

L.T. SUNOCO - MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1935

*Answer
1030*

Good Evening, Everybody:-

News from Washington for the first time in quite a while. And news of considerable importance. The Supreme Court of the United States got down to business today in a fashion to indicate that this will be one of the most important terms in its history.

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For, the nine august gentlemen announced that they've decided to review two of the most momentous phases of the New Deal. They will consider whether the acts establishing the A.A.A. and the T.V.A., the Tennessee Valley Authority, were Constitutional.

This will put President Roosevelt and his Administration on the much-publicized tenterhooks, ~~whatever kind of hooks those~~ ~~may be~~, until they reach a decision on those two questions.

Investigations in the Middle West and other farming sections have shown that President Roosevelt's principal grasp on the affections of the farmers depends upon those ~~ex~~ welcome checks they have been getting under the A.A.A. If the Supreme Court throws that act out, it will ~~be~~ indeed be bad news for the New Deal. And the T.V.A.,

as we all know, is one of Mr. Roosevelt's pet ^{*gargantuan*} enterprises — *muscle*
Shoals and so on. ○

Another announcement by Chief Justice Hughes and his
colleagues brings bad news for Tom Mooney. Once again the Justices
decline to take his case out of the hands of the California Courts.

That destroys the hope of the country's most famous prisoner.

But no doubt we shall be hearing from him again before long.

LABOR

The American Federation of Labor threw down a gauntlet at Atlantic City today. "A thirty-hour week, with no cuts in the pay envelope," that's to be the slogan of the A. F. of L. If that isn't adopted all over America, the only alternative will be a permanent dole for Ten million men. So says William Green, President of the Federation. And then he shouted: "When we leave here, we're going to roll up our sleeves and fight for this as we've never fought before!" Whether they get it by legislation or by dint of their own power, which means by strikes, the Labor Unions have their hearts set on that objective. At least that's the feeling of the Convention.

STOLL

They say that Mrs. Thomas H. Robinson, having just got out of one court, is going to another court. Out of a Criminal Court and into a Divorce Court.

That is the Mrs. Robinson, who, with her father, was acquitted in the Stoll kidnapping case. They were accused of complicity in the abduction of the rich woman, Mrs. Stoll. Their defense was that they had to do it. Mrs. Robinson's husband, the real kidnapper, forced them to. He's now a fugitive, hunted.

This is one of the few acquittals we've had recently in ~~xx~~ snatching cases. And they say that the wife of the kidnapper is going to support her plea of innocence, her defense that her husband forced her into the kidnapping; she will divorce him.

AFRICA

From the African front, the news is nothing but what we've been expecting for days. Axum, the sacred city of the Ethiopians, - not much of a city but a great deal of a shrine, is now definitely in Italian hands. The Duce's men walked in and took it over without so much as pulling a trigger. We heard this last week, but the information then was premature - somebody one jump ahead with his guess. Now it is confirmed, definite and authentic.

The population of this ancient African holy place consisted principally of priests and monks. There are no fewer than Thirteen monasteries in it. They submitted without resistance and promised obedience to General Maravigna, who commanded the invading division.

By the way, interesting things about Haile Selassie's lieutenant who yielded to the Italian army, Ras Selassie Gugsa, came out today. This Governor of the southern part of the Province of Tigre, Ras Gugsa, claims to be a lineal descendant of Prester John that fabulous Christian potentate of the Middle Ages.

Another Ethiopian leader, Ras Seyoum, Commander-in-

chief of Haile Selassie's troops on the northern front, was in full retreat the last time he was seen - even Addis Ababa admits it.

Any day now we may hear of a big battle in the south where Ras Desta Deltu is leading an Ethiopian army of some hundred and sixty thousand warriors. He is marching as fast as feet can take him through the Province of Ogaden, to attack the Italian army under General Rudolpho Grazani, Governor of Italian Somaliland. General Grazani's first objective is to capture Harrar, which has been described as the "garden spot of Ethiopia". And that will be the grand prelude to cutting the railway line from French Somaliland to Addis Ababa, thus cutting off any munitions those fifty-one nations might want to send. Or did they ever want to send them.

