

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1939.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

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The news about Finland is ~~most~~ ominous and fraught with tragedy. The day started with repetitions of the growlings from Moscow, renewed threats by the Red chieftains. The same old charges against the Finns, an attempt to lead people to believe that the peaceful, downtrodden Reds were being menaced by a bristling, bloodthirsty race of warriors. ~~Soviet Russia, with a standing army of more than a million, attacked by Finland, whose regular forces add up to the dangerous total of some thirty thousand odd.~~

In the middle of the afternoon, Washington spoke on the subject of this Finnish-Soviet controversy. The Government of the United States announced ~~it~~ itself willing to use its good offices in settling that dispute. Secretary Hull issued a statement, allowing himself to be quoted, that this government is "following with serious concern the intensification of the Finnish-Soviet dispute." ~~And the~~

~~Secretary added that the United States viewed with extreme regret the extension of the present area of war and the consequent deterioration of international relations.~~ The Secretary let it be known that he and the President were of one mind on this subject and that he has been conferring with Mr. Roosevelt by telephone up to the time that the presidential special left Warm Springs, Georgia, to carry him back to Washington.

A month ago, it will be remembered, President Roosevelt sent an urgent personal appeal to Kalinin, President of the Soviets, urging that the controversy be settled peacefully. Molotov, the Premier, came back with a criticism of the President, charging him with unwarranted interference in European affairs.

~~At the same time,~~ ^{TP} Secretary Hull ~~made this announcement~~ today ~~he~~ warned us emphatically that ^{the} ~~this does not mean that the~~ United States ^{does not} offer [^] to mediate or arbitrate. Uncle Sam will use his good offices without in any way becoming involved in the merits of the dispute, ~~and would limit his interest to a solution by peaceful processes, only if it were agreeable to both parties.~~

However, it wasn't long before the mills of destiny made

LEAD

this announcement futile. For late in the afternoon there came a bulletin from Moscow that the Soviet Government has broken off diplomatic relations with Finland. The Soviet Foreign Office made this public before the Finnish Minister had even had time to deliver a note from his government, a reply to the communication sent by the Russians to Finland yesterday.

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(The people of the Soviets were ordered to stand by their radio and listen to a broadcast by Molotov. When the time for his broadcast came, the Soviet Premier told the world that Russia could no longer stand the unbearable situation which the hostility of the Finns has forced upon the poor Soviets.) Then he repeated his invitation to the Finns to revolt against their government. And he said that with a different government at the head of ~~the Finnish~~ Finland, the Soviets would be willing to make concessions. "Therefore," he continued, "the responsibility rests with Finland. It is necessary that there be a Finnish government not hostile to Russia but friendly." In conclusion, he declared that Soviet Russia has no intention of imperilling Finland's independence and does not want to interfere with her internal affairs. "Allegations to such effect," said Molotov, "are nothing

but slander."

(After all that, Molotov ordered the armed forces of the Soviets to be ready for an emergency.

It is impossible to refrain from wondering what the Finns think they can do against Russia.) The Finns have practically no air force, and though the Russian equipment and personnel in the air have been widely criticized as incompetent, they're certainly strong enough to blow the Finns off the earth. (~~Some people have wondered whether the Finnish Government had not received secret promises of help from the Germans, improbable as that would seem even on the face of it. Such a remote possibility as that was completely swept away by statements in Berlin today.~~) The Nazi Government ^{announces a} ~~has~~ an absolutely "hands off" attitude. ^{But says} ~~in the matter. At the same time~~ it sympathizes with the Soviet Government. The Germans have a full understanding that such a large country as Russia cannot put up with being obliged to breathe through the small Baltic countries. In other words, Berlin says to Moscow, go as far as you like in the Baltic.

STALIN

Also Red Dictator Stalin broke a rule today. He spoke for publication, but his words had no reference to the controversy with Finland. His statement was a bagful of dead cats thrown at the heads of Great Britain and France. France and England, he said, attacked Germany and must assume responsibility for the present war. The principal purpose of his utterance was to deny the French rumor that he, Stalin, hoped the war would last as long as possible so that the belligerents would become exhausted. "This report is a lie," he said, "evidently a lie fabricated in some night club." *Those were Stalin's words.*

SUBMARINES

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A rosy claim was made by the Allies tonight. They have destroyed more than half of the submarines that Hitler had when the war started. ~~In fact,~~ the French and British fleets have made such headway in coping with the undersea warfare that this menace is now considerably less.

