

BRITISH BUDGET

L.I. - Lunoco. Tuesday, July 23, 1940.

The war in terms of money is looming larger and larger for the British. Today Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, presented a budget to the House of Commons; ~~it's~~ by far the largest war budget in the history of Great Britain. It calls for the raising of nearly fifteen billion dollars for ~~the~~ fighting ~~the war~~ during the next fiscal year. To collect that stupendous sum from the British public, the income tax rate is to be raised to forty-two and a half per cent. ^{And} That's the flat rate. The addition of surtaxes, and so on, produces the startling figure of sixty per cent - sixty per cent of the total national income of Great Britain to be taken by the government to pay for the war, sixty per cent of the earnings of the population. — More than $\frac{1}{2}$ the year you work to pay the Government.

This staggering affair of budget and taxation is regarded as the financial form of Britain's answer to Hitler. ~~No.~~ Britains NO!

It's a way of saying ~~that's that~~ with the Pound Sterling - that Britain will fight on, no thought of peace.

Still another day and no blitzkrieg against Britain. The air forces of the two antagonists are striking savagely against each other. There must be huge havoc on both sides, but this is still concealed by the tightest kind of censorship. The other day we had what seemed a glimpse behind the veil of secrecy that shrouds Britain - when a Dutch ship from abroad reported the virtual destruction of important British harbors. Today we hear of an eye-witness account of bomb havoc in Germany. A large part of the port of Hamburg in ruins, huge destruction at such places as Bremen, Emden, Dusseldorf, Cologne and Essen. Hardly a factory undamaged in those great industrial areas.

TP This word is said to have been brought out of Germany by a Turkish traveler.

The French Government today took action along a line that has been rumored - action against important political figures. The Number One personality mentioned is former Premier Daladier. The Government of Marshal Petain today ordered a judicial investigation into the activities of Daladier and the other leaders who were in control when France entered the war. The

purpose of the investigation is to fix responsibility for the outbreak of the conflict and for the disaster that overwhelmed France.

And moves are being made against Frenchmen who have left France. Their citizenship is to be withdrawn and their property ~~is to be~~ confiscated. This is an obvious stroke at various French leaders who refuse to accept the surrender to Germany and have joined with the British.

BALTIC

A new international twister comes to the front in the case of the little Baltic nations taken over by Soviet Russia. At London today, the ministers of Latvia, Lithuania and Esthonia lodged a protest with the British government - a protest against the Soviet seizure of the countries they represent. The ministers declare that they will not surrender their London legations to Stalin's diplomatic representatives, and demand that the British Government adopt a policy of non-recognition- refuse to recognize

~~those latest Soviet grabs.~~ *those stuffed Baltic ballot boxes.*

This puts Great Britain in a delicate position, because London is trying to establish better relations with Moscow - in the hope of turning Stalin against Hitler sooner or later. Great Britain doesn't want to do anything to offend the Red Dictator, but at the same time it might not look good if London condones the Soviet seizure of Esthonia, Latvia and Lithuania. London has to consider other sorts of opinion, as well as Soviet opinion - American sensibilities, for example.

Today in Washington, Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles issued a vigorous denunciation of Stalin's new aggression.

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He used the word - "predatory". Welles said the United States would not recognize those "predatory activities" by the Soviets. Washington will continue to recognize the Baltic ministers accredited to the United States. Stalin's boys will not get the Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian legations in Washington.

CONSCRIPTION

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The bill for military conscription in this country was revised today by the Military Affairs Committee of the Senate. The Committee voted a series of changes that had been proposed by the Army. The original bill ^{intended} ~~proposed~~ to pay the men drafted for compulsory military training at the rate of five dollars a month. That meagre ^{wage rate} ~~rate of pay~~ aroused a lot of objection, and the chiefs of the army spoke against it. They proposed that the conscripts have the same rate of pay as the regular soldiers among whom they'll train - twenty-one dollars a month. And today the Military Affairs Committee okayed the Army idea - twenty-one ~~dollars~~ a month.

The original bill provided a period of training consisting of eight months. The army wanted ^{it} a longer ~~period~~. Chief of Staff, General Marshall, suggested eighteen months. Today's Committee decision is a compromise, providing a training period of twelve months.