ETHIOPIA

We are now able to realize more graphically what it means to be an Italian. That is, a citizen of a country that has incurred the ban of the League of Nations. [The Penalties Committee of the League today made public the details of the financial strangling of Italy that the fifty-one member nations have undertaken.] It sounded serious enough when we heard it described in general terms last week. But as we consider the particulars, they ~~are~~ ^{are indeed a} ~~so~~ ^{startling} idea to contemplate.

In the first place, ~~the~~ ^{are} the people of those fifty-one countries will not only be expected to refrain from doing business with Italy's government, but with all corporations and individuals in Italian territory. But the sanction goes still further. It applies to people and corporations in other countries who have been acting as intermediaries of the Italian government.

We've already heard that everybody in those fifty-one countries is to be forbidden to lend any money to the Italian government or subscribe to any of its loans. Banks are forbidden to extend credit to Italy. But now comes a still more drastic measure so far as the ordinary Italian citizen is concerned. It will become

unlawful to lend money to any public institution in Italy, any company, or any private individual. Also, to subscribe to any loans, or buy any stocks issued by Italians. It will further be illegal to sell shares to any of the Duce's people or any corporations of Italian origin. The same thing goes for bank credits. And all existing credit contracts are to be cancelled.

It is not difficult to see what this implies. It means the complete financial starvation not only of Italy's government but of all her nationals. It will force them to do business only with countries outside ~~of~~ the League or the three nations -- Austria, Hungary and Albania, that have refused to subscribe to the Sanctions Program. Indeed, even that will be difficult. It is true that Austria, Hungary and Albania voted against the program. But if they do not comply with the ^{League} majority, those ³ governments and the people of those ³ countries are liable ^{to have} ~~of having~~ the boycott ^{extended to} ~~enforced against~~ them.

~~also~~ Of course, this program has been foreshadowed for several days.

And, It was submitted today to a Committee of the Whole of the League, ~~a Committee including representatives of fifty two countries.~~

The next step will be to expand and formulate the trade

boycott. ^R Judging from the terms of the financial sanctions, this economic strangulation is going to be even more severe. It will bring the ostracism and isolation of Italy into every Italian home. It will aim to stop the entire import and export commerce of ~~the~~ the country. In other words, it looks as though the inhabitants of the entire Peninsula will have to be dependent only on what is raised, produced and manufactured in the Peninsula and in Sicily. One hears that John Bull and France are proposing to ^{lengthen} ~~extend~~ the list of products ^{which} ~~it~~ will be considered munitions of war. ~~As we observed before,~~ During the last War, anything from a bale of cotton to a spark plug, was considered contraband by the British ~~Government~~. A similar drastic embargo will probably be enforced at the expense of Italy.

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~~After~~ This program has been formally and officially adopted by the assembly of the League. ^{Now} another step will be necessary: ~~That~~ ^{-one} ~~will be~~ the passing of laws in all those fifty-~~two~~ nations to enforce this boycott. For example, a proclamation from ~~Geneva~~ Geneva, though adopted by every member nation, would not be valid to prevent any of King George's subjects from doing business with Italy. So it

will be necessary in this case for the British Parliament to rush through a statute making the boycott provisions of the League for the time being a part of the law of England. The same thing of course applies to France and all the other League nations. Hence, the extra session of the British Parliament, which is called for a week from today.

The leading nations have agreed among themselves to set aside October thirty-first as "Sanctions Day". This was done at the suggestion of Captain Anthony Eden. It is figured that by that time the legislative bodies of all the fifty-two countries will have had time to pass laws to compel their nationals to join in the program of strangling Italy into declaring peace.

Our own Secretary of State, Mr. Hull, called on the world to avoid all war today.

