

R.J. - Sunoco. Wed., Sept. 15, 1937.

46. CHINA

There's dismay in China tonight, more than at any time since the latest Japanese invasion began. (The Chinese feel that the worst blow they have received yet was administered not by the Japanese attacks but by President Roosevelt's order forbidding the shipment of arms to the Far East in vessels ~~made~~ owned by the United States.) And there was corresponding joy in Tokio.

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An unnamed spokesman for the Nanking Government explained tonight. "This is another instance where the American neutrality policy operates heavily to Chinese disadvantage and to the direct advantage of our enemy. ~~On the other hand~~ We feel that the sympathy of the American people is with us. But the ~~same~~ practice of the United States government unquestionably helps Japan." He then pointed out that the Nipponese, with their large merchant marine, can bring across the Pacific under their own flag, all the munitions from America that they have the money to buy. It appears strangely enough, many Chinese, including Marshal Chang-Kai-Shek and other members of the government have been cherishing the hope that ~~Uncle Sam~~ ^{the United States} would intervene on

their side. It is difficult to understand those beliefs since there has been so much concrete evidence that the present United States government is determined not to get into any war if it can be avoided. Now that order of President Roosevelt puts the final extinguisher on fond Chinese hopes.

But there is one silver lining to the Chinese cloud. Great Britain will not follow the American lead -- neither will France. The Chinese can buy all the British and French munitions they want to, provided they can sneak them into their country. But, that isn't too easy in the face of Japan's naval blockade of the China coast.

Nanking also complains that President Roosevelt's order is a breach of the Nine Power Treaty, a breach in spirit if not in letter. That Nine Power Treaty signed at Washington was negotiated and signed in order to guarantee the territorial integrity of China. President Roosevelt's quasi embargo will have the opposite effect.

YARNELL FOLLOW CHINA

The foreign naval commanders in Shanghai waters, headed by our own ^{Admiral} Harry Yarnell, clubbed together ^{today} in another vigorous protest. "Quit flying and firing over our warships and stop the killing of innocent non-combatants!" That was the tenor of the note in which the British, French, Italian and Dutch ⁺ admirals joined. ^A It was aimed at Chinese and Japanese alike. It asked the high command of both sides to stop their planes from flying over or near the International Concession, also the French concession where most of the Americans have been living.

~~President Roosevelt's edict for today overshadowed all other news from the Far East in importance.~~ Not much information seeped through from the battlefronts ^{today.} ~~anyway.~~ The Japanese were busy bringing in reinforcements, massing a new concentration of troops, and recovering their breath for a new and still more violent smash at the Chinese line.

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The Chinese claim that a squadron of their bombing planes descended upon the Japanese war fleet off the Kwantong coast. The result of the engagement was that the Nipponese Admiral weighed anchor and moved his men-o-war away from the mouth of the Pearl River. There was also a dog fight between Japanese and Chinese pilots over Loyang, the first aerial battle in that part of Asia.

The war of words between Japan and China was transferred to Geneva. The eloquent Dr. Wellington Koo made another passionate attempt to enlist ^{the} help of the League Assembly. "It may be claimed that the preoccupations in Europe prevent any action in the Far East," he said. "But the situation in Europe today is really not unconnected with conditions in the Far East."

Then he paid his compliments to Japan's claim that she had to seek new territory because of excessive population.

"Since Japan seized Formosa less than two hundred and fifty thousand Japanese have settled there in forty years," *said he.*

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The most important part of this speech was a warning to the European nations and to Uncle Sam. "If Japan wins in China," said Dr. Koo, "the next step will be to throw out all the European nations and America, *and* close the Chinese door in the face of every nation except Japan."

Dr. Koo's speech evoked an immediate ~~retort~~ retort from a Japanese spokesman at Geneva. "If the League of Nations takes any positive action on Chinese appeal," *said he* "Japan will withdraw from all collaboration with the League." ~~of Nations~~ That's the Japanese attitude. As a matter of fact, the kingdom of the Rising Sun long since ~~seized~~ *ceased* to be a member of the League; but it has been ~~cooperating in the~~ cooperating in the non-political activities at Geneva, the economic and social work of the organization.