There was one point in the original bill that provoked a lot of talk - the age limit. The upper limit provided was sixty-five years old, men up to sixty-five. To which the obvious question echoed - what kind of national defense do you expect to get

out of lads of sixty-five, ~~or even sixty or fifty-five?~~ An upper age limit of ~~forty-five seems old enough.~~ The army made a recommendation ^{that was} ~~in this age business, and that recommendation was~~ adopted today. Men between forty-five and sixty-five come under the heading of home defense, and this home defense training for the old boys is to be a matter for congressional action in the future. Apparently it's left out of the present bill, put off.

⁷⁹ One may surmise that the scheme of national defense with soldiers in their sixties is likely to be quietly forgotten.

RED CROSS

President Roosevelt today ^{de} ~~an~~ nounced as ugly a thing as it is possible to imagine -- a Fifth Column campaign to sabotage the Red Cross. That ['] ~~is~~ is the way the president described it, and he said it was nation-wide -- a sort of trojan-horse, ~~undercover-move~~ to block the Red Cross in its attempt to raise twenty million dollars for European war relief.

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The chief magistrate of this republic declared that the Fifth Column whispering campaign took this form -- loose and false talk that Red Cross supplies sent to war sufferers in Europe were falling into the hands of the German and Italian armies, were being diverted to help the Nazis and Fascists in the war. This, stated the president, was utterly and absolutely untrue. He guaranteed that all the Red Cross food and medical relief sent to Europe was being used to alleviate the sufferings of the hungry and the sick -- a simple work of mercy. ^{The} ~~Roosevelt~~ President ~~Roosevelt~~ said he could not understand the motives behind the whispering campaign against the Red Cross. Who's doing it? And why? It gives an ugly sensation to think of it -- Fifth Column elements seeking to sabotage the world's number one organization of mercy.

TOSCANINI

~~Here is~~ another Toscanini story to be added to the library of anecdotes about the famous maestro. Today, Toscanini returned to the United States with the N.B.C. orchestra. They've been touring South America giving a series of concerts.

The episode to be reported occurred at Montevideo where Toscanini suddenly sent out an urgent and unexpected rehearsal call. The musicians were surprised. There seemed no reason for this special rehearsal, and the day for which it was called was -- the Fourth of July.

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They assembled in the orchestra pit of the empty theatre. Toscanini took his place at the conductor's stand, and said: "You are from the United States. This is the Fourth of July, and I think it is an occasion which should be celebrated. I have called you together -- only to play the Star Spangled Banner." Whereupon he lead them through a thrilling performance of the National Anthem -- in an empty theatre at Montevideo.

WINDSOR

The Duke and Duchess of Windsor will not stop at New York on their way to the Bahamas. The previous understanding had been that the former Edward the Eighth and the former Wallis Warfield of Baltimore would cross the Atlantic by Pan-American Clipper - the American terminus of which is New York. Then, from the big town, they'd proceed by ship to the Bahamas. Now the word is, that they won't take the ^{Clipper} ~~trip~~ at all, but will proceed aboard a British cruiser direct to the Bahamas. The reason for this is said to be complications with the United States Neutrality Law, which forbids a member of an armed force of a nation at war from traveling on the Trans-Atlantic planes. The Duke of Windsor ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{still} a General of the British Army.

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This latest news about the renowned couple is on the authority of the NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM, which quotes a friend of the Duke and Duchess - a friend who is making arrangements for them at the island group of which they are to become Governor and First Lady, respectively. — Their Bahamian, not Bohemian, Highnesses.

RACE

The Mayor of Salt Lake City would hardly qualify as one of those cautious automobile drivers, ^{who} follow the sound policy of safety first. His Honor of Salt Lake does not always keep within those limits of speed that are commonly regarded as plain common sense. In fact, the Mayor might be considered something of a speed demon, a thing which hardly sounds edifying on the part of the chief magistrate of one of the great American cities. However, the Mayor of Salt Lake happens to be Ab Jenkins, known to fame as an ace automobile driver. And today Ab completed a speed and endurance test in which he broke a whole string of records; ~~He~~ established twenty new world records.

