

46

Tonight we have an official bulletin from Berlin about the Molotov-Hitler conference. It uses familiar and meaningless phraseology in saying -- "Agreement on all important questions." But the Berlin bulletin ~~gives~~ goes on to something more significant. This is stated by the United Press dispatch in these words:--"That the center of ~~g~~avity in Germany's attempt to smash Great Britain has now shifted to the Southeast." One implication in this is -- the German have failed in their attempt to ~~smash~~ ^{smash} Britain ~~directly~~ ^{at home}.

But the more direct significance points to such places as Turkey and Persia, and even Afghanistan and India. ^{TP} It may be that Molotov and Hitler agreed that Soviet Russia should expand in those directions at the expense of the British Empire. This is affirmed by a journalistic statement in Rome -- that the Molotov-Hitler talks would result in a ~~complication~~ ^{combination} of the Soviets and the Japanese to banish the British from the Orient. ^{TP} Still another line of opinion in Italy concerns -- oil. An oil block is to be formed under the direction of the Axis. It's to be a petroleum combination by which Italy would get the bulk of the Roumanian oil production, and Nazi Germany would be supplied by the Russian oil fields.

47

This, says Rome, was part of the plans discussed by Molotov and Hitler. It is also the theme of the conferences being held in Rome between the Italian government and the Premier of Roumania.

In Moscow there's Molotov-^{Hitler}~~Hitler~~ comment in the newspaper RED STAR -- official journal of the Red Army. It doesn't give any details about what the Soviets and Nazis were discussing, but merely emphasizes the importance of the event. The conference in Berlin is described in these words -- "The most significant event of recent days."

London gives us a new angle, saying that the Molotov-Hitler affair has probably ~~blasted~~ a British program for an agreement with the Soviets. It is revealed that London suggested to Moscow that Britain would sign a non-aggression pact with Stalin, would grant the Soviets a place at the Peace Conference following the war, and would recognize the Red grab of the Baltic States. London made this bid for Soviet friendship, but immediately afterward Molotov went to Berlin to confer with Hitler. ~~Which~~ seems like a dramatized rejection of the British proposal. So things London.

This, says Rome, was part of the plans discussed by Molotov and Hitler. It is also the theme of the conferences being held in Rome between the Italian government and the Premier of Roumania.

In Moscow there's Molotov-~~Hitler~~^{Hitler} comment in the newspaper RED STAR -- official journal of the Red Army. It doesn't give any details about what the Soviets and Nazis were discussing, but merely emphasizes the importance of the event. The conference in Berlin is described in these words -- "The most significant event of recent days."

London gives us a new angle, saying that the Molotov-Hitler affair has probably ~~blasted~~ a British program for an agreement with the Soviets. It is revealed that London suggested to Moscow that Britain would sign a non-aggression pact with Stalin, would grant the Soviets a place at the Peace Conference following the war, and would recognize the Red grab of the Baltic States. London made this bid for Soviet friendship, but immediately afterward Molotov went to Berlin to confer with Hitler. ~~Which~~ seems like a dramatized rejection of the British proposal. So things London.

There is
~~in the~~ flat contradiction about the extent to which the Royal Air Force bombed Berlin while Molotov was there -- a sort of R.A. F. salutation to Stalin's Foreign Commissar. The London Air Ministry claims that British planes blasted Berlin heavily, and smashed the railroad station by which Molotov was to have left for Moscow. ~~So that they~~ ^{So he} had to go by way of another station. Berlin retorts that R.A.F. planes tried to bomb Berlin, but did not get any nearer than the outlying suburbs.

The Royal Air Force reports a second bombardment of the South Italian port of Taranto where British planes scored their previous brilliant success. This time docks and oil supplies were blasted -- explosions and huge fires. The Italians on their part report the second bombing of Taranto but minimize the damage. The Italian Admiralty likewise scolds the British statement that R.A.F. planes crippled the Italian fleet -- badly damaging three battleships and hitting other craft. Rome today describes the Churchill account of the affair with these words:- "Fantastically distorted". Rome denounces what it calls "British mistatements," and sticks to its original version of the air raid -- that one warship

was damaged, nothing more. The Italians, on their part, today report the torpedoing of a couple of British ships and the bombing of a cruiser.

In the Greek War the Greeks have been attacking. And the Italians are said to be moving up heavy forces. The Greeks state they are advancing at various points -- in some places crossing into Albania. Important victories say they. Rome tells of attacks repelled. The Greeks are expecting a heavy counter-attack.

Britain was bombed today, as Britain is bombed almost everyday. London as usual -- and tonight's communique - tells of a huge German air fleet striking at the industrial areas of the Midlands -- a thunder of bombing and the heaviest kind of anti-aircraft fire.

