

L.T. - SUNOCO. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1934.

INTRO.

This year has given the news an unusual
~~This~~ Armistice Day ~~gives the news a peculiar slant, because~~
slant because
some nations celebrated the end of the World War yesterday, ~~while~~
some are celebrating it today. The countries on the European
continent, that is, those of them who had any celebrating to do,
staged their solemn festivities yesterday - though in France some
of it wasn't altogether so solemn. Armistice Day brought no
armistice to French political disturbances, but rather a new flare-up
of rioting and fighting all over France.

England, as in our own case, doesn't observe a secular
holiday on a Sunday. So today was King George's time to lead the
ritual at the tomb of Britain's Unknown Soldier. And one significant
British Armistice Day ceremony is the decoration of German graves in
England - resting places of Teutonic aviators and Zeppelin men who
lost their lives in bombing raids on Britain. British indignation
over those German bombings was a blazing thing back in War time,
but today they are putting wreaths on the graves of the bombers who
were shot down, *and were* crashed, [^] killed.

And here's another country that celebrated the Armistice,
not yesterday, but today - Japan. ~~Because the end of hostilities~~

~~in France was a truce likewise for Japan in its state of war with Germany.~~ Not that the Shinto ancestor worship of old Nippon takes Sunday into consideration. Japan is ^{simply} on the other side of the world, and her yesterday overlaps with our today. So while we began our Armistice anniversary as of today, they at the same time were celebrating their Armistice anniversary yesterday.

FRANCE

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After ^{the Armistice} ~~yesterday's~~ riots, things were quiet in France today - an ominous kind of quiet. The new government of Premier Flandin, ~~gave~~ its test in facing the Chamber of Deputies, and the test is made all the harder by yesterday's sinister revelations of popular discord and discontent.

Today's survey of yesterday's Armistice riots indicates a growing embitterment between the forces of the right and of the ~~the~~ left. Socialists and Communists, ordinarily the bitterest of enemies, are now shoulder to shoulder in what they call "the united front." They planned to dedicate Armistice Day, ~~for a~~ ^{to a} protest against war and Fascism. And they made a protest all right. They weren't the only ones. The Nationalist elements were out too, doing their shouting against the radical leaders in the government - "Down with Herriot" they howled.

But an analysis shows that it wasn't the howls against the government that provided the most ominous feature. It was the battle staged all over France between the rival demonstrations. Naturally, ~~th~~ with the Socialists and Communists on one side, and

the Fascists and Conservatives on the other, and all staging parades, and mass protests, it wasn't long before they came to blows.

So the menacing feature for Premier Flandin, as he begins his task in parliamentary session today, is not so much any outright popular attacks against his Ministers, but rather the violent antagonisms that threaten to split the French ~~re~~public wide open.

The new Premier may have occasion to say that it is better to fight ^{a Moroccan lion} ~~an antagonist~~ than to be in the middle between two ^{clawing} lions.

~~antagonists~~ And then Belgium will probably have a new cabinet tomorrow.

ITALY

Italy comes to the front with some striking news today, after having sent us weekend tidings of large ~~political~~ importance, ~~and of grave social and economical importance too.~~ Mussolini's pronouncement today, really a most revolutionary decree, vividly emphasizes what ~~XXXXXXXX~~ an immense transformation is implied in the gathering of that Italian Council of Corporations over the weekend.

That word "corporation" is so important to the Italian Fascists that they are calling their regime a corporative state. What does it all mean? Well, a corporation in the Italian sense is a major industry represented by delegates, elected by the people within the industry. Both employers and employees are represented - represented equally. These delegates of the ~~Fascist~~ various big industries, ^{for} ~~representing~~ both capital and labor, make up that Council of Corporations. And that Council is to be the governing body of the nation - not a parliament any longer representing the people as a whole, but a Council of Corporations representing the people of the industries, ^{which includes arts and professions.} As it stands now, the Council will pass decrees, ~~ixxxxxxxxx~~ which will be accepted

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or rejected by Mussolini. It still leaves Il Duce very much in the driver's seat.

But what if Mussolini should die? That question is asked over and over again. The answer is that the nation would then be governed by the Council of Corporations, people represented, not in political, but ^{an} industrial capacity, ^{- captains of industry, and workmen. And} ~~the~~ the Fascists believe it will work.

