


L.T. SUNOCO - MONDAY, JULY 28, 1941

Good Evening, Everybody:-

Consternation today on the Tokyo Stock Exchange! The scene is described -- even in the censored reports -- as a "near panic."

The Japanese order retaliating against the United States and Great Britain went into effect today. And then it was that the traders in the Mikado's capital were terrified. Prices skyrocketed downward. If you could put it that way. The bottom was dropping out of the Tokyo market. Then the government took action and ordered the official securities company to announce that ample government ~~fund~~ funds would be advanced to <sup>support</sup> ~~support~~ the falling market.

We don't know how far prices had fallen, but the cable report says that the quick action by the Japanese Government did ~~fix~~ cause stocks to recover between five and six Yen. As the Yen has only a nominal value of about



~~five~~ twenty-four cents, that doesn't sound like much.

Reading between the lines, it is <sup>apparent</sup> ~~easy to see~~ that the  
financial situation in Japan is ~~now~~ critical. One Tokyo  
newspaper, the organ of the foreign office, declares that the way  
would still be open for continued economic relations with the  
United States <sup>if it were not</sup> ~~but~~ for the American newspapers, which ~~are~~ <sup>Tokyo</sup>  
<sup>says are</sup> misprinting news <sup>on</sup> ~~of~~ the situation.

The freezing regulations will be extended tomorrow to  
the Dutch East Indies and to Hongkong. ~~Demer,~~ The Japanese  
official news agency, announces that Japan has decided to liquidate  
her trade relations with the United States and Great Britain and  
concentrated on business in East Asia, on the basis of give and take.  
~~That~~ Sounds as though the Nipponese were about to try the Nazi  
barter methods.

In Shanghai it was reported that the Japanese authorities  
have put an embargo on the export of metals, machinery, chemicals,  
cotten and piece goods from ~~Shanghai~~ Shanghai, all except shipments  
for Japan or Chinese territory occupied by the Japanese.

A report from Saigon brings word that Nipponese troops

are landing on the coast of Cambodia, in southwest ~~China~~ Indo-China, near the frontier of Siam. There were runs on some of the banks at Saigon, depositors rushing to withdraw their funds. The banks were obliged to put a limit on withdrawals. More and more members of the Japanese military mission are pouring into Saigon, <sup>and</sup> ~~in fact~~ the Nipponese are crowding out the French.

~~And here's word from Washington. Our capital~~ tonight has news that possibly the Latin-American republics may cooperate in ~~these~~ economic measures against Japan. <sup>is</sup> ~~That~~ was indicated today by the Acting Secretary of State, Sumner Welles. <sup>He</sup> ~~He~~ pointed out that this <sup>would</sup> ~~will~~ be in accord with the terms of pacts which now exist between ourselves and the other republics of the Americas. <sup>Sumner</sup> Specifically, Welles meant Uncle Sam's promises to buy the surpluses of designated raw materials from certain Latin-American countries. The same agreements forbid the reexportation of certain goods shipped from this country. These agreements, he pointed out, have made it difficult, almost impossible, for Japan to obtain supplies in Latin-America. She has, however, managed to obtain considerable amounts of cotton from Peru and Brazil as well as other strategic materials.

Here's another bit of news that concerns the Far Eastern situation. President Roosevelt today sent to the Senate his nomination of Douglas MacArthur, formerly Chief of Staff of our Army, as Lieutenant-General in command of our forces of the Far East. General MacArthur's headquarters, as we have heard, will be in the Philippines, where he is now in the capacity of Field Marshal of the Philippine Army. When that nomination comes to be discussed by the Senate, we may see a full dress debate on the Far Eastern policy of the administration.

Here's the official reaction in the Philippines to the President's order incorporating the Philippine Army into the force of the United States. President Quezon announces that the order will be complied with promptly and enthusiastically.

## SILK

The stopping of the importation of silk from Japan has aroused alarm in several quarters of these United States.

Particularly the Textile Workers Union of America. The President of the Union has written the Office of Production Management that an embargo on silk imports will throw a hundred and seventy-five thousand textile workers out of a job. So the Union has asked the authorities to call a conference of the silk industry to consider the problems involved.

A spokesman for the manufacturers, on the other hand, declared that they are not so much worried about raw silk supplies as they are by a shortage of labor because so many people engaged in silk manufacture are going into airplane factories.

Once upon a time there was a considerable silk culture in America, particularly in Georgia, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and parts of New Jersey. Some of the raw silk turned out over here was found to be so good that it sold in London for three Shillings a pound more than for silk from any other part of the world. But silk culture in America came to an end in Eighteen Forty-Four, when all the mulberry trees in the country were hit by a blight.

