

L.I. Sunoco. Thursday, Jan. 25, 1940.

6

Here's a rather startling statement and it's attributed to the official commentator of the French War Office. It's a declaration that a big German drive on the Western Front may be expected soon - any time after the next two weeks. The present bad weather at the war front is expected to clear up in about two weeks - dry, cold and clear. And the Germans are expected to take advantage of that to launch their blow. This is the prognostication attributed to the official commentator of the French War Office.

It ties in with today's release of an article written by the German Commander-in-Chief von Brauchitsch, who commemorates the anniversary of the birth of Frederick the Great, by relating the tactics of that great warrior king ~~to~~ the present conflict.

"Germany will fight the Frederick the Great way," writes von Brauchitsch, and he describes Frederick's way in these words:-

47

"The great King seeks battle. He prefers attack. With certain knowledge of the terrain and ~~with~~ <sup>of</sup> the strength and weakness of his opponents, especially the enemy leaders - he uses all advantages available to win." And Hitler's Commander-in-Chief adds: "The great King's art of battle became the spiritual possession of German leaders."

These statements were promptly interpreted as a possible indication of a German offensive in the west, ~~and on top of that comes the ominous prognostication from Paris a Nazi drive any time after two weeks.~~

MAILS

The Post Office today issued a ruling about air mail sent to Europe, air mail addressed to belligerent countries or ~~such as~~ ~~might be addressed~~ to neutral nations <sup>and</sup> ~~but~~ would have to pass through belligerent territory. The new ruling decrees that such air mail may consist of nothing <sup>more</sup> ~~less~~ than written letters, <sup>or</sup> copyrighted material such as books, and motion picture film. ~~The British,~~ <sup>U. S.</sup> in defending their interference with ~~United States~~ mails, claim that ~~such valuables as~~ <sup>for</sup> checks, money and stocks and bonds were being sent to Germany. Today's new regulation would seem to <sup>stop</sup> ~~answer~~ that, - insofar as air mail is concerned.

48

The Japanese-American trade treaty expires today - and there seems to be some difference between Washington and Tokyo as to the exact hour for the treaty's ending. From now on, Japanese-American commercial relations may continue precisely as before, or they may not. The way is open for the United States Government to curtail the business we do with the Far Eastern Empire, if it should so desire. Japan is uneasy about what may happen - for the Mikado's realm depends so much on the materials it buys from the United States and the goods it sells to us. Washington gives no indication. And as things stand, we will continue our trade with Japan right on - until! Nobody knows what the "until" may mean.

Meanwhile, the Japanese army in China is making a big play of protecting United States Ambassador Nelson T. Johnson. They declare there's a plot against his life. The Ambassador  
the LUZON,  
right now is on an American gunboat, making an inspection voyage in the Yangste - to see how far the river is open to American traffic. The Japanese relate that the Chinese Nationals are scheming to attack the gunboat LUZON with artillery fire or by planting explosives - attacking it with the United States Ambassador aboard.

49

This - to time with the end of the American-Japanese commercial treaty. The Chinese want ~~ix~~ to make it appear to be a Japanese outrage against the Americans and thereby cause trouble between the United States and Japan. So say the Mikado's leaders at Shanghai, as they take dramatic measures to protect the gunboat and the Ambassador.

WEATHER

Continued cold -- that's what the weather man says. Just about the same sort of low temperatures we've been having far and wide. And there are storms at sea, violent gales on the North Atlantic. Today one ship after another was reported in distress, and the coast guard had a busy time going to various rescues.

We have some added word about that spectacular ship disaster, the burning of that Italian Liner Orazio. There are tales of heroism -- one especially, ~~and~~ <sup>It</sup> takes us back to a historic ship disaster of the past -- <sup>one that</sup> ~~when it~~ first gave prominence to wireless. -- <sup>It was</sup> the sinking of the steamship Republic and the heroism <sup>of</sup> wireless operator Jack Binns. Today's story tells of <sup>the</sup> particular <sup>hero</sup> in the burning of the Italian Liner, <sup>The</sup> ~~xxx~~ ~~about a~~ wireless operator ~~who~~ stuck to his set sending out distress calls -- though he was surrounded by smoke and flames which almost engulfed him. He stuck to his set until he fainted from the smoke and the heat.