Of course, this industrial kind of government would give no representation to people who are not in any industry, people who don't work. And that's where Mussolini's decree, as reported today, fits in, so logically and tellingly. The Duce commands that there shall be no people who do not work. Hereafter, every able-bodied Italian must work. And this applies even - applies especially - to the wealthy aristocrats, the land-owning nobility, who hitherto have led lives of leisure. Mussolini more than once has denounced the gilded rich who play the game of luxury at de luxe hotels and fashionable resorts. Loafing - the Duce calls it. So the command is "Go to work, work with hand or brain." But what about that melodious old Italian refrain - "Dolce far niente", meaning "Sweet do nothing". In Italy, the land of Dolce far niente - it's "go to work, now!"

KITCHENER

A fitting Armistice Day story comes in a reminiscence of Lord Kitchener's, just made public in England. Kitchener is one of the great figures of the Armageddon of the nations.

The tale goes back to the Boer War, and tells how a major called for volunteers to bring in wounded from the battlefield. And Private Fone stepped forward, a little Cockney. Off he went, and one after another the little Tommy brought back six wounded men. Then he reported that the others out there were dead.

"Go and fetch them anyway," commanded the major.

To which Private Fone replied:- "I owes a duty to the livin', but not to the dead, sir."

This was disobedience in the face of the enemy. And Private Fone was court-martialed and sentenced to be shot. They had him before the firing squad, when a stern-faced officer on a white horse happened to ride by, and asked what it was all about. When the story was told to him the officer exclaimed:- "This man should not be executed. He should be promoted."

And then and there in front of the firing squad, he

promoted Private Fone to the rank of sergeant. It was
Kitchener of Khartoum, of course; just another reason why
the Tommies of the rank and file swore by K. of K.

DUCHESS

The Duke of Bedford paced the halls of his ancestral mansion, Woburn Abbey, and noticed that something was lacking. There above him hung many a coat-of-arm that many a Duchess of Bedford upon her marriage had brought to the castle of her lord, the Duke.

The one that was lacking was a coat-of-arms of the present Duchess. Ah, but she didn't come of an ancient and noble line bringing an escutcheon with her. But, she is a person in her own right, a pilot of aeroplanes. They call her "The Flying Duchess."

So the Duke of Bedford ordered a coat-of-arms designed for his flying duchess, with an aeroplane rampant in one of its quarterings. And he submitted it to the College of Heralds for their approval. But the College of Heralds said:- "Nay, nay, me Lord. This thing with wings and a motor is unknown to heraldry. It was unknown to Richard of the Lion's Heart, and to Edward, the Black Prince."

So they threw the aeronautical escutcheon right out, and told the Duke he would have to get up another one, with a spear or a helmet, a falcon, or a winged dragon for the flying

MOONEY

The case of Tom Mooney has become one of the most desperate long drawn out struggles ever before the American courts. From one tribunal to another, it has plodded its way, through the lower courts on up to the Supreme Court, ~~back to the lower courts, and~~ ~~then again on up to the Supreme Court.~~ Twice has the case of the prisoner at San Quentin come before the highest tribunal of the land. Today is the second time the chief justices have spoken. The first time it was a denial, a refusal of Mooney's plea. But this time it's different.

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Tom Mooney's lawyers have appealed to the Supreme Court for a Writ of Habeas Corpus to release him - their old contention that he was convicted in an unfair trial. Before granting such a writ, the Supreme Court ^{would} ~~would~~ naturally review the whole case. The justices have neither granted the writ nor ^{or} ~~or~~ decided upon a review. Their action today was to order the Warden of San Quentin Prison to show reason why a review should not be granted to Mooney. The Warden is given until January first to make his reply.

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RETAKE

duchess.

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only the birds can fly.

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make their fight against having the Mooney case reopened before the Supreme Court. If they do this and the high justices agree with them - it will mean another denial for Mooney. But if the Supreme Court does not agree with ~~any~~ California argument^s against a review, why then the trial of Tom Mooney for the San Francisco Preparedness Day bombing will be investigated, judged and appraised - together with Mooney's declaration that the state authorities themselves admit that he was convicted on perjured evidence.

It will be interesting to observe California's action in all of this. ^{In} ~~that~~ spectacular governorship fight, ⁺ Upon Sinclair promised, if elected, to pardon Mooney. Governor Merriam, running for reelection, was more cautious, ~~in a promise more or less favorable to the prisoner.~~ He declared that he would reconsider the case, if ~~he were~~ elected. Now, with Sinclair beaten and Merriam ^{in office,} ~~elected,~~ what are we to expect? My entirely unofficial guess is that Mooney will regain his freedom.

