

CRUISER

L.I. - Sunoco Tues., Nov. 28, 1939.

There's no word from London, either confirmation or denial, about the latest German announcement - a big British cruiser torpedoed and destroyed. Berlin claims that the latest victim of the U-boats was in the "London class." These new fast ten thousand ton cruisers, four of them - the SHROPSHIRE, the SUSSEX, the ~~DEVONSHIRE~~ DEVONSHIRE, and the LONDON. Berlin declares that the vessel was torpedoed with heavy loss of life in the North Sea near the Shetland Islands and gives the name of the U-boat Commander as - Prien. That same Captain Prien who is Germany's Number One war hero right now, the U-boat Commander who sneaked into Scapa Flow and torpedoed and sank the ROYAL OAK. It is supposed in Berlin that this latest submarine victory occurred several days ago, because it is said to have been just reported by Captain Prien on his return to harbor.

~~The announcement of the torpedoing of a cruiser of the London class comes along with German boasts that they have forced the British fleet to take cover and retire from the North Sea - and even the North Atlantic.~~

AIR ATTACK

The Germans report that British planes today attacked a German air base, -the flying field at Borkum. That's on one of the islands off the German North Sea coast and ~~is~~^{is} the airdrome from which most Nazi planes have flown in attacks against the British fleet. Today warplanes of the R.A.F. flew over Borkum and attacked it. They swooped down over the airdrome and swept it with machine-gun fire. The Berlin report declares that the planes were bombers - but that they dropped no bombs, ~~just fired~~

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~~machine guns.~~ The British report they machine-gunned 3-^{hit} times ^{the} laying Nazi planes.

~~This is an earlier story. The British said~~

~~last night, with the Germans claiming that one hostile plane had been~~

~~forced down on the North Sea~~

BLOCKADE

The Allied blockade of German exports will be put into effect on Monday. This was announced today by Prime Minister Chamberlain in the House of Commons.

Parliament began a new session today. King George opened it with a speech from the throne - an address in which he repeated Great Britain's determination to win the war. Then the Prime Minister told the Commons that on Monday the Allies would begin seizing all exports from Germany, goods originating in the Reich and carried on neutral ships.

London estimates that during war-time, seventy-five per cent of German exports have been passing through neutral countries to be transported by sea. ~~Germany depends upon exports to get foreign~~ currency, real money with which to pay for necessary war materials. Hitler can get some stuff by the barter system, but he has to pay cash for a lot that the German army must have. Seventy-five per cent of the cash-producing exports will be cut off by the new blockade. - So London believes.

PEACE

One subject of discussion in the British Parliament today was - peace. There has been much talk about the war aims of the Allies, what they're ultimately fighting for, demands that they should declare their objectives. To this the British Prime Minister today replied that the Allies do not intend to impose what he called "a vindictive peace." He said it was too early to talk about precise terms of any settlement to be made after the war is won, and then he gave this assurance:- "We have not entered this war with any vindictive purpose." And he added the hope that the statesmen who make peace after ^{the}~~this~~ war will have better luck in fulfilling their ideals than had the statesmen who made peace after the first World War - those who made the Versailles Treaty.

RATIONING

The rationing of food in Great Britain is being delayed. It was to have gone into effect in December, but now food rationing will not begin until January. January the Eighth, is the precise date. The explanation of the delay is - Christmas. British business men have flooded the government with the demand - let the holiday season be exempt. And the government ^{has} consented - food restrictions put off until January Eighth.

The rationing system will apply to butter and bacon.

~~Each Britisher is allowed a quarter of a pound of butter a week and a quarter of a pound of bacon. The Germans get about the same~~
amount of these two commodities. But nearly all food is rationed in Germany, instead of merely two kinds. In Great Britain sugar is not to be rationed for the present - but sugar consumption is to be restricted - by request. People are asked not to buy any more sugar than a pound a week for each person.

FINLAND

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Tonight the peril of Finland is greater than ever, ~~with~~
(The Soviets ~~formally~~ ^{have just} ~~denouncing~~ ^{ed} their non-aggression pact with the
little northern republic.) Some years ago, Moscow and Helsingfors
signed a treaty, guaranteeing not to attack each other. During the
recent bitter dispute, with the Soviets making demands on Finland -
that non-aggression treaty has remained in force, until today.

At the Kremlin Foreign Commissar Molotov ^{this afternoon} told the Finnish Minister
that the treaty is at an end, terminated by the Soviets. Molotov
said this was because of the Finnish attitude of what he called
"deep ~~the~~ hostility" toward Communist Russia, the old stuff about the
tiny nation of Finns threatening giant Russia with war.