SPAIN

Here's a bulletin from London, important if true.

Premier Mussolini is about to make one last, definite and overwhelming effort to capture Madrid. London newspapers are saying that the Duce is going to contribute a hundred and fifty thousand fresh troops to this great final drive on Madrid.

I need hardly add that this is a rumor which will be promptly and vehemently denied at Rome. ~~That's the most sensational report from the Mediterranean.~~

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Dispatches from the battle lines near Madrid, in northern Spain, and on the central front, indicate that the insurgents were driven back by the government troops. Those dispatches come from the government side.

John Bull's attitude towards Mussolini seemed tonight to be decidedly more independent and firm than it has been for many months. As everybody probably knows, Mussolini has been demanding a larger share in the patrolling of the Mediterranean against pirate submarines. He wants Italy's fleet to be just as important in that connection as the French and British. An unofficial answer to this demand was proclaimed at Geneva tonight.

A so-called British spokesman said: "If Italy wants a larger role in the Mediterranean piracy patrol she'll have to come to Geneva and lay her case before the entire conference of nine powers."

The French Franc today was lower than it was at any time in the last ten years. It now takes almost twenty-nine Francs to equal an American dollar. Precisely the worth of the Franc is figured at three point forty-two cents.

BLACK

The uproar over Justice Black grows louder instead of quieter. "He should resign," is the cry raised today not only by opponents of Mr. Black and President Roosevelt but by some of the President's closest and staunchest supporters. And some people in Washington believe that Mr. Roosevelt is decidedly exasperated by the entire episode. That is inferred not only by what he said but by the tone of his voice when he said it. And the inference from one of the presidential remarks is quite obvious: his admission that when he named Mr. Black to the Supreme Court, he was not aware that the Alabama Senator had ever been a member of the Ku Klux Klan.

LEWIS

John L. Lewis called at the White House this afternoon and started the gossip mills working overtime. All this was quite natural, since it was his first conversation ~~that time~~ with the President since it became generally known that there was a broad and unhappy rift in that once beautiful friendship.

When Mr. Lewis emerged from the President's study, his answers to questions were cagey and non-committal. "We had a pleasant conference," he said, "and talked over matters of mutual interest." No matter how variously the form of the question was changed, that was his only reply. He was also asked whether the President called him "John", as he used to. To that Mr. Lewis answered: "What do you think?"

At about the same time, a labor convention in Philadelphia ~~almost broke up in~~ ^{was on the verge of} a terrific tumult. It was a convention of the American Federation of Government Employees, an affiliate of the ~~American Federation of Labor~~ ^{A. F. of L.}. The thing that started the row was a plea for harmony, love and accord between the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O.

At ~~Springfield~~ Akron, Ohio, a convention of the

United Rubber Workers went on record as being vehemently opposed to sit-down strikes. Somebody had offered a resolution authorizing such strikes if they were controlled. The vote against the idea was overwhelming.

ELECTION

New York City isn't the only place where excitement and hard feelings are rife over the primary elections for the mayor's job. At Buffalo, New York, there are as many as five candidates in the field with animosity running high. One of the candidates, an independent, declared that employees of the city and W.P.A. workers were being shaken down by the political bosses. The noise of this became so loud that Governor Lehman of New York State asked the District Attorney of the County to investigate.

MURDER

A gentleman in Chicago became annoyed the way his lawyers were handling his affairs. So he put a couple of revolvers in his pocket, also a carpenter's awl. Then he walked into the Lawyers' office, shot one, stabbed another with the awl, and ~~terrified~~ ~~and~~ scratched a couple of stenographers. Thereupon he walked to the police station, put one of the revolvers on the captain's desk, and said: "I've just bumped off two guys!" When he learned that the lawyer he had stabbed with the carpenter's awl was only slightly injured, he was gravely disappointed. The other barrister, the one killed, was Frederick W. Elliott, former Assistant Attorney General of Illinois, also at one time a Municipal Court Judge in Chicago.