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Mayor Ab started driving yesterday on the Bonneville Salt Flats, and around and around ^{Ab} ~~he~~ roared on a twenty-four hour grind. For a whole day he went like a blue streak, like a Nu-Blue Sunoco streak. During brief intervals he was replaced by a relief driver, but for the most part His Honor himself was at the wheel.

Twenty records smashed to smithereens! ^{all} ~~Most~~ of them had been made by Ab himself - because he's something of a pioneer in the creation of racing automobile endurance records. He set new marks for various recognized distances all the way from fifty

kilometers to three thousand miles. And then, at the very end, the last record to fall, - he made a new mark for the twenty-four hour endurance grind. Mr. Mayor chalked up an average speed of more than a hundred and sixty-one miles an hour and beat his own previous time by four miles an hour. Let's give him still another championship distinction - Ab, is the fastest Mayor in the world.

HYPNOTISM

They're having some highly unorthodox politics down in Arkansas, where there's a hot three-cornered race for the governorship. Even the town from which today's news emanates sounds highly unorthodox. The town is named - Arkadelphia, which rather sounds like ^{an inebriate} ~~a drunk~~ trying to say Arkansas and Philadelphia at the same time.

Anyway, at Arkadelphia today a candidate named McNutt issued a defiance. He's a doctor, and he's also a parachute jumper. I don't quite get the connection between the two, ~~things,~~ unless maybe one can picture an airliner having a ship's doctor, who is always ready to bail out in case he happens to administer the wrong pills. However all that may be, the medical parachute jumper is running for governor. And today he challenged the spokesmen for the other two candidates. He defied them to a duel. No, not a duel of parachute jumping, or performing an operation. However, it is somewhat therapeutic, ~~because~~ ^{the} idea is - a duel of hypnotism. "I'll agree," says the parachute doctor, "to let my opponents hypnotize me if they know the art." And he in turn will hypnotize them. What's the big idea? ~~the~~ ^{Have} ~~candidates going~~

around in a daze? ~~A lot of them do that, as it is. But it seems~~
to be still stranger. ~~than that.~~ "If they let me hypnotize them,"
says the jumping medico, "I'll have them believe they're dancing
with beautiful young ladies." Well, that certain^{ly} would raise
politics to a lofty level - hypnotize^d candidates ^{around with} ~~into dancing~~
around with non-existent beautiful young ladies!

LOVE

Tonight, the editor of the humor magazine of North Carolina University is in jail. From this you might surmise that the editor of college comics is guilty of some hilarious joke, laughter in the first degree. But no, not at all. The trouble with the humorous editor is not comedy - it's love. Last spring he grew enamored of a beautiful girl, who alas did not reciprocate his affection. And, as we all know, that's no joke. The college humorist decided that it was so completely lacking in mirth, that he'd end it all. So he wrote one of those "end it all" notes, and it wasn't a bit comic. It started like this:- "If I have lost you, I have nothing to live for. You are the only part of my life that has been really beautiful."

He finished the note of self-destruction with a series of good-byes, which went like this:- "Good-bye darling. Good-bye my sweet adorable angel. Good-bye my love, my life." The last line was supreme, and went this way:- "Here is my last kiss - it contains my soul."

After having written this tragical suicide note,
the humorous editor sat down and thought things over. *and maybe started to laugh. Or* I suppose

maybe he just

he felt better having got all that off his chest.

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That happened last spring, and now comes the most

recent climax. The editor of the college funny paper made a

final plea to the beautiful girl. It happened in the local

dime store at Dunn, North Carolina. The Five-and-Ten may not

seem as rapturous as a rose bower in the moonlight, but it

can be a place for sentimental ~~rapture~~ ^{sighing} even if you're standing

could you sigh in a 5 & 10?

at the hardware counter. The ~~tin~~ dime store was crowded with

local ladies shopping for pillow cases and spools of thread -

when the final lovelorn plea was made. The answer was - "No!"

~~out a most~~ out a mirthless

Whereupon the editor of the college funnies pulled ~~out a gun and~~

gun and

started shooting at the girl he loved. He missed her, she

grabbing at the pistol. The bullets grazed a couple of lady

shoppers - and were they indignant!

So tonight the romantic editor of the college comics

is in the North Carolina hoosgow, and the moral is as follows:-

even for a humorist, love is no laughing matter, now is

it niet?

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