And Moscow has sent another not^e to Helsingfors, replying
to the Finnish note. The Soviets refuse to accept the denial that
the Finns fired with cannon at the Red Army troops across their
border. (And Moscow repeats its demand that Finnish soldiers be
withdrawn from that section of the frontier which is near Leningrad -
Leningrad the city of three million, about as many people as in all
Finland.) Meanwhile, Red Army troops on the border were getting
orders using the word - "annihilate". They are instructed that if the

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Finns made ^{another} ~~any~~ hostile move, annihilate them.
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And the latest from Moscow is the claim that the Finns have made another hostile move, two ~~hostile moves~~, in fact. The Soviet radio reports two new border incidents. At one place, Finnish soldiers fired on Red Army guards, and crossed the ~~public~~ frontier. They were driven back, two killed, three taken prisoners. So says Moscow.

The second incident is reported on the border ~~near~~ next to Leningrad. There the Finns are declared to have fired artillery shells into Soviet territory, and then tried to cross the frontier.

It remains to be seen what annihilation will follow this Moscow report of two more border incidents.

Glueck.

Nov. 28⁷

1939.

INTRO. TO DR. NELSON GLUECK

During the World War, when I went to Arabia to join Colonel Lawrence and the Arab Army, I found Lawrence at an exceedingly remote place, far off the beaten path. The northern end of the Red Sea divides into two arms, on either side of the Sinai Peninsula, where Moses and the Israelites wandered for forty years. The Western arm is the Gulf of the Suez. Ships passing to and fro from Europe to Asia all go that way. The Eastern arm of the Red Sea is the Gulf of Akaba where few travelers in our time have ever been.

Right at the head of the Gulf of Akaba I saw a wild, barren desert region, no inhabitants except for a small Arab town. But Colonel Lawrence told me that somewhere in that vicinity he was sure King Solomon once had a city, perhaps Solomon's greatest seaport, probably the place where the Queen of Sheba landed when she went to visit Solomon. Since I was there archaeologists have been at work, and they ~~from~~ have found King Solomon's city, buried in the sands. It was found by the archaeologist who is sitting across the table from me, Dr. Nelson Glueck, and his associates. Dr. Glueck is the Director of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Jerusalem.

Dr. Nelson Glueck is on a speaking tour of America, a tour mapped out by Yale University.

Doctor Glueck, to all of us, King Solomon is one of the most fascinating personalities in human history, and I suspect that every person listening in tonight will be interested in what you are uncovering out there where Arabia joins the Sinai Peninsula. What did King Solomon call his seaport, and what sort of a place was it, and what is there now?

DR. G.:- Ezion-Geber was the name of the city. King Solomon's ships used to sail from there on their way to Ophir, and they would return laden with incense and spices and all the other precious products of Africa and India. Not only was it a port, but we have discovered that it was a great factory-city, filled with refineries for copper and iron; also foundries and workshops where copper and iron ingots, and finished metal objects were turned out. Just north of the city my colleagues have located a long line of ancient copper mines that were worked in the time of King Solomon, which proves the truth of certain Biblical verses which some have questioned, verses describing the Promised Land as "a land where stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper."

Apparently the city of Ezion-Geber was the Pittsburgh of those days, and King Solomon was one of the world's first and greatest copper kings.

L.T.:- By the way, Doctor, I understand a new language is springing up in the Holy Land. What do you call it?

DR. G.:- Penglish.

L.T.:- What does Penglish sound like?

DR. G.:- Here's an example. I saw a hotel sign out there the other day, in Jerusalem, that read as follows:- "Enter hotel sideways," meaning "Use the side entrance."

L.T.:- Any others?

DR. G.:- I should say so. There was a native in a Jerusalem garage who used his Penglish on me in speaking of his wife's operation. He applied garage English to her, and said: "that she had just had a puncture." I didn't go into the matter further.

And then there was a butcher-shop sign in which the butcher made this startling announcement in Penglish:- "I kill myself three times a week."

L.T.:- And that just about slays me, Dr. Glueck. And now let's return from the realm of Edomites, Moabites, Hittites and Canaanites, where you have taken us, to this present-day world.

ROOSEVELT

There's ^{word} ~~a report~~ that President Roosevelt has in mind the idea of altering another date. Having changed Thanksgiving, F.D.R. aims to tackle the national conventions, both Democratic and Republican. Informed sources at Warm Springs, Georgia, have been talking about it this way. With the national conventions held in June, the presidential campaign is strung along from June to

November. That's too long a time, thinks the President. ~~(In a time~~
~~of international crisis like this present war-time, the country will~~
~~get bored with a campaign lasting four or five months. Maybe so,~~
~~Mr. President, but it looks as if our next presidential campaign~~
~~might be rather more exciting than the war in Europe.)~~

~~President Roosevelt is also of the opinion that~~ If the campaign time were shortened, it would spell economy for both parties - they wouldn't have to shell out so much cash. So ~~it~~ he's thinking about making a proposal of holding the usual June conventions in July, or even later. That of course would have to be done by agreement between the national committees of both parties, ~~and would leave undecided the always interesting question of which party will hold its convention first.~~

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But, anyway, the rumor is tonight that, having altered Thanksgiving, the President wants to do the same with the national conventions. That date-changing business seems to be habit-forming.

