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If the delegates at the Lima conference were embarrassed, they didn't show it. They went right on with their job, and two important things happened:- One was a suggestion of the delegation from Mexico. Our neighbors south of the Rio Grande want all American government to agree not to use force for the collection of international debts. Ha! And that sounds like a sour note.

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BATTLESHIP

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Uncle Sam may follow the lead of other nations in building not only more battleships, but bigger ones. At present the largest man'o'war we have is the U.S.S. CALIFORNIA, thirty-two thousand six hundred tons. The National Defense Council has drawn up plans for a super superdreadnought, forty-five thousand tons; seven hundred and ten feet long; with a battery of twelve, ~~sixteen-inch~~ sixteen-inch cannon. The plans haven't been okayed yet, the word is that they're being studied by <sup>the</sup> President, ~~Roosevelt~~.

CHAMBERLAIN

The people of France breathed a trifle easier today, felt less fear of Italy. The reason for their security is a statement by Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain in the House of Commons. Of course Chamberlain did not come right out in simple language and say, "Yes, we will back France." What he did say was that Tunis is protected by the agreement between John Bull and Mussolini. In stilted diplomatic language, "The Mediterranean status quo applies to Tunis."

Then Chamberlain added: "Any action contrary to the agreement would be a matter of grave concern to the British government. However," he continued, "I cannot contemplate the possibility of aggression against Tunis."

48  
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BONNET FOLLOW CHAMBERLAIN

And there was plenty of excitement in the French Chamber of Deputies. ~~today~~ For an hour and a half Foreign Minister George<sup>S</sup> Bonnet stood on the rostrum, a target for question after question about the Italian-French crisis. Bonnet said: "Thus far the Italian government has not announced any claims for French territory." And he repeated the information that both Mussolini and Ciano have formally ~~announced~~ <sup>stated</sup> that those demonstrations <sup>in Italy</sup> had not the approval of the Italian government.

~~But~~ <sup>went on with this</sup> Then Bonnet ~~added~~ a fiery declaration: "The French government wants the Italian government to know that even if it means war, the Italian government will never obtain an inch of Tunisia, Djibouti, Corsica or any part of the French Empire."

P.S. In Italy Mussolini issued a decree ordering a long list of employers to distribute gas masks to all their employees.

GERMANY FOLLOW BONNET

Inside Hitler's Reich today there was a prelude to a new movement that looks like a movement to liquidate the middle class. In all the discussion of Nazi policies, Nazi methods, the world at large has been overlooking the full name of the Nazi Party. Nazi of course is an abbreviation for National Socialist. The Socialist side of the Hitler doctrines has been kept in the background. It was emphasized, however, in Hitler's Nurembourg speech last September. Today, these doctrines were expressed in the newspaper which is the official organ of the Storm Troops. It contained a vehement denunciation of what it called "White Jews." This is a name that the Storm Troopers newspaper applies to "Aryans with the same lust for profits." And then it adds: quote:- "We have not gone through years of struggle to enable these evil vultures to sit down at the tables which Jews have just been forced to vacate," end quote.

It is of the utmost significance that this article appears two days after the pronouncement from Mussolini against the Italian middle class.

CHINA

Here's a late flash from Washington that seems to have large implications. Uncle Sam is thinking of selling a vast volume of material to China, twenty-five million dollars worth, says this eleventh hour report. The question this provokes is: Does it mean that President Roosevelt and his administration are thinking of thus taking an indirect hand in the Far Eastern situation? It has been rumored for some time that Washington was about to take a firm stand against Nippon.

Washington however characterizes the 25,000,000 deal as purely commercial.



DOIHARA

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Japan's man of mystery looms large <sup>the</sup> in news from Asia today. I mean, of course, Kenji Doihara, the Japanese general who is vested with a regular E. Phillips Oppenheim reputation, the powerful under-cover man of the Mikado's warlords. Just by way of a change, the news of the day has him trying to make peace. He is supposed to be approaching Chinese leaders with proposals to put an end to the fighting. He is supposed to have offered to withdraw the armies of Nippon upon certain conditions. First, that China would recognize the independence of Manchukuo and Inner Mongolia. Second, Japan ~~is~~ to have exclusive rights on cotton, coal, iron and salt in north China. And third, China ~~is~~ to join the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis, sign the anti-Communist pact of Japan, Mussolini and Hitler.

