

L. T. Surco

Wednesday

August 10, 1938

RUSSIA

Cannon

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An event in Moscow today was particularly interesting in view of what's happening in the Far East. The Red Parliament convened for the second time in its history.

The session opens at ~~with~~ a critical moment in the history of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

ES
Your sense of irony will be tickled to learn that no royal or imperial parliament ever convened with more ceremony than this Congress in the Kremlin. ~~at Moscow~~. The press gallery, especially that assigned to foreign correspondents, was jammed. The foreign diplomats in Moscow would have been there even if they'd had to break a leg to do it. And of course all the officials, both the figureheads such as President Kalinin and Prime Minister Molot^off, as well as the comrades ~~behind the~~ ~~curtain~~ who really run the Soviet show. They cheered ten minutes for Dictator Stalin.

The tone of the first day's proceedings was anticipated by an editorial in ~~Prava~~ Pravda, the Communist party

official newspaper; ~~there~~ an editorial addressed particularly to delegates of the eleven Republics that compose ^{the U.S.S.R.} ~~that~~

Said ~~the~~ Pravda: "The second session of the Supreme Soviet begins work in an extremely responsible moment." And it adds:

"We do not want war, but we need to keep our ^{powder} ~~gun~~ dry."

Some of those delegates had travelled thousands of miles, ^{from Kamchatka to the Crimea,} ~~from the republics of the Far East to the Republics, you will easily~~

As the delegates ~~to the Soviets~~ convened, an official communication was made public. It was issued by the general staff of the First Maritime Army. That's the official name given to the forces commanded by Field Marshal Vassily Bluecher, and the statement ~~was~~ announced that the Mikado's forces had suffered severe losses in the renewed battle for one of the hills near Changkufeng.

In the theatre of war the Soviet and Japanese artillery banged away at each other all night. ^{And this} ~~it~~ was followed by close fighting with hand-grenades. The Japanese dispatch claims that the

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Mikado's men got the better of that ^{sports} ~~_____~~

~~it is explained, play baseball that ought to encourage~~

~~us, not that we'll ever get into another war, of course~~

A later bulletin brings word of another announcement from Moscow. The Soviet is jacking up its military budget thirty-five percent. And that, they say, is because of the increasing threat of war.

On the diplomatic front Nippon yielded one point. That was in the argument about arbitrating the ^e frontier, ~~_____~~. Hitherto Tokio has insisted that it shall be settled by a committee: one man from Japan, one from Manchukuo, one from Moscow. To this the Soviet said No, Manchukuo and Japan are ~~practically~~ the same. You'd outvote us two to one. -- So now the Japanese foreign office suggests that there be just two commissioners, one representing both Japan and Manchukuo, another for Russia.

CHINA

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The news from the Chinese front shows one consequence of the ^{Siberian} fighting around Changkufeng. The Japanese High Command, as everybody expected, has been obliged to withdraw divisions from the Yangste River, send them North. The consequence is that the attack on Hang^hkow is weakened. The Chinese press agents say they have four thousand Nipponese soldiers beleagured in the ruins of Hwangmei, ~~There~~ on the north bank of the Yangste. There the Chinese and Japanese have been fighting on ground under a foot of water, all Japanese trenches flooded.

HANKOW

China struck at Japan today with a ~~lot~~^{blow} of confiscation. Military headquarters of the Nationalist government announces the Japanese property in Hankow has been seized and is to be sold. The proceeds will be used to finance the evacuation of half a million civilians from the Chinese capital -- ~~use~~ use the Japanese wealth to get the civilians away from the area of Japanese bombing.

The Mikado's government owns a Hankow concession, a large and valuable property. And moreover Japanese interests own real estate, factories, docks and stores. Japanese possessions in Hanko^w are estimated ~~to amount to~~^{at about} fifty million dollars.

It is doubted whether all that wealth will be seized at once, because of the difficulty of finding buyers. The Chinese, as a matter of practical fact, can sell only part of it -- and find purchasers for only part of it. So apparently they are selling off what they can -- to help the refugees.