Perhaps our differences with Japan will result in a revival of silk culture in the United States!

WHEELER

Senator Wheeler of Montana today made a bitter retort to the charges ~~made~~ against him, the charges arising out of those million anti-war postcards distributed under his frank. He referred particularly to the accusation of Secretary of War Stimson, that the sending out of those cards came near the line of subversive activities, if not actual treason.

Wheeler made his reply today from the floor of the Senate. He declared that only three of those million postcards were known to have actually reached American soldiers on active service. So he accused Stimson of cold and calculated cunning in trying to create the impression that those postcards had been circulated in large ~~XXXXXXXX~~ quantities around the army camps. ~~You may recall that last week Senator Wheeler spoke in different terms about Secretary Stimson. He branded him not with cold and calculated cunning but senility.~~

*Sen.* Wheeler went on to say that the criticisms aimed at him were part of a program to terrify the American people into taking part in a foreign war. Those postcards, he <sup>added,</sup> ~~said~~ contained nothing but extracts from ~~the~~ the Congressional Record, and he asked whether

the Record was to be considered a treasonable document or the reading of it subversive activity. The Montana Senator then accused the President of having joined the wolves of war in their slanderous attack which he said was meant to silence all who oppose our entry into war.

Senator Wheeler was backed up by his colleague, Senator Hiram Johnson, the elder statesman from California, who asked the Senators whether they were going to be supine and fail to denounce what he called "the unholy attack on their brother and colleague." Hiram Johnson said that if Senator Wheeler goes to a concentration camp, he himself would go with him, and then there would be two of them. He wound up with a quotation from Kipling and a cry of "Hurrah for Wheeler!" Followed by a cheer from the crowd in the galleries. Whereupon Vice-President Wallace had to bang loudly with his gavel and call for order.

Senator Walsh of Massachusetts then related what had happened recently to young Richard Burton Wheeler, son of the Senator, who applied for appointment to a naval officers' training school. Young Wheeler passed all the mental and physical tests, and then went up for oral examination by an admiral. The admiral asked

young Wheeler whether he shared the views of his father, the Senator, Richard Wheeler replied "yes". Thereupon, said Senator Walsh, the admiral told him the Navy had no place for him. Senator Walsh went on to say that the case was appealed to the Secretary of the Navy, Colonel Frank Knox, who promptly approved a commission for young Wheeler. So the incident had ended happily.

Thereupon Senator after Senator took the floor in support of Wheeler. Even Senator Barkley the majority leader described him as one of the ablest and most capable men in the Senate, but added that perhaps the tall man from Montana had violated his franking privileges. Which he went on to say does not constitute treason.

Not a single voice in the Senate was raised in defense of Secretary Stimson. Visitors kept applauding and cheering until Vice-President Wallace threatened to clear the ~~xi~~ galleries.



## TAXES

Still another tax bill! One such measure is coming up for debate tomorrow in the House of Representatives. That's the one drawn up by the Ways and Means Committee of the House, designed to raise three-and-a-half billions. But that one won't be enough. There will be a supplemental tax bill, says Chairman Doughton of the Ways and Means Committee, who announces that he believes we may have to forget all income tax exemptions and make everybody pay. Just as in so many other countries. Congressman Doughton also hinted at a general consumption tax. That's only another way of expressing "sales tax."

The Treasury is against a sales tax, at least Secretary Morgenthau seems to be. He calls it taxing the poor man's table. But privately, officials as well as lawmakers in Washington, are saying that Uncle Sam simply must raise more money.

WAR

There's nothing much new from the Russian war front, Still one fact emerges, a fact quite amazing in these times, that for ten days the Red Armies have had the Nazi blitzkrieg machine stopped. That is, according to the observation of independent observers. Strange as it may seem, the mechanical precision and swiftness of panzer war tactics are not working according to schedule against the vast manpower of the Red Armies.

German strategy and tactics depend upon foresight, preparing for everything that the imagination of the Nazi high command can foresee. Independent observers believe that in Russia Hitler's armies have run into conditions which they were not able to foresee. And the meticulously prepared German plans have not been elastic enough to cope with the unforeseen. That's the diagnosis of the independent observers.

The Nazi High Command issues a communique which contains no news but a promise, a promise that Hitler's divisions are about to win a great ~~sk~~ battle in the country around Smolensk, which the high command claimed to have taken days ago.

It will be recalled that this kind of announcement is quite different from the communiques of the Nazi high command in previous campaigns. Then Hitler's generals confined themselves to facts. Now they are making promises.

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Y But here's a later dispatch that just came in from Berlin. Tonight a prominent Nazi military expert warned the German people that they must not expect any quick results from the drive into Russia. And he explained that the savage resistance of the Soviet in such vast spaces makes any speeding up of the machine impossible.