Maybe Christmas next.

FINANCE

The charge is made that a campaign is on to smear public utilities. This is today's response to last night's story - in which Senator Norris was quoted as taking a fling at Commonwealth and Southern. Wendell ~~D~~ Wilkie, President of ^{the Company} ~~Commonwealth and Southern~~, declares that the transaction under attack was ~~entirely~~ ~~okayed~~. ~~In fact, it was~~ okayed by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which certainly should make it a hundred per cent pure. It's one of those complicated financial transactions which can so easily get a layman all tangled up. It involves such elements as the fact that Commonwealth and Southern owns all the common stock of the other company in the business deal - and there was a matter of issuing bonds.

Wendell ~~D~~ Wilkie ^{suggests} ~~charges~~ that maybe Senator Norris doesn't know the a-b-c' of finance. ^{And} ~~never~~ there are plenty of us like that - I for one. Finance is ^{frequently} ~~just~~ Greek to me, and its a-b-c is Alpha Beta Gamma, ^{Greek to me.}

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INSURANCE

Here's a surprise in the realm of Social Security. A baseball player on the Cleveland Indians has applied for unemployment insurance-compensation for the time between baseball seasons. This - on the ground that during the winter he is jobless. Ken Keltner is a speedy, hard-hitting third baseman on the Indians and he gets ten thousand dollars a season. The jobless insurance for which he has applied amounts to fifteen ^{bucks} ~~dollars~~ a week. Well, every little bit helps. But Ken isn't going to get it , apparently.

Today his application was turned down. The chief of ~~the~~ Ohio Compensation ~~Bureau~~ made the announcement, saying that the Bureau had ^S found that First Baseman Keltner ^{is} ~~was~~ under contract to play for the Cleveland team again next year. So, not playing ball during the winter is being jobless only in a highly technical sense.

When Keltner heard the sad news he is quoted as saying:-
"I don't really need the money." Then he added that an insurance man had suggested to him the idea of applying for it. "If there's going to be any trouble about it," Ken concluded, "I'll withdraw the application." You can save yourself the trouble, Ken, it's already been rejected.

DANCER

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The fan dancer who did a fan dance in a New York courtroom was certainly unconventional. Facing a charge that her form of art was not exactly prim, proper and prudish - low and behold, right there in the courtroom she did a fan dance for the court. The highly unconventional part of it was that the skillful and artistic waving of two great ostrich fans, hid [^] a smartly tailored street dress. Something like doing a fan dance while wearing a fur coat. ^{all} ~~the~~ entirely prim, proper and prudish - maybe that's why the court fined the dancer twenty-five dollars.

OPERA

The opening of New York's Metropolitan Opera House is the great social event of the season. It was accompanied last night by another kind of social event, rather more astonishing. While Tibbett, Martinelli and Rethberg were singing soulfully, a socially prominent New York lawyer proceeded to do handsprings, stand on his head, and walk on his hands - right there in the sacred ~~precincts~~ precincts of the Metropolitan, amid the social splendors of opening night.

Today, socially prominent Lawyer Richard Knight, upon awakening, was questioned about his operatic acrobatics. He said it was the effect of the music that caused him to do flying somersaults and flip-flops. Inspired music, you know, can be intoxicating. "It was Elizabeth Rethberg," quoth Knight of the Social Register, "Her singing was so extraordinarily beautiful that she turned me divinely dizzy." ^{said he} "You can say for me that Elizabeth Rethberg dropped me in my tracks, busted me at the seams and started me turning cartwheels." Yes, that's what music will do to a ^{fellow} ~~guy~~. You might call it demon melody or the curse of opera! Just one tune too many.

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It certainly accomplished wonders. Socially prominent lawyer Richard Knight started by feeling the effects of music at the bar in the Met. There, amid a swanky throng, he suddenly started to turn handsprings, silk hat on ~~the~~ head and coat-tails flying. It seems like a miracle, but he kept his topper on as he went cartwheeling along. After the music^{al} appreciation in the bar, he did a somersault or two in the stately lobby of the Met. Then, when escorted out into the street, he stood on his head there for the benefit of photographers. ~~The dispatch doesn't say whether he stood on the top of his silk hat - that would have been too operatic.~~

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You might say that Knight of the Social Register had too much fire music, but the famous fire music is in Wagner while last night's opera was Verdi. So I suppose for a simillie we'll have to fall back on the movie made by the Marx brothers, called "A Night at the Opera." Today, the NEW YORK POST carried the headline, "Knight's Night at the Opera." *Just one tune too many!*
And now Hugh — —

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