

P.T. - Sunoco. Friday, Dec. 8, 1939.

FINLAND

46

The war in Finland goes on as on previous days - Soviet troops making ~~mighty~~ slow progress against the bitter resistance of the Finns. This particularly along the narrow line across the Karelian Isthmus. Helsinki reports a Soviet thrust in the vicinity of the town of Nurmés. This is near the eastern border, about a hundred and fifty miles north of the Karelian line. If the Red army were able to launch a successful drive there, it would be able to outflank the defenders ^{who are} holding their own so heroically in the south. The ~~enormous~~ ^{Nurmés} area is in the intricate maze of Finnish lakes, those innumerable bodies of water on which the Finns are basing their strategy of defense.

(^{From} Farther to the north, in the Arctic, come fantastic stories of ghost battalions, Finnish troops dressed in white so that they're almost invisible against the blinding white of the snow. The Soviet troops in ordinary military uniform are dark and perfect targets for the ghost battalions. Today's story tells of a sharp Finnish victory, when a large party of Red troops advanced unseeing, [^] never spotted the Finns until they were mowed down.

There was an air raid scare in Helsinki today, but the

E7
fright turned into sighs of relief.) No air raid alarm, but the people saw bombers flying overhead. There was something of a panic - the more so because of reports that the Red army is using poison gas. Then the truth flashed, (the war planes weren't Soviet craft at all, they were Italian bombers, which had been flown to Finland for delivery to the defenders.)

Another bulletin states that Italian bombers, immediately upon arriving in Finland, have gone straight into action - flown by their Italian pilots. They are reported to have shot down four or five Soviet war planes.

At Geneva, the Finnish delegation today laid before the League of Nations the formal charge - that the Red army is using poison gas, Red batteries bombarding the Finnish defenders with gas shell^s. This evoked an immediate reply from the Soviet command at Leningrad - an official statement denying the poison gas charge; - also ^{denying} the other Finnish accusation that the Red army is shooting with dum-dum bullets. ~~Sympathy in Geneva is overwhelmingly with Finland.~~

Premier Daladier of France today fervently denounced

The Soviet attack on the small northern republic. He spoke to the Chamber of Deputies in these words:- "After the attack of brutal aggression against Finland, we must have the certainty that the League will condemn Russia. France," he added, "goes to Geneva to answer Finland's appeal for justice."

Soviet Russia meanwhile issues an official denial that Moscow is pressing demands on Rumania.

SHIPS

The sea terror continued today and claimed ^{another} British warship for a victim. A destroyer [^] damaged, one of the newest in the British Navy, launched only last year, the destroyer JERSEY. ~~The boat was~~ Torpedoed in the North Sea, ten ~~men~~ reported killed. The crippled destroyer managed to get to harbor.

Various merchant ships ^{also} are reported sunk, including the British liner NAVASOTA of the Royal Mail ^{Line.} Torpedoed and sunk in the North Atlantic, and it is believed that forty-three ^{are lost.} ~~have~~ ~~perished.~~

BLOCKADE

The United States today made representations to London about the blockade Great Britain has imposed on German exports. Our State Department in Washington tells Britain that the export blockade is in violation of international law, ~~and~~ that the United States reserves all its rights, and will claim reparation for any damage this country may suffer. We are protesting, just as other neutrals are.

49

KENNEDY

Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy had his much publicized conference with President Roosevelt today, and when it was over the President stated that they had talked about ways of improving things for the American merchant marine - which has lost a lot of business because the Neutrality Law forbids American ships to go the war zone. Our envoy to Great Britain has been formulating plans whereby United States merchant vessels can take over shipping routes which other nations have had to abandon - because of war conditions. There's the lumber trade, for example. *A good deal* ~~Each~~ of the world lumber supply has been coming from the Scandinavian countries, their great northern forests. But now belligerent blows against neutral shipping have seriously handicapped Scandinavian sea-going trade. So the assumption is that we might take over a good deal of the world lumber trade - timber from our pine forests, which would be carried by American vessels. There might be considerable trade like this with portions of the British empire that are not included in the neutrality law - places like Australia.