The German news agency, D.N.B., reports that the Russians have been making what are called senseless attacks to break out of the encircling lines of the Nazis. In so doing, the Red divisions have suffered heavy losses.

Another D.N.B. report claims that a Nazi division broke through a section of the Stalin line from Bessarabia. As long as three weeks ago, the German high command claimed that the Stalin line had already been broken at all decisive points.

STALIN

A bit of rather naive Nazi propaganda from Berlin concerns Jacob Stalin, eldest son of the Soviet Dictator. The Nazi propaganda office reports that Jacob was captured near Vitebsk on July Sixteenth. Subsequently, say the Nazis, the son of Stalin gave out an interview describing his misfortune as due to the disorganization and stupid leadership of the Red armies. The Nazis report further that Stalin said his unit was panic-stricken, its commander had disappeared, <sup>that</sup> and the soldiers gathered around him, Jacob Stalin, <sup>begging</sup> ~~and begged~~ him to lead them into battle. <sup>Then</sup> ~~But~~ when he tried to do <sup>so</sup> ~~this~~, the soldiers fled. ~~Then~~ <sup>he</sup> is reported to have said that an <sup>idiotic</sup> order of the Soviet high command, ~~an order that can be described only as idiotic~~, had sent his division directly into the fire of the German Stukas. That's what the son of the Red Dictator said to the Nazis, <sup>that is</sup> <sup>what</sup> according to the Nazis. <sup>say!</sup>

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## ESCAPE

I've often been skeptical of the fiction stories of war prisoners who escaped by diving through an open window of a railroad coach. But now it seems that fiction has merely preceded fact. For here's <sup>Further news concerning those</sup> ~~a true story of~~ two of the American ambulance drivers who were taken by the Nazis from the Egyptian liner ZAMZAM.

James Stewart of Oneonta, New York, and Thomas Greenough of Charlettsville, Virginia, were on a Nazi prison train in occupied France on June Twenty-Eighth. They pretended to be in a drunken stupor, so the German guard was not as watchful as he might have been. It was after dark when they went through the window, and climbed into a countryside swarming with Nazi soldiers and <sup>members of Hitler's</sup> ~~Gestapo, police.~~ During four days and three nights they walked, eating no more than one sandwich a day apiece. They kept away from towns and highways as much as possible, and fortunately one of them was able to talk French fairly well, too well for any German to notice the difference. The nights were cold and one of them had to plod along in shirtsleeves. For one period of twenty-four hours they were entirely without water. Finally, <sup>ing</sup> they believed they were near the frontier between occupied and unoccupied France, They went to a farmhouse and asked a peasant woman

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whether they were in free France. The woman replied, "None of France is free!" <sup>And</sup> That's all the information they could get out of her.

Later they met a peasant <sup>who</sup> ~~a man, and he~~ told them they were indeed in what was called "free France." For the first time in four days <sup>the</sup> ~~those~~ two footsore Americans drew an easy breath. After that their troubles were over, though even in unoccupied France they had to conceal their identity until they reached Marseilles.

Today <sup>e</sup> ~~those~~ two American ambulance drivers landed at Jersey City, and learned that another American ambulance unit had been organized to go to Africa next month. <sup>Whereupon</sup> They promptly announced that they would join it.

~~Back again for another chance at imprisonment by the Nazis.~~

SHARK

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Here's a story that ought to get a ~~xx~~ prize for something. It's about a shark in the Niagara River, near the Peace Bridge. Great Scott! And the shark' in question was twenty-two feet long. How did he get up, over Niagara Falls?

Anyhow, I take no responsibility for the story. It comes from four men in a cabin cruiser who swear they saw this twenty-two foot monster -- above the Falls. One of them, Alexander Hall, adds the engaging ~~xx~~ detail that when the monster turned on its side, he exposed a fin two yards long.

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Of course, sharks can't live in fresh water. And the Buffalo Museum of Science points out that the longest shark ever caught was hardly more than half of twenty-two feet.

WEATHER

The folks of Bluefield, West Virginia, are particularly proud of their summer climate. With an altitude of half a mile above sea level, people seldom suffer at Bluefield. In fact, the Chamber of Commerce has a standing offer to serve free ~~lemon~~ lemonade on the streets any day the temperature goes up to ninety. Today Bluefield served lemonade -- for the first time. The thermometer went up to ninety-and-a-half. Whereupon pretty young girls in shorts appeared, to serve eighty gallons of free cold drinks. And now the boys in Bluefield say they hope the thermometer stays at ninety-and-a-half for the rest of the summer!

What's Hugh?

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