

P.I. - Sunoco. Friday, Jan. 27, 1939.

RELIEF

It was very nearly a tie vote in the United States Senate today, but not quite. The Senators decided that crucial issue of emergency relief money - how much to be appropriated for immediate W.P.A. expenditure. The bill before the Upper House is the one for seven hundred and twenty-five million dollars, representing a slash of a hundred and fifty million. The administration forces brought the question to a decision, making a motion that the bill be changed, that the money provided be increased to the original presidential figure of eight hundred and seventy-five million. It was on this motion to amend that the Senate voted. Forty-six voted "yes", demanding the higher figure. Forty-seven voted "no" - defeating the White House and the new ^{deal} ~~bill~~ by one vote.

Two Republicans supported the administration figure while twenty-six Democrats joined the rest of the Republicans in voting for the cut. So it was a Senate coalition of Republicans and Conservative Democrats that carried the day - by one vote.

47 { The next thing will be for the Senate to vote on the adoption of the bill with the lower figure. Of course, it will be passed, and then it will go to the President for his signature. And no doubt he will sign it with some protest.

AVIATION

That mystery aviation crash has stirred up some lively doings in Washington - the West Coast crack-up of the bomber on its test flight, and the revelation that it had a French air force officer aboard. Also- French air force officers on the ground ~~who were~~ observing the trial.

Today the Senate Military Affairs Committee started an investigation of the mystery, trying to find out what foreign military men were doing there. Among the witnesses called are Secretary of War Woodring and Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau. Why the Secretary of the Treasury? Because it turns out that he authorized the presence of the Frenchmen at the trial flight of the new type bomber. The Committee wants to know what authorization he had - also whether the plane was a type designed for the United States army, and whether it was a case of divulging American military secrets.

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President Roosevelt today talked about this at the White House press conference. He indicated that the French military officers at the trial flight were members of a French mission that has come to the United States to buy millions of

dollars worth of warplanes. And he said that this was okay. The prospective purchase had been approved by the Cabinet. Not only okay, but also desirable. The huge French aviation order would provide needed business for American aircraft factories. The reason that Secretary Morgenthau gave a permit to the French officers to witness the trial of the bomber, was because it's part of the business of the Treasury Department to further trade and help business. In fact, the French mission was urged to put in its order quickly - before American aircraft factories got busy on our own program of armament in the sky. The government expects to place its first orders for warplanes within a few weeks.

Today President Roosevelt asked Congress for the money. He recommended an emergency appropriation of fifty million dollars to buy five hundred and sixty-five new fighting planes for the *army.*

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~~army. (That would bring the army air strength up to twenty-eight hundred planes. (Today's request for fifty ^{million} ~~thousand~~ is the first step in the government's half a billion dollar defense program.)~~

Meanwhile, a Committee of the House of Representatives

PLANES

The United States fleet is maneuvering in the Caribbean, and it all seems to be rather rough on the naval aircraft.

They ^{are} taken a spectacular part in the sky as the mighty squadrons of warships play their game of battle on the ocean.

And the warplanes seem to be sustaining a bit of damage.

Today, at the San Diego, California, air base, fifteen fighting planes made ready to fly to ^{the} maneuvers.

In detachments of five each, they'll wing across country to Miami, and from there to the Caribbean. ~~maneuvers~~ They are replacements, sent to substitute for planes that had been disabled. New sky fighters to take the place of aircraft casualties of the war game.

PAN-AMERICAN

A new move for Pan-American solidarity is reported in Brazil. Lima had its conference, and now Rio is staging something new, in the way of international statecraft - Pan-American feminine solidarity. Create a bond of western hemisphere unity among the women. How are the ladies achieving their diplomacy? With a fashion show. *So the slogan is: -* ~~So it is~~ "women of the western hemisphere unite in an alliance of style."

Rio calls it - the good neighbor fashion show, and by way of good neighbors the Brazilians imported a team of New York fashion models, assorted blondes, brunettes and redheads. And today they gave a dazzling display of gowns before an audience that included the daughters of President Vargas and the wives of the Ministers of the Brazilian Cabinet. The good neighborly models paraded in ~~a dazzling~~ ^{an} array of ~~beach suits,~~ street frocks, cocktail dresses, ~~and~~ evening gowns, *and beach suits.*

All of which must have made Pan-American solidarity a lot more solid. I suppose the idea is that if the western hemisphere ladies dress in the height of fashion, that will conquer foreign aggressors. For every girl knows that stylish clothes do help to make a conquest.

