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JAPAN

P. 7. - *San Francisco, Monday, Oct. 24, 1938.*

More excitement at Shanghai. Another action by Japanese officials to cause headaches in Washington. An American liner ~~was~~ detained just as she was about to sail for home.

This move on the part of the Japanese ~~somewhat~~ eclipsed ~~even~~ the bombing of ^{that} British ship; Six Japanese ~~air~~planes dropping explosive on His Majesty's Gunboat, SANDPIPER, as she ~~was~~ patrolling ^{ed} the Siang River. ~~That's~~ a tributary of the Yangste. The bombs tore holes in ^e ~~that~~ British gunboat but didn't kill or wound any of her officers or crew. ~~However,~~ The Britons claim that the attack was ~~quite~~ deliberate, that the Japanese planes were flying around for half an hour before dropping any bombs. The British Ambassador to Tokyo promptly presented an official protest to the Japanese Foreign Office.

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The holding of the American ship was at least accomplished without violence. The PRESIDENT COOLIDGE of the Dollar Line was about to sail for San Francisco, carrying ~~four and~~ four and a half million dollars' worth of silver consisting mostly of tableware and jewelry which Chinese patriots had donated for the cause of Chinese independence. It was being shipped to the Chase National Bank of

New York. Yesterday afternoon the customs officials of Shanghai gave the master of the PRESIDENT COOLIDGE his clearance papers. Late last night, however, those clearance papers were revoked. It is reported that this was done at the instigation of the Japanese officials in Shanghai. The object, of course, to prevent those four and a half million dollar's worth of silver getting to America and to the credit of the Chinese, for war supplies.

Today it looked as though the mikado's war lords had virtually won out in China. Almost half of that huge country is now under Japanese control. An area of something like a million square miles. In size, it's one of the most colossal conquests in modern times. However, it doesn't yet mean that all those million square miles are under actual control of the Japanese. What Nippon's soldiers ^{hold} are the military lines around the railroads, principal highways and ket cities.

In the country districts Chinese guerrillas are on the rampage, hacking at the Japanese forces all the time. And it was a burning city that the Mikado's men beheld at Canton today. Entire blocks of the business district in flames. From all accounts it's only a question of time before the Nipponese also capture Hankow.

SLOVAKIA

The government of Hungary is talking to the Czechs in the language of Hitler or figuratively speaking in the phraseology of Hitler. Budapest sent another note to Prague today. This was supposed to be the note to end all notes, the final statement of the Hungarian demands. The Magyrs want to send their soldiers immediately into the disputed districts of Slovakia. ~~Thereupon~~ ^{Then}

plebiscites; ~~those~~ ^{to be} plebiscites held before November thirtieth.

All Czech troops to be withdrawn from ^{some} eight districts before November fifteenth. The administration ^{there to} of these districts to

be handed over to international ^{groups,} ~~parties~~ ^{bodies}. Furthermore the Hungarians

want Ruthenia included in the plebiscites. The voters ~~there~~ ^{to} shall ~~usually~~ determine for themselves whether Ruthenia shall be turned into a

common border between Poland and Rumania.

While this note was being digested at Prague, Hungarian and Czech soldiers were fighting in Ruthenia. Seventy Hungarians were killed, thirty Czechs. It was also announced that several hundred Hungarians, many of them wounded, are prisoners of the Czech Army.

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CHAMBERLAIN

Big diplomatic moves are on the way in Europe. Prime Minister Chamberlain returned to London today from his home in the country. That gave rise to the report that the cabinet meeting over which he will preside on Wednesday will be an historic one. It is expected that on that day His Majesty's ministers will formally ratify the pact of friendship with Mussolini, formally recognize the conquest of Ethiopia. It hasn't been settled yet how soon that will go into effect, but probably ~~in~~ three or four weeks from now.

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And an unofficial prophecy is that as soon as ~~that~~^{the} agreement is ratified, belligerent rights will be given to both sides of the Spanish civil war. In other words, John Bull and France will recognize ~~General~~ Franco as a belligerent instead of a rebel as he has been rated hitherto.

There was a rumor in London that Prime Minister Chamberlain will make some slight reorganization of his Cabinet.