We've been hearing that Ambassador Kennedy has returned

to the United States to present to the President in person confidential information about European war affairs - information too confidential to be transmitted ~~by~~ cabled. That was part of the conference in the White House today, but of course neither the President nor Ambassador Kennedy hastened to spread for publication affairs of such deep secrecy.

ENGELBERG

The New York police this afternoon denied that they were looking for an ex-prize fighter in the murder of Dr. Engelberg, Secretary at the New York German Consulate. It had previously been published that the fingerprint found at the scene of the crime was that of a one time pugilist now in Florida. Nothing to it, say the New York police. They're looking for another kind of suspect entirely.

N. A. M.

51
Tonight the National Association of Manufacturers concludes its session in New York today. This afternoon the assembled members heard an address by H. W. Prentiss, Jr. who referred back to history for defense of business and industry.

"History indicates," said he, "that ^{constitutional} ~~the~~ government with its protection of the common man has seldom existed anywhere except in nations that have developed extensive industry and commerce."

POLITICS

There was a flare of Nineteen Forty politics in Washington today. Alfred M. Landon, Republican candidate in Nineteen Thirty-Six, arrived in ^{the Capital} ~~Washington~~ and promptly issued a call for the election of a Republican next year. Landon denounced ~~the~~ New Deal policy as one stirring up friction between ~~the~~ government and business. Having issued that pronouncement, the former candidate went to the White House and had a conference with the President. ^{TP} ~~Perhaps he was trying~~ ^{Wonder if he went} ~~there~~ ^{to} convince F.D.R. that a Republican should be elected next fall. [?]

^{TP} They did chat a bit about foreign affairs. Emerging from the White House, Landon said he and the President had talked about the European war situation in what he called - "a gossipy way."

52

Landon has been demanding that ~~President~~ the President declare himself on the third term issue, and (today President Roosevelt got some hot third term talk from a delegation of New York New Dealers.) He was told by Congressman Sirovich that he would get overwhelming support in New York City, and he got some figures from Michael ~~Edelstein~~, Tammany leader in the Eighth Assembly District. Leader Edelstein told the President that he

had staged a poll in his district and the result showed that out of thirty-two thousand ^{voters} twenty-nine thousand five hundred would be cast for a third term.

Whereupon F.D.R. asked - What if Dewey were the opposing candidate? ~~A~~delstein replied that his district would go that heavily for a third term no matter who the Republican candidate might be.

53
Later at the press conference, President Roosevelt laughed off all third term inquiries by referring them to a question asked by Elizabeth May Craig, Washington correspondent for a group of newspapers in Maine. The query that Mrs. Craig propounded was a deep one, subtle - fishing for an answer that would be a third term tip-off. She asked the President what pictures he would hang in his executive office in the White House after he has transferred his marine paintings to his Hyde Park library in Nineteen Forty-One. Yes, that was a deep bit of fishing, but F.D.R. didn't fall for it. He told the newspaper woman she must have stayed up two nights figuring out the question!

OHIO

54

The ~~deplorable~~ relief situation at Cleveland ^{today} boiled up into charge and counter-charge by President Roosevelt and Governor Bricker of Ohio. ^{The} President ~~Roosevelt~~ declared at his press conference that the State of Ohio has failed to meet its responsibilities in providing unemployment relief. The President made a comparison with Pennsylvania - said that Pennsylvania was doing twice as good a relief job as Ohio. He said that during the past year, Pennsylvania had paid out thirty-three million dollars to help the jobless while the sum in Ohio was seven million. It should be pointed out that both Pennsylvania and Ohio have Republican governors. The President added that, while the federal government doesn't admit any share of the responsibility in Ohio, it is doing everything it can to send in surplus commodities for the benefit of people in distress - foodstuffs such as applⁱes and cer^eals.

The presidential blast was met by a counter-blast from Governor Bricker of Ohio. He declared that the federal authorities, as he said - "seem more interested in the politics of the affair than in helping the needy. They have only aggravated the situation," he added. Then ~~the~~ the Governor named

the President and also Secretary of ~~the~~ Interior, Ickes, who has condemned Ohio relief policies. He accused the ^m~~President~~ ~~and Secretary Ickes~~ of trying to discredit the Republican administration in ~~the~~ Ohio. "The lurid catch phrases which are being used by political opponents," said he, "are no more applicable in Ohio than in any other state."