SOCIAL SECURITY

50

Today in Washington three thousand checks were mailed, and this began the payment of Old Age benefits for Social Security. The first batch of checks numbered three thousand. They were addressed to people on the Pacific Coast: California, ~~California~~ Oregon and Washington -- so that those far Western folks would have them on February 1st. That's the earliest date on which the Social Security checks can be cashed. Other payments will be mailed out, thousands of them, during the next few days -- to points further East. ~~By the end of the year the Social Security Board will have mailed a million checks.~~

Today's batch went to workers in commerce and industry who have reached the age of sixty-five and who have retired. Of course, they're people who've been paying the legal one percent of their salaries to the old age benefit fund. ~~The payments begun today range from ten dollars to forty-two dollars a month.~~ Cash going out <sup>for</sup> ~~and the beginning of old age payments under Social Security~~

FARLEY

In politics there is one miracle that's easy -- making a mountain out of a mole-hill. ~~In fact, a wise political observer can make a mountain out of nothing at all. I don't want to use any ~~xx~~ such mountainous figures of speech about the address made last night by Postmaster General Jim Farley, but it certainly is being interpreted all over the place -- with inferences and deductions, and complications of logic.~~

51  
For example, some people are saying that Postmaster Jim's North Carolina speech was a Farley bid for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. Another is that he might ~~bring~~ bolt the party ticket in November, ~~if he disapproves of it ~~xxxx~~ sufficiently.~~ The bulk of the deductions and inferences ~~proceed from~~ One passage in the Farley speech. ~~It~~ goes like this:

~~"I want to make it clear," declaimed the Postmaster General, "that if at any time I am confronted with the issue of the welfare of my party ~~and~~ on one hand, or the welfare of my country on the other -- that issue has already been decided.~~

"I love my country better than I love the Democratic party," said he.

owe too much  
"I ~~xxxxxx~~ to America to sacrifice my first loyalty on the



altar of party expediency or party feeling."

Sounds mighty nice. It's the sort of thing from which you can deduce almost anything ~~that~~ you please.

The next logical step is to relate it to other things that Jim Farley <sup>said.</sup> ~~said -- things that constitute the greater part of his speech.~~ Addressing the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce he embarked on a closely reasoned analysis of industrial and agricultural affairs. And it all was decidedly conservative in tone, with the theme argument -- that antagonism between the Government and business was wrong, ~~the Government and business ought should cooperate in friendly harmony.~~ It sounded like ~~the typical tone of a conservative Democrat.~~

At the C.I.O. Convention at Columbus, Ohio, forty-seven resolutions were entered today, demanding that President Roosevelt be drafted for a third term - third term resolutions from forty-seven union locals.

This follows the anti-third term blast issued by John L. Lewis, President of the <sup>United</sup> Mine Workers and head of the C.I.O.

Lewis declared that if the President runs again he will be ignominiously defeated. ~~In the face of this, the resolutions today were placed before the Convention for a vote~~ <sup>The</sup> resolutions, ~~that~~ had already been adopted by the union locals. ~~They~~ came from nine states. (Twenty-seven third-term demands from West Virginia, six from Pennsylvania, four from Kentucky, three from Virginia, two from Ohio, two from Tennessee, and one each from Alabama, Wyoming and Maryland.)

The indications are that the ~~third term appeals will be turned down - the~~ union leadership <sup>is</sup> prepared to have them voted down. This - in accordance with the John L. Lewis declaration against a third term. He wants the convention to ~~take no action at all concerning the presidential election~~ endorse nobody.

One resolution today proposed <sup>that</sup> the miners endorse John Lewis himself for President. It came from the local at Sharon, West Virginia. Another demand, from another West Virginia local, concerns the employment of union money in political campaigns. It is to be recalled that in Nineteen Thirty-six, the miners' organization lent a half million dollars to the New Deal campaign chest for the election of President Roosevelt. The local at Logan, West Virginia, wants that sort of things ~~to be~~ forbidden. It decries what it calls "using our money to finance political campaigns." ~~It~~ <sup>It</sup> ~~Wants that to be~~ stopped.

