

L.I. - Sunoco. Thursday, Nov. 6, 1941.

The most striking thing in Stalin's address today was the call for the United States to join in establishing a second battle front in Europe. The demand was indirect, but the implication was clear. "We must not forget," said Stalin, "that at present no armies of Britain and the United States are on the continent which would wage war against the Germans. As a result," he continued, "The Germans have no need to split their armies to wage a war in the West and East." The Germans, considering themselves safe in the West," he went on, "are able to throw against us their whole army. ~~It is true,~~ he proclaimed, "that in these circumstances we are waging this war of liberation alone." ^{to which} ~~To this~~ he added the following:- "I hope that a second front will be established in the near future, thus relieving the task of the Red Army."

So there we have the master of the Kremlin asking Great Britain and the United States to establish a second battle line in the West; invading ^{ing} the continent. And that, of course, would seem to mean -- a new A.E.F.

Stalin gave a new version of the famous affair of Hess.

It's still another explanation to account for that fantastic episode --

the landing of the Nazi Number Three Man by parachute in Scotland. Stalin stated today that Hess went as a Hitler emissary to propose that Great Britain join Nazi Germany in a coalition against Soviet Russia. He said the Nazis figured this way. "They expected," said Stalin, "that a general coalition against the U.S.S.R. would be created with the participation of the United States." He added jubilantly that the plan had failed to work out. "Instead of isolation," he cried, "new allies joined the Soviet Union." In other words, Great Britain and the United States, instead of joining Hitler against Stalin -- joined Stalin against Hitler. He spoke of Great Britain and the United States and Soviet Russia as a coalition, and stated that the United States has promised the Soviets a loan, not only Lend-Lease war materials, but also cash.

Here's the latest, a dispatch from Washington -- a State Department announcement that Soviet Russia will get a loan of one *— a billion for lend-lease materials,* billion dollars. This financial transaction was arranged by President Roosevelt and Stalin. ^e~~This~~ billion dollars loan will carry no interest, and no kind of repayment will be required until five years after the end of the war. Then repayment will be made

in the form of raw materials and commodities -- over a period of ten years. This colossal aid to the Soviets is described as of vast importance. And President Roosevelt accompanied it with congratulations on the occasion of the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution!

The Stalin address today occurred in connection with the celebration of the Twenty-Fourth Anniversary of Bolshevism -- the Red Revolution staged by Lenin and Trotsky in the autumn of Nineteen Seventeen. Embattled Moscow is making this a great occasion, and the speech that Stalin delivered today was a number one feature. He told a great crowd of assembled Soviet leaders that the Nazis have lost four and a half million men in the Russian War, while the Red Army has lost only a million seven hundred thousand. The Nazi loss -- three times as great.

LITVINOV

Word from Washington is that the administration cordially welcomes the appointment of Maxim Litvinov as the new Soviet

Ambassador. ^{He's} ~~As~~ [^] one of the best known of Soviet statesmen and his coming coincides in a rather interesting way with ^{the arrival of the} ~~that of a~~ special emissary ~~that~~ Japan is sending ~~←~~ in an attempt to bring about an American-Japanese agreement with the Far East.

Litvinov is a veteran of Communist Revolution. He's sixty years old, born in Poland, member of a Jewish family named Walach. He early became a revolutionary against the Czar, and went through the usual adventures. He joined the Bolshevik Party of Lenin, played his part in the Communist Revolution and then became prominent as Foreign Commissar of the Soviets. He was identified with a policy of coming to terms with Western Democracies, and lost his job shortly before Stalin signed up with Hitler. Since that partnership was broken up, with Hitler attacking Stalin, Litvinov has come back into prominence, and ^{now he becomes} ~~is now~~ Soviet Ambassador to Washington.

There's some expectation that he will arrive in time for the big celebration tomorrow. ^{Each year the Soviet Embassy} ~~As Soviet Emissary~~ always celebrates the anniversary of the Communist Revolution in a big way, and the way will be bigger than ever this year, the status of Stalin having

changed so suddenly of late. There ^{has} always a great champagne and
caviar celebration and tomorrow there will be more champagne and
caviar than in previous years. Also -- more guests. Two thousand
invitations were sent out to begin with, but many more people
expressed the desire to go -- including Congressmen. So the
invitation figures has been pushed to twenty-three hundred. In
former years acceptances averaged about fifty per cent. Now the
acceptance figure is around seventy-five per cent.

