the war crisis.~~ One of the candidates, Representative Lyndon Johnson, had the <sup>backing</sup> support of the White House. His platform pledged all-out support to the President's foreign policy. The O'Daniel platform had the one big plank - pass the biscuits Pappy.

53 { The election is an exceedingly close affair. They've been counting the votes of the Lone Star State for two days. The first figures showed a big lead for the administration candidate. He went big in the cities, where the vote was counted first. Then the picture was changed as the rural votes came in - ballots from the broad expanses of the-state-that-is-the-biggest. The farm

ROOSEVELT

51  
President Roosevelt stated today that he still hopes the United States can stay out of the war, but he refrained from predicting that we would. At a Hyde Park press conference, he was asked about the statements made by Secretary of the Navy Knox last night - the Knox declaration that it was time for the United States Navy to get into the war. The President refused to comment on that, and then was questioned about his own statement when the European war began. Then he proclaimed both his hope and his belief that the United States could stay out. Today he reiterated that hope, but did not reaffirm the belief.

52  
The President took occasion to criticize polls taken on the subject of getting in, or not getting in. He referred specifically to the one taken by Congressman Hamilton Fish, in the President's own home county - Dutchess. Ham Fish announces that the response he got was twenty-seven thousand to three thousand in favor of staying out. The DAILY NEWS in New York is staging a similar poll, and the President referred to it - making the general statement that such tests of public opinion did not mean anything much. Because, he explained, of the way the questions were framed. Naturally, people would vote against war - it's like voting against sin, *said he.*



{ vote was heavy for the biscuit loving statesman. He took a slight  
lead.) Tonight the latest figures show that out of a total of about  
three hundred and fifty thousand votes, he has a margin of <sup>only</sup> ~~about~~  
four hundred. ~~Only~~ <sup>only</sup> about a thousand votes remain to come in, and ~~if~~  
they're from farm areas where <sup>O'</sup> Daniel is strongest. So it looks as if  
the  
in <sup>^</sup> Texas Pappy public has harkened to that statesmanly call - to  
pass the biscuits, with plenty of molasses  
for O' Daniel this time.

GEORGIA

54  
—

On Long Island the police arrested a negro chauffeur, charged with guilt in one of the most singular of political scandals. Last January in Georgia, the Governor retired from office, and did so with a carnival of pardons. During his last twenty-four hours as Governor, he issued seventy-two pardons to prisoners - turning them loose. Among the convicts thus released were two young men of prominent family serving a life terms for one of Georgia's most notorious crimes - a thrill murder case.

(~~The other prisoners pardoned were of all sorts, from minor chain gang offenders to notorious outlaws.~~)

That wholesale jail delivery aroused a sensation. There has been a lot of investigation, and attention focused on the negro chauffeur arrested on Long Island today. His name is Albert Chandler, and he worked for Governor Rivers - drove his car. The charge is that, in the ~~Governor's~~ carnival of pardons, the Governor's chauffeur sold them - peddling pardons. They say he got twenty-five dollars each, and the following surprising story is told: ~~They say that the Governor's negro chauffeur~~ *that he* went to the Fulton County chain gang, and called on two prisoners. When they

appeared, he pulled out of his pocket two pardons and said:-

"Here they are boys, how much are they worth?"

The chain gang prisoners looked astonished. They didn't know a thing about the pardons, had never applied for clemency.

Naturally, however, they were willing to depart from the chain

gang - even at a small cost. *And they paid* ~~How much did they pay?~~ Twenty-five

*Such is the story from Georgia as* dollars per pardon. ~~and now~~ they're extraditing the chauffeur

*55'*  
of the Governor ~~on~~ *in the* charges ~~of a~~ carnival of pardons.  
~~who was under~~

## BOAT

The mystery of a holiday boat lost in the Maine fog was solved today - a tragic solution. From out of the dense blind mist on the ocean drifted bodies and wreckage, and these bore telltale signs - burns and scars of fire. It is evident that the forty-four foot cabin cruiser "Don" had an explosion of some sort and all aboard perished, - thirty-five men and women who on Sunday set out gayly for a fishing trip.