Doihara, however, is not reported to have approached Chiang Kai-shek, the Chinese Generalissimo. Of course the Japanese have long since said that they would not deal with Chiang and have insisted upon his being thrown out. Old China hands, who know the Far East, say there's not much chance of Doihara getting to first base with his offers even if the story is true. The Chinese look upon Doihara exactly in the same light as the Japanese view Chiang Kai-shek. They hate Doihara above all other sons of the Mikado, won't have anything to do with him.

SPY

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A scarehead statement was made to the Dies Committee in Washington today. The Committee's agent, John C. Metcalf, was on the stand, ~~today~~, the same Metcalf who has given vent to a lot of other sensational utterances. He said today, "The United States is in a precarious position." Then he qualified with the word "if"-- "if it does not heed the espionage efforts of various foreign organizations." Then he added: "The situation is so grave it cannot be overstated. Espionage machines, <sup>are</sup> all organized and ready to go, ready for sabotage or any other kind of trouble to Uncle Sam in case of war."

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It so happens that American news ~~volumes~~ today is packed with spy stories. First of all, a conviction in the trial at Cristobal, Canal Zone. The German, Hans Heinrich Shackow, arrested last October, pronounced guilty of taking photographs of canal fortifications. It will be recalled that three others were pinched with Shackow, two men and a woman, all Germans. Their turn comes next.

On the heels of that news comes a unique spy story from Los Angeles. Two men arrested there, Russians this time. ~~It is the~~

<sup>The</sup> first time <sup>we</sup> ~~have~~ heard yet of the arrest of any Soviet agents.

One of the men in the Los Angeles <sup>jail</sup> ~~sneezers~~ is the local manager of the Soviet Intourist Bureau. The other is a naturalized

American. And the charge against them both is peculiar. They're not supposed to have stolen any military secrets of Uncle Sam's.

The secrets ~~that~~ they swiped concern Japan; ~~it was~~ information gathered by our own secret service, information about the military establishment of the Mikado's navy. This, the Russians stole, and turned ~~it~~ over to Moscow. Such is the charge against them, a charge almost unique, if I am not mistaken. They were arrested by agents of the Federal Bureau of Information.

A peculiar fact came out about the naturalized American who is involved in that plot to help Moscow. He was formerly a cop on the police force in Berkeley, California. He was allowed to resign because Uncle Sam wanted to borrow his services, ~~Uncle Sam~~ needed <sup>ing</sup> a man who could talk Japanese and knew <sup>the</sup> Japanese people.

On the strength of this, that Berkeley cop went to work as an agent

<sup>the United States and now Uncle Sam</sup>  
for ~~Mr. Whiskers~~ and now ~~Mr. Whiskers~~ has him in ~~the sneezers~~  
<sup>jail</sup> accused of being a ~~spy~~ Soviet spy.

SENATE FINANCE

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The Sub-Committee of the Senate's Finance Committee has finished its investigation into the subject of profit-sharing. So far the outcome of those hearings is a total disagreement between the Republican and Democratic members. Republican Senator Vandenberg of Michigan of course is the real author of that committee, author of the resolution by which it was established. ~~But this~~ He thinks the Committee should send in a report recommending a system of taxation that would encourage employers to share profits with their employees. Democratic Senator Herring of Iowa, Chairman of the Committee, says he isn't convinced that such taxation would be either practical or ethical.

MRS. ROOSEVELT

A story broke in Boston today that Mrs. Frankling Delano Roosevelt may go into the insurance business. It started with a report in the EVENING LEADER of Lowell, Massachusetts. The EVENING LEADER says it learned from "unofficial but authoratative sources that Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President, has become a member of the insurance firm of Roosevelt and Sargent." That's the firm of which her eldest son, Jimmy, was a member before he became one of the President's secretaries; the firm that was the center of the controversy started by the SATURDAY EVENING POST, article, "Jimmy's Got It." Reporters asked John Sargent about this, he's the Sargent of Roosevelt & Sargent. He replied: "You'll have to ask Jimmy, if you can find him."