--

One startling thing occurred at today's session - the Golden Jubilee of the United Mine Workers. John L. Lewis was on the platform making an address, talking to the ~~union~~ union leaders assembled, and into the microphone ~~on~~ a nationwide radio hook-up. He was thundering away in his usual booming, vigorous fashion, when suddenly over his head a flag appeared. It dropped down and stayed hanging there. It was a red flag with the hammer and sickle - the Soviet banner of the Communists. <sup>and</sup> It created a sensation, ~~a stir, and~~ excited union delegates hurried

to keep photographers from snapping pictures of John L. Lewis and the Communist ~~emblem~~ red flag.

Obviously, it was a trick. Somebody had hidden the Red flag above the stage in such fashion that they could release it and have it hanging there while the C.I.O. chieftain was making his address. In fact, newspapermen in Columbus had been tipped off. They got anonymous telephone calls informing them that something would happen at the Golden Jubilee Convention - something big, as the telephone calls phrased it. Some Red comrades ~~were~~ playing a malicious trick on the big boss of the C.I.O.

A.F. of L.

On the A.F. of L. side of the labor controversy, President William Green appeared before the House Committee that's investigating the National Labor Relations Board. He denounced the N.L.R.B. ~~in~~ in these words:- "We charge the Board with malice and bias," said he. "In our opinion, the Board is anything but a judicial body. ~~We feel,~~ he added, "that the Wagner Act ought to be administered in a careful, wise, unbiased, and judicial way. ~~That is not being done,~~" he charged. ~~And~~ <sup>R</sup>

<sup>TP</sup> A.F. of L. President Green accused the Board of forcing the longshoremen on the Pacific Coast to accept a Communist as their leader. ~~"a Communist as their bargaining agency," were his words.~~ He said the Labor Board, by an official decision, had turned over the Pacific coast waterfront unions to Harry Bridges of the C.I.O. Bridges, a Communist? But didn't Special Examiner Dean Landis of Harvard consider the case and decree that the trial of Bridges had failed to prove he was a <sup>red?</sup> ~~Communist?~~ And didn't Miss Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, thereupon throw out the proceedings to deport Harry Bridges? President Green of the A.F. of L. today did not ignore these facts. "Bridges," he asserted, "is understood and

54

known to be a Communist by practically everybody in America -  
except Landis and Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins," *he cried.*

Along with all of this, the President of the  
Federation of Labor made it clear that he and his organization  
support the Wagner Labor Act, and do not want it either abolished  
or crippled. He said he was excoriating the Labor Relations Board,  
because he wanted the labor law ~~to be~~ preserved in its integrity,  
and he submitted a series of proposals for amending it.

STRIKE

In Chicago today, for the first time in six years, there was no picketing in front of the Edgewater Beach Hotel. And it seemed like something missing - no pickets patrolling the sidewalk in front of that fashionable hostelry. Back in February of Nineteen Thirty-Four, there was a labor dispute, and the electricians walked out. They began the picketing of the hotel.

In April of Nineteen Thirty-Four, the bartenders and waiters went out, joining the electricians. That increased the personnel for picketing. And every day since then, through summer and winter, rain and shine, the pickets have paraded back and forth.

But today, finally and at last, there was a settlement. The hotel management and the union signed an agreement, and the pickets were withdrawn.

What was the strike about in the first place? Oh, hardly anybody seems to remember that. It's so long ago it has almost been forgotten.

## INVITATION

The movies, as we all know, are magnificent and lavish, in fact -- munificent. That's what Amos H. Dow thought when he got a letter from Hollywood. Amos H. Dow is a Nevada newspaperman, editor of the GOLDFIELD NEWS. He used to be a soldier, a captain in the "Fighting Sixty-Ninth."

The letter he got from Hollywood pertained to a new and spectacular feature picture, called -- "The Fighting Sixty-Ninth." And it was an invitation. He was invited to Hollywood to be a guest at a banquet celebrating the glorified release of the picture. He was, in fact, to be the guest of honor -- as a former captain in the Fighting Sixty-Ninth. That sounded mighty good to Editor Ames H. Dow. Then he noticed: It would cost him three dollars and a half. That was the charge per plate. Would he kindly remit?