WAR

The war is about the same. The Soviets report success both before Moscow and in the Donets area. The Red army claims to have driven the Nazis back in both sectors. Berlin claims continued success in the Crimea, and mentions those two vital places -

Sevastopol and Kerch. ^{The Nazis} ~~They~~ claim to have the Red navy base at Sevastopol definitely under artillery fire, and they claim to be approaching the city of Kerch, which is right across a narrow strait from the Caucasus. The Berlin accounts would seem to indicate that the blitzkrieg forces have pretty well taken the Crimea except for those two strongholds, Sevastopol and Kerch.

FINLAND

From Finland we have a denial of the statement that Soviet Russia suggested peace terms nearly three months ago. The Finnish Government says -- No. This would seem to be in contradiction to the announcement made by Secretary of State Hull, who said that the Soviets had indeed made the peace offer. He advised Finland to accept it. Our Secretary stated that if the little northern republic did not draw out of the war against the Red Army, it would forfeit the friendship of the United States.

Today the Finnish Government denied the story of the Soviet peace offer. "This claim," says Finland, "was not only made for the purpose of propaganda -- but is also untrue."

ROOSEVELT

President Roosevelt today issued a call for - national sacrifice. Addressing the International Labor Office, assembled at the White House, the President urged the workers to devote every effort and make every sacrifice in the production of armament to aid Britain and Soviet Russia. "Shall we," he demanded, "make our full sacrifices now? Or shall we remain satisfied with our present rate of armament output, postponing the day of real sacrifice - as did the French - until it is too late?" And he called for a three-shift workday.

DECLARATION

Today in the Congress of the United States, a declaration of war was proposed. In the House of Representatives, a resolution was presented asking the President to declare war on Nazi Germany. This, however, was rather less serious than it may sound. The tip-off lies in the fact that the war resolution was entered by Congressman Hamilton Fish of New York, and he's one of the leading non-interventionists.

So we find the Congressman arguing against his own proposal. "I'm not for the resolution at all," says he, "but I think the time has come for a showdown." He argues that the nation is not prepared for war and the people don't want war. "Such a resolution," he adds, "will be beaten two or three to one in the House today, and it's the big issue before the country."

TAXES

The new and staggering tax proposal will be deferred.

That was decided by the House Ways and Means Committee today.

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The new shocker recommended by Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau would impose ~~another~~ fifteen per cent of income tax, ~~fifteen per cent~~ ~~in addition to the huge levies already decreed.~~ And, furthermore, this new fifteen per cent income tax would be deducted by employers from the wages of employees. The employers would pay the tax direct to the government. Moreover, the old-age payroll tax would be doubled - both employers and employees would pay two per cent each. The Secretary advanced these suggestions with the advice that the new taxes could be enacted speedily enough to put them into effect on this coming January First - right away. It was something calculated to ~~xxx~~ jar the public and give us a wideawake appreciation of what it means when the government spends a hundred million dollars a day, three billion dollars a month, and forty billion dollars next year.

It was a little too jarring, apparently, for the Ways and Means Committee, which today decided not to take immediate action on the Morgenthau proposal. Let it wait a while.

DRAFT

There's a likelihood that the draft age will be reduced to eighteen. This was stated today by Brigadier-General Hershey, Acting Director of Selective Service. General Hershey used the words, "a great possibility" - in describing the prospect of taking into the army boys from eighteen up.

COLONEL

There was a flare-up in Congress today against Colonel Early E. W. Duncan, Air Corps Commander at Lowry Field, Denver. Senate isolationists raised an uproar, and demanded the court-martial of the Colonel, because ^{an} of ~~ordered~~ he has issued. Colonel Duncan has forbidden men under his command to attend churches where opposition to the Administration foreign policy is expressed. He has proclaimed such churches to be - "out of bounds." And the same goes for the Denver headquarters of the America First Committee. ~~Colonel Duncan's troops are not allowed to go there either -~~ "out of bounds."

"We are preparing for war," declares the Colonel.

"I will not, under any circumstances, permit soldiers to attend any meeting or visit any place where they might be instilled with thoughts harmful to morale. I will not countenance anything," he adds, "which is not in accord with the policy of the President, my ~~Commander-in-Chief~~ Commander-in-Chief, or with my own ideas of what is un-American."

That is what this afternoon drew a resonant blast in Congress. "Think of it," cried Senator Wheeler, "here in the United

~~States this Colonel Duncan is saying~~
Colonel

States this Colonel Duncan is saying to soldiers that they cannot attend a church unless it preaches what he wants it to preach."

Senator Clark of Missouri said the Colonel was trying to get up a censorship of churches. And he shouted, "That man ought to be tried by a general court-martial."