Later ~~in~~ this evening there came a confirmation from the White House. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the First Lady of the Land, is on the Board of Directors of the insurance firm of Roosevelt & Sargent of Boston, ~~the "Jimmy's Get It" firm~~. There follows an explanation. Mrs. Roosevelt will not take ~~inxxxx~~ any, ~~what is~~ ~~active~~ active interest in the firm. In other words, in the course of her lecturing and investigating tours around the country ~~in~~ she will not try to sell insurance. She is a director of the firm of Roosevelt & Sargent merely in order to protect the interests of ~~Jimmy~~ Jimmy, because Jimmy has to spend most of his time at Hollywood working for Sam Goldwyn. So, in the immortal words of Sam himself, Mrs. Roosevelt may say: "As an insurance salesman, include me out."

ETTING

That wedding in Las Vegas, Nevada, today was unusual, to say the least. Unusual even for the Gretna Green of Nevada.

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It must be seldom that a woman marries while her ex-husband is on trial for attempted murder, marries the man <sup>to whom</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>tried to</sup> the ex ~~is supposed~~ <sup>to have</sup> ~~tried~~ <sup>give the axe —</sup> to murder. That wedding of Ruth Etting to Myrl Alderman is one of the quickest on record. The airplane that brought them from Los Angeles came to ground at the Las Vegas airport at eight o'clock in the morning. At eight fifteen they were at the doors of the County Court House. If the County Clerk hadn't been in bed, the whole job might have been done within a half hour. As it was, they had to wait until the clerk got up.

An hour later they were in the office of the District Judge and the knot was tied. The bridesmaid, incidentally, was Edith Snyder, daughter of Martin Snyder, alias "Moe the Gimp", the man on trial for attempted murder of today's groom.

On the license Miss Etting admitted to the age of <sup>Thirty-seven.)</sup> ~~Sixteen~~ Alderman is thirty, <sup>— but it's</sup> his third wedding.

Apparently the wedding was a direct result of the accident of Martin Snyder, Miss Etting's Number One. For the lady

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told reporters: "It was immediately after the shooting that we decided to get married as soon as Myrl's divorce became final." This, she added, "was the first opportunity we had." Miss Etting spoke for them both, saying: "We're going to be extremely happy."

As we can readily believe, the news was ~~rather~~ a shock to Moe the Gimp when it reached him in his jail cell at Hollywood. He at first refused to believe it. Then he said: "If that is true, I wish them from the bottom of my heart all the luck and success in the world." But what did he say next? He said: "They'll need it,"  
Said "Moe-the-Gimp."



TOBACCO

An interesting passenger arrived in New York today aboard Mussolini's crack liner, the REX. His name is Tobacco Virgilio. Tobacco is thirteen years old. His home is in Naples and he thought he'd like to see the U.S.A. Officials of Mussolini's Italian Line say that Tobacco is the most ingenious stowaway they ever had.

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Just before the REX left Naples, Virgilio came charging up the gangplank. When the guards asked him for his passport, Tobacco with a broad grin, brandished a bag of candy. And he said to those guards in his best Neopolitan dialect: "Pop sent me ashore to buy this." The guards let him through. A minute later, the REX cast off. Tobacco then wandered over the ship and found what looked like a friendly mother of a family. She had three children with her. Tobacco hitched on, passed most of his time with that mother and her three children. Everybody took it for granted that Tobacco was one of that family. In short, he had the freedom of the ship, <sup>and</sup> ~~he~~ ate well five times a day, <sup>as is the</sup> custom aboard trans-Atlantic liners. Of course he didn't have a cabin but for the first day or so he slept in the wash room.

When he found that the floor was too hard, he went scouting around, found an empty state room. There he slept for the rest of the voyage and now question were asked.

Tobacco would be a resident of the United States at this moment -- maybe well on his way towards well-deserved citizenship -- but for one unfortunate fact. The pier guards of New York are a little more quick of wit and fleet of foot than those of Naples. As soon as the REX docked in New York, tobacco took it on the run and was halfway down the gangplank. But one of Uncle Sam's runners caught him, dragged him back by the collar, and poor thirteen year old Tobacco didn't get ashore.

Back to the Basso Porto, the waterfront of Naples, to Santa Lucia goes Tobacco. And SO LONG UNTIL TOMORRO.W