CHINA

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In the Far East the Japanese announce that one of the most famous of living Chinese is ready to take part in a Japanese-controlled Government of China. The dignitary mentioned is the venerable Confucian scholar Wu Pei-Fu. Wu has been a Confucian scholar all his life, but the time was when he also was something else -- a war lord. He was one of China's greatest military potentates a few years ago, and was overthrown by the Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-Shek.

The ~~in~~ Japanese ^{quoted} ~~called~~ Wu Pei-Fu as saying:-

"I am ready to serve China and to overcome any difficulties to secure peace." Meaning -- collaboration with the Japanese. And the venerable Wu adds this quite Confucian comment:-
"It is not wise for brothers to quarrel."

Apparently he's in favor of the new order which Japan plans to establish in Eastern Asia -- this directed against the Western Powers. Says the Confucian Wu ~~it~~ "We should be aware of the fights of outsiders, and reap benefits from such strife."

Adding some Confucian confusion to the situation.

SPAIN

The fall of Barcelona caused repercussions in several countries today. In Italy, as might be expected, there were more demonstrations against France. Genoa witnessed a lively scene when a mob of students tried to storm the French Consulate. The police ~~tried to~~ drove them off; ^{but} ~~and~~ the students put up a battle. They were only dispersed when the Genoese cops called in the fire department. Thereupon, the spurting streams of water cooled down the academic anti-French ardor. *Also an anti-French riot in Rome.*

In Paris, the gendarmes today had a battle on their hands, when there was a demonstration by Left sympathizers. They roared along the boulevards shouting that France should send warplanes to help the Spanish Left.

And there was a riot in Gibraltar, a battle between Franco sympathizers and anti-Franco people. It began with the celebration of the fall of Barcelona, whereupon an anti-Franco crowd gathered. The British police had to wade in with swinging *clubs* ~~batons~~ before they could squelch the outbreak.

On the diplomatic front, a repercussion of the fall of Barcelona comes from Czechoslovakia tonight. Prague, now strongly

under German influence, announces the recognition of Franco.

Czechoslovakia now considers the insurgent regime to be the government of Spain, and is breaking relations with the hard-pressed republic.

(In the Catalonian war area, the Franco commanders announce a drive of eighteen miles since they took Barcelona, advancing that far against the disorganized republican opposition. The state of affairs in the northern ^{tip}~~depth~~ of Catalonia is described as desperate - every place jammed and choked with defeated soldiers and swarming fugitives.) And this gives the world still another refugee problem. France expects that half a million fleeing people will cross the French border as the insurgent advance pushes on. And what's to be done with that host of refugees?

There was talk of establishing a neutral zone along the frontier inside of Spain - though it was believed that the victorious Franco government would not consent to this. Today even the Republican regime said - no, not possible. ^{And-} Premier Negrin's Cabinet, from its refuge at the tip of Catalonia, asked Paris to find a place for the half a million refugees - in France or in

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north Africa perhaps. We hear that Paris has approached Soviet Russia, asking Stalin whether he'll accept Spanish refugees.

The land of the Soviets would seem an appropriate place for Spanish Communists to migrate, but the rigorous Red regime of

Moscow would hardly welcome an influx of anarchists and ^{ultra-}liberals, or ~~even just liberals.~~

In fact, many a nation might draw the line against the redder elements among the Spanish refugees - making it still another thorny refugee problem.

BRITISH NAVY

Today in London a slogan was sounded -- a warship a week. Earl Stanhope, First Lord of the Admiralty, declared the King's navy was being expanded so rapidly that new fighting craft were being turned out at the rate of one every seven days. He said that among the vessels now in process of planning or construction were seven superdreadnoughts, twenty-one cruisers, twenty-nine destroyers, fifteen submarines, and five aircraft carriers. This is a telling indication of the way Great Britain is rearming.