~~It must be remembered that this is just one side of the story.~~ The statement was made by the French naval minister. ~~We shall probably hear a statement from Berlin to the contrary.~~

TENNIS

The Lawn Tennis Association of Italy sent an invitation to America, an invitation to the United States association to send a team of American players to Mussolini's country next spring. It became known today that the United States Lawn Tennis Association has declined the invitation. This is probably the first such invitation that has been declined in a long while. However, the Association explains that it is going to keep all American players at home so long as conditions are so unsettled and the hazards of travel abroad so uncertain.

INTER-AMERICAN

Another all-American conference began at Washington today. This time it's a congress of journalists from all over the Western Hemisphere, newspapermen, representatives of publishing houses, magazines, libraries, & from twenty-one American republics. They were greeted officially by Henry F. Grady, Assistant Secretary of State.

STRIKE

President Roosevelt, on his way back to Washington from Warm Springs, had planned to stop over in Ashville, North Carolina, for two hours. He wanted to pay a visit to his secretary, Marvin McIntyre, who has been ill. But Ashville is still in the throes of a labor dispute, a controversy between the Carolina Power and Light Company and its workers.

Last night the strikers blacked out Ashville and the surrounding countryside. So the secret service officials, guarding the President, did not want to take any chance of running into a black-out while the President was in Ashville. However, the union officials who called the strike, wrote to the manager of the city

and promised that there would be ^{light} ~~no black-out~~ tonight, ^{--so that} ~~fast to~~
he can see Mac.
~~make sure, the authorities had the power plant surrounded by~~

~~armed guards.~~

FOOD STAMPS FOLLOW CLEVELAND

The government is perfecting plans to bring surplus farm products to more and more cities throughout the country.

The Department of Agriculture ^{today} announced that the food stamp plan will be extended to ^{about one} ~~some~~ hundred and fifty cities by next June.

Also, five more farm commodities have been added to the list of foods that can be bought with ~~these~~ stamps:- pork products, rice, oranges, grapefruit and hominy grits.

Over in Europe they're rationing food to combat scarcity. Here we're using the stamp system to promote the consumption of surpluses. *What irony.*

CLEVELAND

Trouble ~~to pay~~ in Cleveland! Sixteen thousand ^{unemployed} ~~people were~~ without ^{relief.} ~~food and the consequences created a grave situation for the~~ city authorities. ~~It's not the fault of the Cleveland officials.~~ The Ohio State relief funds were exhausted so ^{Cleveland's} Mayor Burton was obliged to send out the word - "children first." The result was, no food orders for eight thousand single people, ^{and} four thousand childless couples. Hundreds of hungry persons thronged around the relief offices. An extra squad of police were detailed to restrain the restless, anxious crowds. ~~For several days prior to this order by the Mayor, many thousands in Cleveland had received nothing but starchy foods to eat.~~

However, there is hope in sight. The City ^{has just} received three hundred and seventy-five thousand pounds of butter, white flour, raisins and prunes from the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation. These are being distributed as quickly as possible. Mayor Burton announced ^{that} ~~that in spite of everything, nobody will be allowed to starve.~~

BIOFF

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The Chicago authorities have finally moved in the case of William Bioff, head of the ^{west coast} Theatrical and Screen Employees Union. ~~on the west coast.~~ The state's attorney ~~of~~ Cook County has made a request upon Governor Horner, asked ^{ing} him to demand the extradition of Bioff from Los Angeles. The authorities want the union leader back in Chicago to finish serving a prison term to which he was sentenced seventeen years ago. He was convicted in February, Nineteen Twenty-Two, sentenced to six months in jail and a fine of three hundred dollars. Bioff appealed but his conviction was affirmed by an Appellate Court. However, according to the court records, Bioff did not finish serving those six months, ~~in jail,~~ and did not pay his three hundred dollar fine.

TWO-GUN GIRL

A grand jury at Dallas, Texas, today considered the case of ~~Miss~~ ^{blonde.} Corinne Maddox, the pretty twenty-six year old two-gun ~~girl~~. The jurors were listening to evidence of how Miss Maddox, with a thirty-two and a thirty-eight calibre pistol, ran down her former employer on a busy street, shot and killed him. Miss Maddox made two appearances before the grand jury, so did the widow of the dead lawyer. The victim's family had made plans to retain a special prosecutor to help convict Miss Maddox. But today the grand jury published its decision. The answer is, ^{The two-gun blonde} no true bill. ~~Miss Maddox~~ goes free.

ENGINEER

A chemical engineer who lives in a New York apartment, went to Cleveland on business. While he was there, he received a baffling telegram signed "One you love." An hour or so later, the explanation came in the form of a long distance telephone message. The message was from a woman whom he says he knew slightly, ~~with~~ who had been at one time renting agent for the New York apartment building where he lives. She told him she was in his apartment. He asked her to leave at once. He had to go on to St. Louis and there received another telegram and long distance telephone communication. Again he asked her to leave.