"Here's the latest -- from Colonel Duncan himself. In Denver he was informed of the criticisms in Congress, and he replied as follows:- "I've never planned any censorship ~~in~~ concerning churches, nor do I intend to post guards to keep my men out." He explained that he issued his order because some organizations can become the tool of other organizations. Presumably, he means that some churches and pastors become the tools of groups opposing the Roosevelt foreign policy.

WILLKIE

In addition to ultra-modern battle of tanks and warplanes, we still have with us that good old method of conflict - the battle of words. And there's no place like the Congress of the United States - for verbal assault and battery. Today, one of the livliest scenes on record was witnessed in the House of Representatives. It consisted of a storm of phrases and epithets accompanied by a thundering ovation. The lawmaker who did the rhetorical shooting was Congressman Dewey Short of Missouri. The mark at which the grammatical barrage was aimed was Wendell Willkie.

It was all part of Republican isolationist reaction to Willkie's campaign to put the G.O.P. in full support of the Roosevelt foreign policy. This is countered by a congressional Republican threat to toss Willkie out of the Party. Today, Congressman Dewey Short hurled his entire vocabulary. "When Willkie sets out," he shouted, "to purge the members of the Republican Party because he disagrees with them, he proves that he is vindictive, intolerant, bigoted, conceited, onery and unfit to be a leader of any party." Hurling the dictionary like that, Congressman Short proved that he was anything but short-winded.

The Republican lawmaker referred to the fact that Wendell Willkie was the Republican candidate last year and he uttered a fervent apostrophe: "God forgive me," he cried, "for ever having supported the candidacy of this imposter!" ^{TF} In addition to confession and repentance, he also resorted to alliteration - in the key of B. He described Willkie in these words:- "a bellicose, belligerent, bombastic, blowhard." And that certainly was a blistering and bedeviled ^{ing} barrage. In other words, the Congressman, on the subject of Willkie, was as busy as a ^{bumble-} bee.

Willkie wasn't present in the legislative halls to shoot back so he fired a return blast all the way from New York. Informed of the Congressman's diatribe, he replied: "His personal references remind me of a bad boy who, when he runs out of argument, begins to make faces."

ELEPHANTS

I had a telegram today from Beverley Kelly, publicity man for the Ringling Brothers Circus. The wire included a familiar, well worn phrase - "the show must go on." So at Atlanta this afternoon, the acrobats flitted about on ^{the} a high trapeze, the clowns rolled around in their merry antics, and the lions roared in the animal act. Yes, the show went on in the big tent, in spite of a swift tragedy of the circus. Rather an overwhelming tragedy - the death of seven elephants.

Yesterday there was a circus panic when two of the ponderous pachyderms, grew ill, sank to the ground, and lay lifeless. Then today five more perished in the same fashion. Of the seven dying pachyderms, six were really ponderous - giant cows from Asia. The other was the African pigmy elephant. Virtually the entire herd of the circus was stricken - eight more fell ill of some mysterious malady - nobody really knows what. *But it wasn't elephantiasis, that much we know.*

However, Bev Kelly wires me that the hill-billy-elephant-trainer named McClain has a pretty good idea of what was wrong.

He says he thinks the elephants were poisoned while grazing at

Charlotte^S_^ville, North Carolina, the last previous stop made by the circus. They fed on the grass of an open space near a chemical factory, and the surmise is that arsenic used in the plant had permeated the ground nearby - arsenic poisoning the grass. So

87m that's the probable cause of the tragedy of the elephants ^{-- eating} ~~growing~~ grass seasoned with arsenic. ^{And on top of this all the} ~~favorite clown~~ of the circus died of heart-failure today.

~~A heavy blow to the circus, and I wonder - do elephants carry life insurance? However that may be, the people under the big tent were downcast in spirit.~~ ^{But} The show has to go on - and today ^{the} the acrobats flitted about on a high trapeze, the clowns rolled around in their merry antics, and the lions roared in the animal act. It was all about the same as ever - save that there was a noticeable lack of elephants in the circus at Atlanta today.

BULLETIN

I have just had a bulletin handed to me, saying that the movie union leaders, William Bioff and George E. Browne today were found guilty by a federal court jury of having extorted Five hundred and fifty thousand dollars from moving picture company executives under threats of calling strikes in the industry.

The jury returned its verdict, finding the pair guilty on all counts of the federal indictment, two hours and thirteen minutes after receiving the case. They are liable to a maximum penalty of thirty years' imprisonment each under the Federal Anti-Racketeering Statute. They were tried on three counts -- one of conspiracy and two charging violation of the Anti-Racketeering Law.