RELIEF

Those were plain words spoken by Harry Hopkins before the Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies, when he said that there is a danger of federal unemployment relief becoming a permanent fixture in American life - and that this must not occur. It is reassuring to know that the government realizes that ^{a condition of} four million ~~families~~ families, seventeen or eighteen million people, living on relief, cannot continue - especially as most of them don't want relief, but ^{want} work. Harry Hopkins declared that millions of youths are patiently looking for jobs and don't want to take the government hand-outs. And he added that the Administration in Washington doesn't like the colossal relief situation any more than its critics. But it is a stark reality that there are seventeen million who cannot get jobs and must have relief.

~~And~~ **It** is a sour kind of humor, when so intense a human situation gets all snarled up in a joke - as in the story of state relief in Texas. In Sterling County, they discovered that a hundred and twenty-five dollars was being distributed to help

the needy, while the overhead came to more than six hundred dollars. It was costing five dollars to give one dollar away. That made the State Legislature sore and they tossed the local relief commission into the discard and gave the job to a new board.

So far, fair enough. But the ~~legislature~~ legislators, in their indignation, went further. Having tossed the old relief board out and put a new one in, they then refused to appropriate any more funds for relief.

That provoked the people who had been getting relief. They declared a hunger strike. I suppose they figured that as the state would not give them anything to eat anyway, they might as well make a strike of it.

That brough^t_^ on a second grim joke. They declared the hunger strike off, when they ~~found~~ found their leader in the ^{starvation}~~hunger~~ _^ ~~strike~~^{hold-out} picking his teeth. But that's the way; a grave human crisis often brings forth its crop of shabby comedies.

ARIZONA

We have become rather familiar of late with a state of the Union going on the warpath and ordering out troops and artillery in some more or less political dispute. The militia was called out in the southwestern oil fields, and Huey Long had his army mobilized with fixed bayonets to battle with the cops of New Orleans.

But now there's a new wrinkle -- the State troops advance in battle formation against some United States Government engineers. It's happening down in Arizona, with the soldiers going to war to prevent those engineers from building a dam.

It all comes about because of the Federal plan to harness the power of the Colorado River, which separates Arizona from California. The United States engineers selected a site ^{for} ~~for~~ a dam, and that's ~~there~~ when the Arizonans got worried. The river ^{is} ~~is~~ half theirs, but they figured that California would get the benefit of most of the power development. So Governor ^{More} ~~More~~ of Arizona proposed to Secretary-of-the-Interior Ickes that a

contract should be drawn up guaranteeing Arizona her share of the electricity. But the Secretary replied that he had no power to make any such contract. So Arizona has decided to go to the Federal courts and work out an agreement. But the Governor thinks the courts are too slow, and by the time they get action, the river will be already dedicated to the use of California *with* ~~and~~ little chance for a change. In ^{spite of this} ~~spite of his~~ protest the Federal engineers proceeded to go ahead. So now the Governor has invoked the military power of the state, and has sent a troop of national guardsmen with machine guns to stop the building of the dam. And I don't imagine those technological engineers are going to fight the soldiers, except maybe ~~an~~ the bloodless battleground of the courts.

LONG

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Tonight, ~~in~~ the old ~~city~~ of Baton Rouge, an august body is assembling, the Louisiana Legislature, all set to promulgate wise decrees of statesmanship. And they will hearken under the voice of that mightiest of statesmen - the Kingfish. Among the measures that will come up for a vote, ^{two} ~~three~~ are of a peculiarly statesmanlike quality. ~~All three are sponsored by statesman Huey Long, and his political wisdom and power will push them through.~~

Huey wasn't kidding when he came out for a two-year moratorium on all debts. When I say debts, I mean nearly all debts. There is one exception, ~~which is attracting all sorts of unfavorable comment from the Huey Long adversaries.~~ All debts ^{over} ~~under~~ eight dollars! According to the Kingfish Debt Moratorium, no Louisianians in the next two years will have to pay any debt from eight dollars up. It is the eight dollar limit that is provoking the jibes and jeers, the snickers and ~~the~~ sneers. Maybe Huey has his eye on collecting from all those students to whom he loaned xx carfare to get to that football game a couple of weeks ago. The boys are supposed to pay the money back, and each individual loan amounted to seven dollars.

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The second measure of Kingfishy statemanship weaves around Huey's ideas of football statesmanship. Remember how eh said he'd pick a Lieutenant-Governor from the gridiron? And how he thought Abe Mickel, the star half-back for Louisiana State, might be right for the vice-gubernatorial job? Well, that isn't going to happen. Not at this session of the Legislature. Something else is going to happen. The Kingfish will push through a bill making the famous half-back a state senator! So Abe will draw ten dollars a day while the Legislature is in session. And then you can't say the college is subsidizing football. It'll be the state. Which leaves me in a state of coma -- and SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.