SELASSIE

A singular and rather mystifying story comes along concerning the Ex-Emperor Haile Selassie, former King of Kings and Lion of Judah. And it also tells of the Ethiopian Joan of Arc. Altogether, the story is rich in the dramatic and ~~the~~ romantic.

It begins with a little man wrapped in a great cloak, who was conducted with the deepest of secrecy. It was Haile Selassie. And where was he taken? Into the Italian Yacht Club at Alexandria - he was hidden there. The tale relates that the former King of Kings flew by plane from England to Egypt, on his way to his former kingdom of Ethiopia - to lead ^{a new} ~~a~~ war against the Italians, ~~there~~. All was secrecy, which climaxed with the little man concealed in a great cloak being smuggled into the Italian Yacht Club. There, with all the curtains pulled down, a gala party was staged - a party of British officers entertaining the one-time Lion of Judah. They celebrated with the best of Italian wine taken from the well stocked cellars of the club. They toasted Haile Selassie's future victories - with chianti. ^{TR} After a day or so the great cloak was got out once more, the little man was wrapped in it, and was flown to

far up the Nile to the capital of the Sudan, to Khartoum, to start his campaign - still under conditions of the greatest secrecy. It isn't explained why all the concealment was necessary, Haile Selassie would certainly be safe enough in Alexandria. The only supposition is that the British wanted to keep his trip a secret from Italian espionage in Egypt.

51

On the frontier of his former kingdom, whom will Haile Selassie meet? Why, the Joan of Arc of Ethiopia. And who is she? The answer is amazing - Sylvia Pankhurst, the one-time suffragette. You have to think back some years to remember how Sylvia Pankhurst battled for the woman suffrage cause in England - together with her mother, the formidable Mrs. Pankhurst. Those were the days when the suffragettes raged around London, and went to the extent of horse-whipping the Prime Minister. ^{TP Surely a} ~~It's a~~ strange turn of events to find that now Sylvia Pankhurst is a Joan of Arc. But so says the story, relating that for the past four years she has been working secretly in North Africa, trying to stir up a revolt among the Ethiopians. Her labor has been largely the smuggling of communications between the exiled Haile Selassie and the chieftains of the Ethiopian tribes, the chieftains in their lion skins. We are

told that a hundred thousand of the tribesmen are ready to revolt against the Italians - largely as the result of the efforts of one-time Suffragette Sylvia Pankhurst, now the Joan of Arc of Ethiopia.

52
The place ^{of} ~~and~~ origin of this story is ^{also dramatic and} ~~interesting.~~ ~~It~~
~~romantic.~~ ~~It~~
appears in the SIERRA LEONE DAILY MAIL. Sierra Leone is a place
on the ^{shore} ~~west coast~~ ^{- near the Gold Coast -} of West Africa - one of the strange and barbaric parts of the earth.

ARGENTINA

Here's something from Argentina on the subject so much discussed - the possibility of the United States getting naval and air bases along the coast of South America. ~~When the destroyer deal was made, and this nation got naval and air base rights in British territory in the Americas, the inevitable thought was that the United States might go ahead and acquire similar points of defense all along the line in the Western Hemisphere. There have been rumors and denials about Latin-American countries agreeing, saying -~~ Yes. So what now do we hear from Buenos Aires?

Argentina is willing to collaborate with the United States in establishing naval and air bases on Argentine territory. What kind of collaboration? The report from Buenos Aires is that it would be a case of setting up Argentine bases, but ~~whereas~~ that these would be made available for Pan-American defense. No question of giving over bits of territory, no change of sovereignty - just a matter of Argentina having the bases and permitting the United States to use them. Theoretically, they would be available to any Pan-American nation, but practically - Uncle Sam is the only one who has a navy and air force and could use a naval and air base. The Buenos Aires dispatch contains this postscript:- "Argentina will be glad to accept financial assistance for building the bases."

SABOTAGE

Here's a report on last Tuesday's blow-ups in plants making explosives. Secretary of War Stimson stated today that there was no evidence of sabotage. Such is the result of preliminary study in two of the plants - the one at Woodbridge, New Jersey, and the other at New Castle, Pennsylvania. The Secretary said that the War Department has not yet received reports of the investigation at the site of the third explosion, Allentown, Pennsylvania. ^R The Secretary reverted to that singular coincidence - the three explosions in widely separated localities ^{all} ^{ing} ~~occurred~~ within the space of an hour. And he made this comment:- "There was a peculiar regularity about the explosions that might have suggested Teutonic efficiency." A compliment to German thoroughness. "But", added Secretary Stimson, "the investigation thus far has shown no sign of sabotage."

And the same thing goes for the fire in the War Department. "The information I have," said Stimson, "is that it was probably due to negligence."