At Rumford, Maine, the local trust Company organized an outing for its employees, and chartered the ill-fated boat. Sunday morning the cabin cruiser went chugging out to sea, bound for fishing banks only four miles off shore. Aboard there was lively talk and laughter, as they got the fishing tackle ready - the hooks and the lines. The boat was hardly out to sea when a dense fog came <sup>down</sup> ~~lowering~~ and covered the ocean. A thick sightless pea-souper such as they have up those northern coasts. The boat and fishing party vanished in the fog - then failed to return. A search began, and continued until today - a search made difficult by the blinding mist. What had happened to the outing of the Rumford Trust Company?

56  
—

Now the story is made tragically clear by floating bodies and drifting wreckage -- debris charred by fire. Stop watches found on the victims indicate that disaster came a few hours after the boat put out from the pier. So the party must have been at the fishing grounds, with lines out -- getting bites, catching fish. Then, by some accident or other - an explosion which shattered the boat. The worst disaster in the history of the Maine coast.

WEATHER

Today over large areas of this country the universal occupation was -- grouching about the weather. Plenty of reason -- in the sweltering heat. But, as you mop your brow, consider the plight of a number of people at Elmira, New York. They're glider enthusiasts assembled for the national soaring meet -- and they need a brisk, invigorating wind more than any of us.

57  
The art of flying without power is largely a matter of riding the currents of air, and at Elmira, the national soaring meet has been virtually becalmed. No breeze to cool their fevered brow, no gale to take them riding high. Gliders grounded.

Today, however, there was a ray of hope. Clouds and a rumble of thunder, and the weather man said -- storms ~~were~~ coming. Fine! The adventurers in planes without motors don't mind a <sup>breeze of</sup> ~~bit of~~ hurricane. They ride the tempest -- to glide further and higher. Last year the national altitude record was made in the vortex of a thunderstorm. Record-holder Robert Stanley of Buffalo was swept upward to a height of more than seventeen thousand feet. This year he hopes for a still loftier exploit, but he'll need plenty of wind to do it.

So that's why at Elmira the glider enthusiasts were cheered

today by the promise of thunderstorms -- wild winds to take them high. As for the rest of us, we'll be content with a bit of breeze to break the sweltering heat.

BASEBALL

58 ✓

Now, that universal baseball question - What did Joe DiMaggio do today? Jolting Joe has already broken the modern record for hitting <sup>in</sup> consecutive ~~xxxxxx~~ games, the mark established by George Sisler a score of years ago. There still remains another record of consecutive hitting for the big Yankee outfielder to shatter - not the modern one, but a mark established in the ancient days of baseball. By Wee Willie Keeler, way back in the Nineties. Wee Willie hit safely ~~in every game~~, for forty-four <sup>straight</sup> games. And Joe DiMaggio is out to crack that one. He had a chance today to tie it. Two hits, one in each of two games would do it. And the Yankees were playing a double-header with the Boston Red Sox. So let's see what happened.

58 1/2

~~ret game~~, Fifth inning - DiMaggio at bat. ~~He had failed to hit safely in the preceding innings.~~ The old drama of pitcher and batter - and Joe <sup>nailed</sup> ~~caught~~ one. ~~Safe, and he ran~~ <sup>so he ran</sup> his string up to forty-three!

Second game - chance to tie the all-time mark Wee Willie Keeler made. DiMaggio took the suspense right out of things. The first inning - and a tremendous roar from the crowd,



as <sup>JOE</sup>~~DIMAGGIO~~ singled <sup>in</sup>~~at~~ his first time at the bat. Tying the all-time record! Tomorrow he'll have his chance to break it.

59  
The exploits of the big Italian suggest an idea in the realm of international affairs <sup>and</sup> the war. Maybe, if the Italians are that good at baseball, Mussolini made a mistake. Maybe, instead of resorting to war and cannon, he should have tried it with baseballs and bats.

9 1/4  
And now single, two-bagger or something from Hugh.