SHAKESPEARE

In many parts of the world there are people who hold a passionate belief concerning the plays that most of us think were written by William Shakespeare. People have even come to blows to defend the notion that the real author of those plays was Sir Francis Bacon, who wrote those dry, ^{and} platitudinous essays ~~that~~ some of us had to read in school. *Or did you like them?*

For many decades scholars have been squabbling over this question. The Baconians now have ^{great} ~~big~~ hopes of proving their point. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ A tomb is to be opened in the sacred precincts of Westminster Abbey. This ~~is an action which~~ I believe ^{will be} entirely without precedent. But it is ^{thought} ~~believed~~ that when that tomb is opened it will provide proof that Bacon wrote those plays. The tomb ~~to be opened is that~~ of Edmund Spenser, author of the "Fairy Queen" and other poems which ~~most~~ of us never read except under compulsion. ~~by professors and schoolmams.~~

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The whole business is rather odd. In spite of all those plays, there are few actual authentic examples of Shakespeare's handwriting. Three of them are the signatures on his will. At the burial of Edmund Spenser, who was called the

"Prince of poets", all the verse writers of his day dropped manuscripts into his tomb. It is those manuscripts that the Baconians want to examine. They believe that one of them will enable handwriting experts to prove that it was Bacon, the lawyer,^{and} politician,^{and philosopher} not Shakespeare, the actor,^{and} theatrical manager, who wrote those undying plays and, as he put it himself, that powerful rhyme.

It took years of argument to persuade the dean of Westminster to consent to the opening of that tomb. It's going to be done some day this week in the utmost secrecy. The dean himself will supervise the job and a force of expert artisans will do the actual work so that no damage may be done in that famous poets' corner of Westminster Abbey. The official who was formerly chief inspector of ancient monuments will be present; also several scholars and representatives of the Baconian Society. (One can't help wondering what those Baconian highbrows will say if an actual manuscript in Shakespeare's own handwriting is found in ^{the} tomb and lays ^{the} argument to rest for good and all.

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CANADA

A story from Toronto has it that ~~even~~ Canada has been affected
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by ^{an} Anti-Jewish campaign. The charge was made by Representative
Glass of the Ontario legislature. Mr. Glass said in Toronto
today that he had definite proof of his charges. ^{Among} ~~many~~ other
things he said it is almost impossible for Jewish people either
to obtain employment or ~~to~~ rent apartments in Toronto. And he ^{adds}
~~says~~ he is going to insist on an investigation by the Dominion
He charges that
government. ^{He charges that} The anti-Semitic ~~many~~ campaigns in Canada ~~are~~ can be
laid at the door of ^{agents} ~~representatives~~ of the Nazi government. ~~It has been~~
^Q accompanied," said ~~hexy~~ "by high-powered Nazi propaganda."

RACE

It now looks as though that international race of fishing boats might be finished before Christmas or maybe. The third race was actually sailed today. Incidentally, another victory for the American boat.

Soon after the starting gun was fired it looked as though the Canadian champion, BLUENOSE, would win the day. She was first across the starting line and held the lead for the first twelve miles. But on the second leg the GERTRUDE THEBAUD came sweeping along, caught up with the champ and in a few minutes was six lengths ahead.

That's about how today's race ended. The THEBAUD was in six minutes before the BLUENOSE by the time they had finished that thirty-six mile course.

That makes it two all, two for BLUENOSE, two for THEBAUD. Tomofrow will be the deciding day wind and weather permitting.

Representative Dies of Texas sent a telegram to the Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota today. Over the weekend, the leaders of the Farmer-Labor Party had thrown ridicule at the Dies Committee. The Farmer-Laborers made light of evidence before the Committee that their party in Minnesota was under Communist influence; Governor Benson of Minnesota and other leaders declared that the testimony given was merely for political effect.

So Congressman Dies telegraphed to Minneapolis as follows:

"I desire to be entirely fair toward the Farmer-Labor Party even though Governor Benson sought to discredit this investigation by ridicule." Then Dies added: "Governor Benson is employing the same strategy that Communists and their sympathizers are using all over the country." He offered the Farmer-Labor Party an opportunity of answering the testimony given under oath.

WAGE- HOUR

This is a day that many people believe ushered in a new era for many sections of American industry. The Federal Wage-Hour Law went into effect at one ~~ix~~ minute after midnight. Elmer Andrews, the Administrator, said he had telegrams from governors of seven states promising cooperation.

On the other hand, reports come from the south that already several factories have closed up. Others declare that they will have to install more machinery and reduce their human labor to a minimum.

FAIR TRADE

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The New Jersey Legislature recently passed a law forbidding a merchant to sell anything for less than it had cost him. It was passed over the veto of the Governor, largely owing to the demand of the Retail Grocers' Association. This of course is a question which for a long time had been agitating not only New Jersey, but merchants all over the country. A test case was brought in a New Jersey court. A firm in Hackensack, ~~New Jersey~~ deliberately broke that law so as to get a judicial ruling on it.