CONSCRIPTION

54

The first contingent of men for military training will be called up next Tuesday, November Nineteenth. This was announced by Secretary of War Stimson today. With that beginning, thirty thousand trainees will be summoned between November Nineteenth and December First. The First Corps Area will get the first group, and the other Corps Areas will follow in calling the men to service. There are nine Corps Areas altogether. Tuesday is the day for the first recruits to go to camp.

DRAFT

There was a dramatic scene in a New York court today, as sentence was passed on eight theological students who refused to register for conscription. The eight young men, who had been repeatedly described as well mannered and well spoken, sat with bowed heads. In the courtroom were members of their families, fathers, mothers, wives - who wept as the sentence was passed.

The eight young theological students repeated their contention that to register for the draft was against their belief and their conscience. They were well aware that under the Selective Service Law they would undoubtedly be exempted for military service, but that didn't matter - they said. The mere act of registering, they argued, would have given assent to conscription, which has to do with war. Their spokesman was David Dellinger, a former athlete at Yale. He said to the Court:- "We regret that our attempt to live as closely as possible after the teachings of Jesus had to cause this friction and inconvenience. But," he added, "our consciences are more moving than any man-made penalty. War, which is systematic mass murder of our human brothers," he argued to the Court, "is completely contrary to our best intelligence as

well as to the teachings of Jesus."

The eight young men were given one final chance. They were offered one more opportunity to register. They still refused. Whereupon Federal Judge Mandelbaum pronounced sentence. It was based on the federal prosecuting attorney's contention that an example should be made of them - an example that would deter others who might seek to evade the draft. The judge said - a year and a day in prison. And the eight young theological students were immediately taken away - to be sent to the penitentiary. *Lock step instead of squads right!*

BASEBALL

There was a baseball surprise in Chicago today. The management of the ~~Chicago~~ Cubs sent an invitation to the sports writers to come to the office of the Club and get some news. The sports writers of the various papers assembled, ~~in the office,~~ and what did they see? There appeared to be some mistake. At the President's big desk was sitting, of all things - a sports writer. Yep, there on the throne of the mighty was Jimmy Gallagher of the CHICAGO HERALD-AMERICAN sports page. It looked as if Jimmy had strayed into the wrong seat, and was writing his daily story at the desk of the ~~the~~ President of the Chicago Cubs. "What's the idea, Jimmy? Who do you think you are?" - that sort of comment from the other sports writers. ~~But then the~~ *Whereupon an* announcement was made by Phil K.

Wrigley, owner of the Club. Jimmy Gallagher of the HERALD-AMERICAN, *said he, has* ~~had~~ just been appointed - General Manager of the Chicago Cubs. *(So Mr. Wrigley can devote all his time to chewing gum)* ~~He'll run the business affairs of the team.~~ And was that a surprise to the brother sports writers!

It was the second surprise in two days. Yesterday the wonder was - the resignation of Gabby Hartnett, as Manager of the team. Gabby, who had seemed to symbolize the Cubs for years -

a star catcher and then Manager. Today the question of a new manager was left undecided, the surprise being -- the appointment of a General Manager to run the affairs of the Club. And he's just a reporter.

It seems to have been as much of a surprise to Jimmy Gallagher as to everybody else. He said today he hadn't yet had time to think it over. And he won't have so much time during the next several days. He'll have to round out his newspaper job, and has a big football game to cover on Saturday. Then on Monday he'll take over the task of bossing the Cubs.

did
~~I should~~

like to give you a clear version of the testimony

in the New York trial of Howard C. Hopson, former utilities executive.

did
~~I should~~ like to give you something simply^e and lucid, making

perfectly understandable the financial deals that were outlined

in court. An expert was on the witness stand, and he told of -

Twenty Year Convertible Four-and-a-Half Per Cent Gold Debentures.

An issue of fifty million dollars ~~was~~ authorized, but the actual

issue ~~was~~ sixty-three million. Three corporations ~~were~~ involved.

One subscribed^{ing} to twenty-three million, nine hundred and sixty-five

thousand dollars' worth. Another ~~did~~ something else, all the way up

in the millions. The third corporation complicated things still more

with further millions. It all simply bristled with figures; ~~It~~ got

8 1/2 so complicated and intricate that the judge called a halt, and said -

"This maze of corporation figures is so confusing that unless we

have some real help of words in one syllable, I don't see how the

jury will understand ~~them.~~" And His Honor added: "I don't know if

I'll be capable of understanding ~~them~~ either."

Well, if the jury can't understand them and the judge can't

either - how can I be expected to understand them? So I'm afraid

59
I can't give you any clear and lucid version of the case. Defendant Hopson himself makes the plea that he ~~is~~ has had a mental breakdown - maybe ~~he broke down~~ trying to figure out the financial complications of his own case. And maybe if I went ahead with the mathematics, we would all ~~I'd have a mental~~ breakdown. ~~and so would you.~~

59 1/4
And above all I don't want Hugh to break down.