SPAIN

In Spain ~~General Francisco~~ Franco got another surprise today. ~~Not a surprise of a pleasant sort either.~~

The Republican forces delivered a fresh attack, on a new point; ~~They~~ cut in on the main highway between Balaguér and Lerida, ~~that~~ threaten^{ing} the Rebel ~~communications~~ line of communications on the west of Catalonia. ~~They~~ ^{The Barcelona troops} took up strong positions at the bridge heads of the Segre River, a tributary of the Ebro.

According to reports from the headquarters of the Republicans, the ~~re~~ onslaught took Franco's army completely by surprise in spite of the fact that ~~they had~~ ^{it} ~~been~~ begun with a heavy artillery bombardment. The Government army is now in a position to attack ~~Balaguér, an important point because it is~~ the chief center of electric power for Barcelona.

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Military experts, of course, believe that Franco, with the aid of Mussolini and Hitler, is bound to win in the long run. But the recent surprise attacks by the Republican forces will probably make that victory impossible this year. ~~The answer is that these attacks by the Republicans are due to~~

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CUBA

Uncle Sam should give Puerto Ricans their independence.

Who says ^{so?} ~~so?~~ A representative of the Cuban Parliament.

He is going to offer a Resolution which reads: "Congress ~~EX~~ will express to the United States Government the sympathy with which it would view the immediate liberation of Nationalist Puerto Rican politicians imprisoned at Atlanta."

And, The resolution adds: "It would be in accordance with the noble sentiments of the New Deal if Puerto Rico's rights to independence were definitely recognized."

PRIMARIES

Let's see what the voters said today in the Primaries. In Idaho the Democrats turned thumbs down on New Dealer Senator Pope. He has lost out to his rival from the Conservative wing of the party, Representative Worth Clark.

In Arkansas our ~~only~~ only woman Senator, Mrs. Hattie Caraway seems to have ~~slid~~ slid through with a sufficient but not overwhelming plurality. The returns are ~~not~~ ^{not} all in yet, but at latest report the gentlewoman from Arkansas led by six thousand votes. ~~The man running again against her, Representative McClellan.~~

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In Ohio it was a field day for Senator Bulkley, who walked away from ex-Governor White. ~~That will make an interesting conflict in November. Senator Bulkley's~~
— in November, will be Republican adversary ~~would be~~ none other than Robert Taft, ~~son of William Howard Taft, President of the United States.~~
~~The defeated ex-Governor White did the sportsmanlike thing. He wired the man who had beaten him. "Congratulations. I am still a Democrat."~~

The close fight in Ohio was for the Democratic nomination for Governor. There Charles Sawyer, Democratic National Committeeman, apparently took it away from the present Governor, Mr. Davey. It seemed touch and go for a while. But eventually the committeeman forged ahead and led ^{Davey} by fourteen thousand.

ADD PRIMARY

Here's another echo of the rip-roaring Kentucky primary in the form of a telegram from State Senator Ervine Turner.

There was a political shooting match down that way, and State Senator Turner was charged with being accessory to the fact.

His wire says: "Charges were perferred for campaign purposes

only, and were dismissed as ~~soon~~^{soon} as the election was ~~over~~^{and} without any questions or investigation."

~~All-just~~^{All-just} a reflection of the warmth of this summer of red-hot primaries.

ROOSEVELT - FOLLOW PRIMARIES

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All this primary news was received with mixed emotions at Warm Springs, Georgia, where President Roosevelt has established the Little White House for a few days. The defeat of Senator Pope in Idaho is ^{the} a sour note, ^{for} ~~in New Dealism~~

● Pope was ^a one hundred percent New Dealer. ~~His staff successful opponent said he was liberal but would stamp rubber stamp.~~

In Ohio both Senator Bulkley and Committeeman Sawyer were out and out New Deal candidates. Mrs. Caraway of Arkansas has been a New Dealer in the Senate, and her opponent tried to beat her on the promise that he would not be a rubber stamp.

(As soon as Mr. Roosevelt reached Warm Springs this morning he called a conference of his Georgia lieutenants.

The first visitors were Governor Rivers and Lawrence Camp.

~~At this time~~ ^{ON} Camp ~~that~~ the President relies to ^{defeat} ~~the party of~~ anti-New Dealer Senator George. ~~And today everybody is trying to guess how far Mr. Roosevelt will go in the speeches he is going to make in Georgia tomorrow.~~

MORGAN

~~Summary~~ Jim Farley, Postmaster General and National Democratic Chairman, made a public an interesting fact today.