Finally, he flew back from St. Louis, found the woman in his apartment, plus a huge bill for long distance telephone and telegram messages. He told her to leave, this time to her face.

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Then ~~he left~~ ^{as he went out of} the room, ~~as he~~ ^{and} closed the door ~~he~~ he heard a scream.

Rushing back into the room he found the woman had obeyed his instructions. She had left - through the window on the seventeenth story of the apartment building, *for a fatal plunge.*

FLIER

A high school lad in Chicago undertook a novel experiment with an airplane. He hired a forty horsepower machine and set out to discover whether automobiles would stop if he dived down at them. Away he flew over the streets of southwestern Chicago on his one-man campaign of ground-strafting.

On Cicero Avenue he was skimming ^{only} ~~just~~ a few inches over the tops of motor cars. But along the way he just barely missed the roof of a police station. That was a mistake; four squad cars started out chasing him. A little bit further along, he tried a Bert Acosta stunt, dived under a railroad bridge. The police cars couldn't catch up, but they didn't need to. At a village southwest of Chicago, this high school junior skimmed too close to the electric power lines. When the cops caught up with him, they found the wreck of his plane tangled in the cables.

Tonight he's in the hospital with a dislocated hip, a broken right leg and arm, and also internal injuries. But the doctors say he'll recover and be able to face the judge.

ART

Here's a surprising note about ^{the} show business -- not a movie or a musical, not one of those Broadway smash hits that panics them. It's an art show -- and modernistic art at that. At New York's Museum of Modern Art, an exhibition of Picasso, world famous painter of fantastic futurism. There are three floors of Picasso with three hundred and sixty masterpieces -- like a crazy world having a nightmare. Or am I ^{Far} crazy? [^] the Museum of Modern Art is being overrun by crowds. On Sunday, they had forty-seven hundred, paid admissions -- which would be marvelous for a Broadway smash hit. They had to shut the doors. Crowds line ^d along the sidewalk, and many couldn't get in.

Well, I wonder. Of all those people, how many could understand the ^{weird} Picasso pictures? Maybe about a dozen, and probably they were among those who couldn't get in, and were mad.

THANKSGIVING

Some three hundred years ago tomorrow, there was a gargantuan feast at Plymouth, Massachusetts. It was the original Thanksgiving proclaimed by Governor Bradford after the first harvest of the Pilgrims. The bill of fare was so large that the Massachusetts Indians, who were the guests of the Pilgrims, hung around Plymouth for days, eating up the ~~tomatoes~~ ^{left-overs.} The legend has it that they had not only wild turkey, but also mountainous supplies of wild duck and lobster.

There'll be a repetition of that Thanksgiving at Plymouth tomorrow, a repetition with a difference. This one will be a national Thanksgiving dinner with food from all over America, pink grapefruit from Texas, cheese from Montana, smoked catfish from South Dakota, ^{that crisp celery from Colorado.} pinto beans from New Mexico, Forty-six out of forty-eight governors have sent contributions to that dinner, some food or dish peculiar to each state. There'll be only eighty ^{feasters} ~~eaters~~ ^{representing} at that celebration tomorrow, eighty Pilgrims and Indians at Plymouth's Memorial Hall. While they're eating they'll watch a pageant representing that first Thanksgiving in Sixteen Twenty-One.

~~But they aren't going to take several days eating up the food.~~

STUDENTS

The service that obtains employment for Harvard under-graduates is solving the problem of what to do with its athletes. It has obtained for the Harvard Track Captain, James D. Lightbody, Jr., of Glencoe, Illinois, a situation as a baby tender. Captain Lightbody was sent out to a private house to take care of a two year old little boy. The little boy's mother ~~and the~~ said the athlete handled the child marvelously.

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Another candidate for a job as baby tender is Vern Miller, two hundred and seventy-four pound tackle on the football team. The director of the Harvard employment service announces that twenty-five such men are available as baby tenders. Their wages are twenty cents an hour up to midnight, fifty cents an hour after midnight.

Those wages seem to be considerably under the union rates. I am informed that the usual guerdon you hand to the neighbor's daughter for minding the youngsters while papa and mama are at the movies is anywhere from fifty cents to a dollar.

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Twenty cents an hour for a two hundred and seventy-four pound

And a Harvard scholar at that! Well, well, football tackle! That's less than one-tenth of a cent per pound per hour. And now Hugh what statistics have you?

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