BREVITIES

Lincoln Ellsworth believes that the Russian flyers grounded somewhere near the North Pole last month are still alive. So he's on his way to New York to ask Jacqueline Cochran for the loan of her fast airplane to begin a new search for Levanevsky and his five colleagues. He wants to start quickly, before the Arctic winter sets in. His idea is to establish a base in the interior of Alaska and work out of there systematically.

Anybody who finds a yacht bobbing around somewhere in the Atlantic, please return it to England's Tom Sopwith. His yacht ENDEAVOR No. I, with which he didn't win the America's Cup three years ago, broke loose from the vessel which was towing her to England, Two hundred miles east of Montauk Point at the end of Long Island, she broke loose, and now is adrift on the high seas.

The cost of living is higher than it was in Nineteen Thirty-Three. That will be news to nobody, but the National Industrial Conference Board reports it solemnly just as though everybody didn't know it. At the same time, says the Board,

though it's higher than in Nineteen Thirty-Three, it's twelve per cent lower than it was in Nineteen Twenty-Nine.

Here's a brand new rumor about the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. The last we ~~ja~~ heard about the royal honeymooners, concerned the restrictions that the government is supposed to have placed upon their movements. But now an English publication declares that their Royal Highnesses have selected a house in London which they expect to occupy soon and where they will do quite a lot of entertaining.

*Rumor about those
princes of rumor.*

Nashua, New Hampshire, has a brand new high school, but it wasn't in use today. Hardly were the dedication ceremonies over, than the students, seven hundred of them, boys and girls, went on strike. "Shorter hours, better food, less homework," is the slogan. And, strange to relate, the strikers have the approval of their parents.

Somewhere in the Hawaiian Islands there has been an

earthquake. The news comes not from Honolulu but from Philadelphia and Pasadena. The earthquake machine of the California Institute of Technology, started to have a fit this morning and indicated that the shock had taken place some six thousand miles away, southwest. Nearly four hours later, the seismograph of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia followed suit. According to the Philadelphia experts, the quake happened some thousand miles away from Hawaii.

Who owns America? That is, who owns the property, the money, the private wealth throughout the Republic? A careful survey again shows that most of the wealth of the U.S.A. is in the hands of women. They own seventy per cent of it. That's what we learn from an article by Isaac Marcossou in the current AMERICAN MAGAZINE. American men have been talking care of their widows to such an extent that this overwhelming volume of property now belongs to them. Ike points out that it is the little woman who gets eighty per cent, of the money paid out by

life insurance companies, some two billion dollars a year.

Big corporations of America are owned by fifteen million stockholders and of those forty-nine per cent are women. To top it all, the fair sex, or whatever you choose to call them, control eighty-five per cent of the buying power of the country. A good part of all this is due to the fact that women today are living longer than men. That has been established by the life insurance actuaries. Hubby works himself to death -- paying for the insurance.

ITALIAN FILM

Vittorio Mussolini, son of the Duce, is on his way to Hollywood. With him will be Hal Roach, the movie producer. They have formed a company to produce pictures in Italy, and the Duce's son is going to Hollywood with Roach to see what it's all about. The first picture they produce will be a cinema version of Verdi's opera " Rigoletto." And they ought to use Papa Mussolini as the star - if he can sing.

8/2
The Balkan religious squabble, in Jugoslavia, has reached a fresh climax. In spite of the strong hand of the Stoyadinovich government, the opposition will not be cowed into putting up with that Concordat with the Vatican. The leader of the Croatian Peasant Party, which remains unalterably attached to the Greek Orthodox Church, today urged the Prince Regent Paul to kick the Stoyadinovich government out.

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Political observers believe that this means a real government crisis at Belgrade. There has been plenty of opposition to the present government lead by Stoyadinovich. But while the opposition parties were numerous, never before could they agree

on any one point. It took this religious question to weld the
opposition and make it a unit in an attempt to throw the
government of Stoyadinovich out-of-vich.

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