Dr.
It concerns/Arthur E. Morgan, Ex-Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The Postmaster General
~~Summary, as you probably know,~~ is writing ~~his~~ *those*
and
memoirs for the American Magazine. In the second installment
he tells
~~Mr. Farley talked~~ about Dr. Morgan's troubles with the TVA.

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Says Farley:- Dr. Morgan started off on the wrong foot." The National Chairman had a meeting with the TVA Chairman. ~~Jim~~ *Jim* Farley, as he puts it, "hinted that it would be wise to avoid appointing people unacceptable to the Senators and Representatives from the TVA area." He also pointed out "that it is a smart practice in Government to avoid antagonizing the men who vote the appropriations."

And what did Dr. Morgan say to that? Says Farley:-

"Dr. Morgan promptly replied in what seemed to me a discourteous fashion that he would appoint whom he liked and that he had no

interest whatever in politics."

Nevertheless there was the Doctor in Politics - whether he knew it or not.

PENSION

You may have heard that in California where

Doctor Townsend lives they now have a substitute for his plan.

The idea is to give every Californian over fifty a check for

thirty dollars, every Thursday. ~~very~~ ^{sent it} wonderful the things

that come out of ^{that} California, ~~the~~ climate? ^{And} that

idea is more than a proposal. They are trying to have it put

on the ballot for ^{the} November election, have a referendum vote

on it. They call the notion, "Ham and Eggs for California."

There are even petitions with hundreds of thousands of names

[#] signed to them. On the other hand, hundreds of thousands have

signed petitions on the other side, protesting that this

plan is illegal, unconstitutional, ruinous. ~~so~~ ^{How} it's up

to the Supreme Court

^{to say whether it can go on the ballot.}

The California State Employees Association has

filed a petition asking the judges to declare ^e ~~that~~ great idea

contrary to the Constitution and to keep it off the ballot.

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FATHER

One of the saddest men in the country today is a farmer living in Central Missouri. He has a good farm, a big one, and prosperous. But in his sixtieth year he is confronted with one of the hardest situations that a father ever had to deal with.

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He sat today in the office of the Prosecuting Attorney and listened to a story. The Prosecutor read a document to that wealthy farmer, [REDACTED] a confession made yesterday by the farmer's twenty-nine-year-old son. The confession was of a plot that that twenty-nine-year-old son was said to have made to kill his own father so as to obtain his property.

The sixty-year-old man sat there, heart-broken, as he listened to details. He was to have been shot by four hired murderers, [REDACTED] employed by the son. The plot failed, so 'tis said for the lack of a five hundred dollar fee which the son was to have paid the murderers.

With bowed head and drooping shoulders the old man heard the story to the bitter end. Then he reached for the telephone

~~and he telephoned~~ ^{called} a lawyer, engaged him to defend the son who was accused of having plotted to kill him. Then he said: "It is the bitterest thing that has ever happened in my life, but I don't want him to go to the penitentiary."

BASEBALL

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The San Francisco Board of Education is going to see to it that there are no more Joe di Maggios from that city. It declares baseball to be a dangerous sport.

Some time ago a student at the Polytechnic High School of the Golden Gate suffered an injury in the gymnasium. He brought suit against the Board of Education, obtained a verdict, a judgment for five thousand dollars. The judgment was appealed but the Supreme Court of California upheld it. Thereupon the Superintendent of Schools urged the Board to cut out all dangerous sports. And today the Board of Education forbade the playing of not only baseball but also football and other so-called dangerous sports in both the Junior and Senior High Schools.

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Can you make it stick.
~~Of course this is only the first act in a comedy.~~

~~We may expect to hear plenty more about this decision in time to come.~~

CORRIGAN

This was Corrigan Day in Washington, and to my mind the most noteworthy thing that happened was an apposite remark that the young flier made.

The occasion was the presentation of a cross of honor by the United States Flag Association. The only other aviators who have received that cross of honor from the United States Flag Association are Charles A. Lindbergh, Amelia Earhart and Howard Hughes. One of the speakers compared Corrigan to Christopher Columbus, remarking that when Colombo he set sail, he started for India and got to America! Corrigan retorted with a smile. "Yes, me and Chris." And SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.