MANCHURIA

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The squabble between Soviet Russia and imperial Japan is not as serious as it looked at first. ~~That's what we gather from this afternoon's news.~~ The first reports about the invasion of Siberian territory by Japanese and Manchukuoan troops called up lurid pictures of the long expected war between ^{Stalin}~~Russia~~ and the Mikado. But, this afternoon's dispatches from Tokio convey a hint to the rest of the world to take it easy. Tokio declares that it authorized no invasion of Russian territory. On the contrary, says the Mikado's government, it was Russian soldiers who crossed the frontier and fired on the troops of ^{Kang Te, Pu Xi.}~~Manchukuo~~. [^]

However, even that is not going to be considered a cause for hostilities by Japan. & "It's all a case of misunderstanding", say the diplomats of Tokio. The frontier line has not been clearly enough defined and marked. The Mikado's Foreign Minister, Hirota, intimated that a joint commission should make a survey of the border between Manchukuo and Siberia, establishing landmarks to lessen the possibility of such unintentional invasions of one another's soil. Such was the Japanese statesman's apparently sincere endeavor to minimize the episode and ~~not~~ pour oil on troubled waters. Other

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information from Tokio indicates that Japan does not want any ^{row} ~~trouble~~ with Moscow, not just now at any rate. The Mikado's government is having none too easy a time of it at home. The old ^{rumpus in Japan} ~~row~~ between the politicians and the army chiefs is becoming hotter. The generals have insisted all along that they must be allowed to handle affairs on the mainland of Asia, as they think best. The civilians and the ~~common~~ common people so far have had to swallow this military dictatorship and like it. But in the last few months the opposition to the war-lords has been gaining ground. And that possibly is why we haven't been hearing much from the Far East of late.

SHIP

This certainly has been a year of ships going ashore.

Now another; in the Far East. It's a Japanese warship, the Asama.

It ran smack

~~into a group~~ on a shoal near the Kure Naval Base. Nobody hurt,

not such a big ship. They are now trying to refloat her.

CANADA

Several big shots in Canada at this moment are waiting to learn their fate. Our neighbors to the North have been holding their eighteenth general election. The polls closed less than an hour ago, but it will be some time before the returns are known.

The most prominent Canadians involved are Premier Richard B. Bennett and former Premier Mackenzie King. Mr. Bennett ~~is~~ *is* ~~the~~ *— a Liberal-Conservative,* the leader of the Conservatives; Mr. MacKenzie King of the Liberals.

It is generally considered that the fight is principally between these two, ~~though personally they are much alike.~~ But a party called the Reconstructionists, headed by H. H. Stevens, has also been making a ~~strong~~ fight. There are only two hundred and forty-five seats in the Dominion's House of Commons, with more than nine hundred candidates. So between now and tomorrow there will be several anxious hours north of the United States frontier.

SAFETY

There's some consolation in the fact that two important bodies are getting busy on ~~the~~ the problem of automobile accidents. One of them is the Annual Safety Congress and Exposition, being held at Louisville, Kentucky. The seven thousand delegates listened this afternoon to a message from President Roosevelt. He told them that, though the prevention of accidents is primarily the job of the State and Municipalities, "proper cooperative assistance on the part of the Federal Government ^{will help."} ~~to any constructive~~ movement which will save lives and prevent injuries on the highways.

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The Congress adopted resolutions, recommended uniform traffic regulations in all states, safety training in elementary schools, more strict requirements for the procuring of drivers' licenses. ^RAn interesting suggestion was ~~xxx~~ offered by Governor Hoffman of New Jersey, who ~~went~~ went to Louisville especially for the occasion. When Governor Hoffman was Commissioner of Motor Vehicles in New Jersey he contributed notably toward making the highways safer. His suggestion was that each state of the ~~the~~ Union should spend all its efforts ^{toward} ~~to~~ a definite object. That object

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should be, reducing the number of deaths in highway accidents by ~~the~~ at least thirty-five percent in the next four years.

The other important body that is seriously getting to work on this problem is the American Trucking Association. This organization is holding its annual convention in Chicago. The principal address ~~and~~ there too will be made by Governor Hoffman. The Census Bureau tells us that thirty-three thousand, nine-hundred-and-eighty people were killed on the highways last year. The indications are that that record will be broken this year. So the simultaneous meetings of the Safety Congress and the Trucking Association have real significance for all of us.

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And now the safest thing for me to do is to step on the gas and say s-l-u-t-m.