The lawyers ^{claimed} ~~plain~~ that ^{which prohibits selling below cost} ~~this~~ act of the Legislature ~~was~~ against the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The Court took quite a while to make up its mind, but finally decided:

"Yes, that law is an unconstitutional restriction on business men. Also, it is against the public interest, because it tends to increase the cost of living." And said the judge further:

"The Supreme Court of the United States has ruled that similar laws in other states are contrary to the 'due process' amendment to the Constitution."

KIDNAP

For thirty-six hours the police of eight states were looking for a three year old boy. A youngster named Dean Tripp of Floral Park, Long Island, ~~was announced~~ ^{He was} missing. His father and mother were distraught, and the forces of the law thought they had a kidnap case on their hands. Everybody ~~except two people~~ ^{except 2 people. One,} thought ~~and said that little Dean Tripp had disappeared.~~ ^{so} One of the two people who didn't think so was little Dean himself. He showed up at the house of his parents at Floral Park ~~this morning~~ ^{today}, beaming, smiling, well washed, well groomed. ~~The youngster had no idea that he had been the object of all that distress and worry.~~ And the family gardener, in whose company he had been all Saturday and Sunday and Sunday night, was just as bewildered when police grabbed him as he appeared with the little boy, at the Tripp house this morning.

Apparently this was a case of misunderstanding plus a bit of carelessness. George O'Connell, the ^{Tripp} gardener ~~of Mr. and Mrs. Tripp~~, often took care of three year old little Dean; ~~He~~ frequently took him for walks and rides. Upon other occasions he said he had taken him visiting to the home of ~~common~~ friends.

Last Saturday he left the house of his employers, ^{and the boy} took ~~little~~
~~Dean with him~~ ^{along} for a day's shopping. The parents thought ^{surely} he would
~~bring the boy~~ ^{he} back at nightfall. But evening came and no ~~little~~
boy, ^{and no} ~~nor any~~ message from the gardener. Promptly the police were
notified, also the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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meanwhile, O'Connell, the gardener, had taken the ^{lad} ~~boy~~
to visit ^{at} the home of friends in a nearby suburb. There they
stayed over the weekend. O'Connell said he had telephoned the
house of his employers once, got no answer, intended to call again,
but forgot. The consequences of forgetting were serious.
He reached home with his little friend to find himself out of a
job, also taken to the station house to be questioned by cops.
However, the little fellow is back in his parents' arms, none
the worse for it all.

DEVIL SLAYING

A curious sect of religious fanatics came to light today in Houghton, Michigan. All because a girl was killed, a nineteen year old blonde who worked as a maid in a home at Dollar Bay, near Houghton. The man she worked for and his wife, a stocky, hundred and seventy-three pound woman, are under arrest. The sheriff's office declares that the two have confessed. Killed the maid to drive evil spirits out of the house.

It is reported this religious fanatic said to the prosecutor ~~is~~ of the county: "I am the Messiah, the only man that can bring good will to man and peace on earth." the girl he killed he said, "was a devil and I had to drive her spirit from the house." The man said that he had obtained the power of Christ from a band of gypsies. He paid those gypsies two thousand dollars for it.

STORM

Storm warnings are up on the Atlantic Coast. A big wind on its way north. Due to reach Boston tonight. A howling gale. The Weather Bureau has posted signals along the shores of Connecticut and Long Island, all the way up to Maine. This morning the storm was off the coast of South Carolina, tearing along in a northeasterly direction.

WEATHER

From what the weather-man tells us, it's time to get the winter overcoat out of mothballs, to say nothing of the earmuffs. The blizzard that struck the middlewest will find its way east. In the Atlantic states, the grand days of Indian summer seem to be at an end. And when the rain is over, says the weather-man, it will be colder. In short, to paraphrase an ancient English poet, "winter is a'coming in."

HUNTING

Deer Hunters in the East were cheering today for the rains that fell over the week-end. For almost eight days the principal forests in New York State were closed to them. But the downpour of yesterday and today put an end ~~for the time~~ to the danger of fire in the forests. So the woods are open again and hunters can prowl around potting each other to their heart's content. Not only deer but bear and pheasant abound in New York's forests. But the principal ^{injuries} ~~injuries~~ as a rule are sustained by the hunters.

themselves

And s-l-u-t-m-

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