Editor Amos H. Dow, wrote a letter to the motion picture company in Hollywood -- a blazing, blasting & letter, with all the fight of the Fighting Sixty-Ninth. Today some Hollywood magnificoes were wondering -- "Maybe He's the guy they should have hired to write the punch lines for the picture."



## OPERA

The sweet and harmonious music of the Metropolitan Opera House is made less harmonious today by some sour and discordant squawks. ~~Famous singers, instead of emitting tones of lyric beauty, are letting out a loud holler. In other words, the Metropolitan is having a first class operatic row.~~

It all concerns the conductor of the Wagnerian music drama - young Erich Leinsdorf. He has been something of a Metropolitan Opera House prodigy, he's so youthful - only twenty-seven. He was discovered by Toscanini several years ago, during one of the Wagnerian seasons at Bayreuth. The great Italian maestro hailed the young German as a genius, so Leinsdorf was engaged by the Metropolitan ~~as Number Two Wagnerian conductor.~~ He was second to ~~Arthur~~ Bodanzky, the famous veteran of such long and industrious service to music. Most unexpectedly, just before the present season began - Bodanzky died. <sup>another</sup> ~~It was a question, whether ~~any~~ conductor of much experience should be engaged.~~ But no, Young Erich Leinsdorf was given the job, took Bodanzky's place, despite his comparative lack of experience.

The two most eminent Wagnerian singers at the Metropolitan, are the soprano, Flagstad, and the tenor, ~~Melchior~~ Melchior. ~~Season~~  
*Singing together, but not friends.*

~~after season, they have sung together with exquisite harmony, musically speaking. In other respects, they have not been harmonious at all. It has been an open secret around the Met that Flagstad and Melchior were so badly on the outs that when they looked at each other, it was with daggers. — the ~~same~~ feud attributed to artistic jealousies, so common among singers.~~

~~However, today's story is not about ~~Flagstad~~ the Flagstad-Melchior quarrel.~~ Not at all - <sup>however</sup> today we find the soprano and the tenor quite in harmony on one point. The one point being - the young conductor, Leinsdorf.

The trouble began when Melchior protested to Opera ~~Manager,~~ Impresario Edward Johnson, saying - "Leinsdorf has not enough experience." The tenor admitted that the twenty-seven year old maestro was a genius - but ~~it was not "ready," had not enough experience to be the Number One Wagnerian conductor at the Metropolitan.~~ His ideas of tempo ~~were~~ peculiar, said Melchior,

his beat threw the singers off - <sup>1, 2 instead of Bodansky's 1, 2, 3, 4.</sup>

In this, Melchior is joined by Flagstad, making it a duet. The famous soprano is quoted as saying that in <sup>a</sup> ~~one~~ performance of "Tristan", she finished one section of song a whole minute off -

8 1/2

she was a minute behind the orchestra. All because Conductor  
 Leinsdorf didn't give her the cues the right way <sup>1, 2 instead</sup> ~~"When I'm~~  
~~of 1, 2, 3, 4.~~  
~~singing full voice backstage," Madame Flagstad is quoted as~~  
~~saying, "I cannot hear the orchestra in the pit. I must rely~~  
~~on the conductor for cues. I see Leinsdorf's arms moving, but~~  
~~I cannot tell where the music is," says she. So that was how~~  
~~Flagstad came to be a minute off, a minute late. She says the~~  
~~shock made her ill for two days. When she recovered, she spoke to~~  
~~the conductor about it, and she says that young Leinsdorf told her~~  
~~that his style of conducting was individual. He was like Toscanini,~~  
~~who is the most individual of conductors,~~ <sup>said he,</sup> ~~And then, on top of that,~~  
~~complains Madame Flagstad, Leinsdorf has a way of holding <sup>the</sup> her notes~~  
~~that she is required to sing. She puts it in these words, "For ~~the~~~~

"He holds the notes forever, expecting me to have the breath of a whale."

Did you ever notice how long the whale can spout?

Well, it would all seem to indicate there's ~~is~~ a bit of discord at the opera, discord which no composer ever wrote.

1, 2, instead of 1, 2, 3, 4.

And now 1, 2  
here's a cue,

It's for you = Hugh.

9 1/4