Austin .

Dec. 8, 1939.

INTRO TO SENATOR AUSTIN

I have a rather packed studio this evening.

Sitting across the desk from me is a distinguished

United States Senator, who has just been voted "The Man of

the Year." Here with him are many eminent gentlemen from

all parts of America who, from this studio, are going to a

banquet at the Hotel Astor, where the award is to be made.

They are mining engineers, farmers, doctors, men in politics, the law, and so on. They represent college men all over the

country who took a ballot on "The Man of the Year." Various

Governors were among those who came close to getting it.

But the winner turned out to be Warren R. Austin, United

States Senator from Vermont. Senator Austin, by the way,

is being mentioned these days as a man who may be nominated

for the Presidency next summer

This afternoon he told me something of how he had undergone a vast transformation during his life. He said he was just a lawyer up in Vermont who thought that his Green Mountain State was the center of the universe. He didn't know much about the rest of the world. But one day a

friend of his in New York called him on the long-distance and said

54

"Warren, I wish you'd pack your bag and go out ~~to~~ to China." Austin laughed at him, said he wouldn't think of leaving Vermont. But his New York friend succeeded in luring him down to the Big City and then talked him into it, sent him out to China to arrange loans to the extent of about a hundred million dollars for the Chinese Government. He went expecting to stay two or three months, and remained a year. It was during the early days of the Great War. Peking was the crossroads of the world. He met people from every corner of the earth, Government officials involved in intrigue and

— broadened. From the
counterintrigue, and his whole outlook on life changed, ~~Senator~~
scope of Vermont to the scope of the world.
Sen, Austin said that on account of that trip he came home a different sort of person, and he believes nearly everything that has happened to him since, ~~then~~, including becoming a United States Senator, ~~and~~ as a result. And now, among those mentioned as a possible Presidential candidate.

57

Senator Austin, I realize you are in no mood to talk about politics. So let's not go into that. But, what are the people in the State of Ver^mont doing and thinking these days?

SENATOR AUSTIN AND L.T.

Senator Austin:- Doing, Lowell? Why, Vermonters are conducting themselves just about as they always have. They are farming our Vermont valleys and hillsides. They are lumbering in ^{our}~~their~~ forests, working ^{our}~~in their~~ quarries, oh yes, and they are getting ready right now to welcome an invasion, the kind of invasion they like -- an invasion of hundreds of thousands of winter sports enthusiasts. And, they are thanking their lucky stars that they live in New England and not on the ^{other}~~side~~ of the Atlantic.

GLASS

58

At Toronto, a pane of glass fell out of the window of an office building. It dropped fourteen stories, coming down horizontally - flat. And it hit Hilda Turner square on the head. The glass was shattered into flying fragments. Yet, Hilda Turner was injured not a bit - didn't sustain a cut or even a scratch. But was she surprised!

SANTA CLAUS

It is estimated that on Christmas there'll be some twenty million Santa Clauses bringing happy cheer to the children of the land. Well you know, how junior with awe-stricken eyes gazes at the bewhiskered Saint in the red suit, and suddenly recognizes his daddy's big nose sticking out from amid the foliage. One of Hollywood's Number One make-up men gives some advice.

He says the most perilous thing for Santa is the nose, the old schnozzle. "A child," can recognize his father's nose no matter how many whiskers surround it." So Westmore, the make-up man, suggests -- filberts, hazel nuts. Drill holes through them so you can breath. Then you stick one up each nostril; presto you have the big broad nose of Santa Claus.

The face of the average Santa is too thin, not all of us have the fat cheeks necessary for Kriss Kringle cheeriness. So use slices of apple. Insert them inside both cheeks.

When you've got your nose broadened, and your cheeks round and plump - you're ready to put on the five-and ten cent store whiskers. And then Sonny boy won't say :- "Hey that aint't Santa Claus, that's Daddy!" And hey, here's Hugh James!