ENGLISH FLOODS

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One of those English towns with an odd name is - Ipswich. Today, Ipswich ~~also~~ has a flood. It's the center of a huge inundated area in southeastern England. Heavy rain and snowfall have turned rivers and streams into sweeping sheets of water, a deluge over hundreds of thousands of acres. Ipswich, with water five feet deep in its main streets, is the center of what seems to be a vast inland sea, and today the floods reached as far as the outskirts of London.

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SCHMELING

The prizefight industry is facing a heavyweight depression, ^{following} ~~after~~ the Joe Louis-John Henry Lewis bout on Wednesday night. The way Louis beat Lewis, with Lewis knocked out in a couple of minutes, there's a scarcity of opponents for Louis. ~~There's~~ ^a lot of Louis in all this; but ~~then~~ that seems to be the trouble with the prizefight industry - too much Louis. The pugilistic industrialists are ^{now} seeking new opponents for the dusky heavyweight champion - and there's mention of Two-Ton Tony Galento, Lou Nova, Max Baer, etcetra. Also - Max Schmeling.

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The former heavyweight champ who knocked out Louis one time and was knocked out the next time, is coming over ~~here~~ from Germany, and there were rumors that he would try to get another fight with the champ. This ~~today~~ Schmeling denies. He's not coming ^{on} ~~back for~~ any come-back trial, has no idea of battling with the Brown Bomber. Why not? Because he hasn't got over his last battle ^{right now.} ~~with~~ the Bomber. Today Schmeling explained it this way:- "When I was injured last year in my fight with Joe Louis, he rammed me in the back - and I'm still under a doctor's care." Yep, that's it - just too much Louis.

Later, Schmeling admitted coyly that he wants another scrap with the Bomber - after he has thoroughly recovered, next fall maybe.

SHIP

Along with the icy winds ~~these conditions~~ ^{come} waves through the ether tell ^{ing} of a desperate battle against the sea. Tonight, off the New England coast, the Coast Guard Cutter ARGO is towing the fishing trawler ALICE AND MILDRED. Meaning - the battle against the sea has been won. But a desperate tussle it was for three days.

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On Tuesday the ALICE AND MILDRED, loaded with fish and covered with ice, was steaming along seventy-five miles east of Cape Cod. Something went wrong with an air line, and sea water poured in. The boiler room flooded, the engines disabled, and the trawler lay helpless in the raging sea - like a ship of ice adrift. No radio aboard with which to call for help and the water was pouring in fast, flooding the hold. The crew had to pump with desperate effort to keep the craft from foundering, and the freezing gale was so violent they had to lash themselves to the pumps to keep from being swept overboard.

The next day, the trawler was sighted by another fishing boat but no rescue could be attempted, the sea was so wild.

~~the~~ The other boat had a wireless, and called the COAST GUARD.

The ARGO came to the rescue, and in the boiling sea it was almost impossible to heave a line across. For hours they tried, made six attempts. Finally they succeeded, and today the ARGO radios that she has the ALICE AND MILDRED in tow.

EARTHQUAKE

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To the earthquake devastation in southern Chile, relief is streaming. Chile itself is ~~streaming~~^{straining} to the utmost, the United States is helping, and other American republics have joined in the work of mercy. And that work of mercy is ~~badly~~^{surely} needed. Two days after the disastrous shaking of the earth, the situation is still critical - hunger, lack of shelter, peril of epidemic among the hundreds of thousands of people affected.

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Today the Chilean government ordered five cities to be evacuated, for fear of ~~disaster~~^{ease} - people removed to healthier surroundings. With buildings down everywhere, the earthquake sufferers are sleeping in tents, ramshackle huts and in the open.

π A veritable relief army is streaming to the quake area, headed by doctors and nurses and druggists with medical supplies.

It will be days before the crisis is conquered.

GIRL

Lima, Peru reports an extraordinary event. ~~Lightning~~

A beautiful young woman was walking along the street when lightning hit her, ripped off all her clothes and deprived her of the power

of ~~speech~~ speech. *Nearby was* ~~along the street was passing~~ a man who had long

been mute, and when he saw the nude young lady his power of speech was immediately restored to him. To this remarkable occurrence

the New York World-Telegram editor says: P.S. We don't believe

it either. If we did we would want to know the first thing that was

said by the man who had long been mute.

And e-l-u-Monday

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