

WAR

*L.T. - Sunco. Tues., Aug. 27, 1940.*  
Right now its midnight in England,

46 ✓  
and / Tonight, once again, German bombers are over London for the fifth night in succession. The latest ~~ix~~ dispatch tells of the shrieking of air raid sirens in the British capital at shortly after nine, London time. Then the sound of gunfire, anti-aircraft batteries, the explosion of bombs, the dark sky lighted with the flash and flame of air raid and ~~xx~~ air battle. At this moment there is no indication that tonight's bombing attack is anything more than the ones previous - more of a demonstration than actual ~~xxxxx~~ destruction. Bombs dropped here and there in the outskirts - but mostly a case of menace and warning, the Nazi ~~xxx~~ air force out to show London what it could do if mass bombing attack were ordered.

This is one curious phase of the last few days of the war. Both Britain and Germany ~~seem to be~~ doing the same thing, staging demonstration raids over their respective capitals. British bombers over Berlin, doing some damage - but mostly as a threat. It is as if Berlin and London were

saying to each other in a language of air raids - see what we could do if we were to start in. Yet, how soon will the menace of bombers over London and Berlin be turned into the real thing? That's a dread question.

47

Today the British were remarking on the sheer discomfort of London's nightly experience - millions of people kept in air raid shelters hour upon hour, spending almost the whole night there. Do the Nazis think that this may have an effect on London morale, on the British war spirit? ~~Who knows & what the calculations there may be in this era of ultra-modern battle?~~ Who knows what strange effects may ensue, <sup>what</sup> psychological effects? Today department stores in London were crowded with buyers, people purchasing one particular line of ~~XXXXXXXX~~ merchandise & camp beds, folding stools and rubber mattresses. Equipment for being comfortable in air raid shelters during long hours of the night. Many Londoners complained of soreness, cramped limbs, stiffness of the joints - from sitting on the concrete floors of the air-raid shelters. Concrete can be mighty hard after an hour or two.

48

The real destruction from the sky is being rained, not on London and Berlin, but on the industrial sections of Great Britain and Germany - the war industries. Today the British report that the Nazi ~~xxxxxxx~~ air raids had slackened a bit, but the bombers were still striking at the great industrial areas of the midlands; Explosive and incendiary bombs, blowing things up, starting fires. And the British are retaliating with similar fury against the factory areas of Germany, hitting ~~xxx~~ back at the Nazis where it hurts most - at places where the war equipment is produced. It's a competition in factory bombings - with the British ~~xxxxxxx~~ striking also at Italy. Rome today admitted that bombs from Britain damaged one of the great Italian automobile plants now turning out tanks. This angle of the war evoked a protest from Switzerland today, the Swiss complaining that British bombers raiding northern Italy are flying across Swiss territory.

Berlin denied the bombing of a town in Ireland - with the claim that no Nazi planes were anywhere near the Irish

Coast. Berlin today suggests that British war planes  
did the bombing of the Irish town - for the purpose of

stirring up trouble between Dublin and Berlin. That sounds

familiar; - ~~was~~ an old line or argument.

49

ROUMANIA

Once again tonight the state of affairs in the Balkans looks perilous indeed. There are reports of trouble between Roumania and Soviet Russia and between Roumania and Hungary - two different kinds of disturbance.

In Bucharest today it was admitted that the rumors of fighting along the Soviet ~~front~~ frontier were true. One Roumania spokesman said: "It seems that a little war has been going on in the North". The north - meaning the new frontier established after the Soviets took Bessarabia from the Roumanians. There have been clashes for several days, with Red Army units making raids into Roumanian territory. ~~As~~ <sup>Q</sup> <sup>or more</sup> ~~many as~~ <sup>^</sup> hundred soldiers are said to have been killed.

~~Numbers~~ Numbers of the local population are fleeing, afraid that the Soviets are about to grab more Roumanian territory. In the crisis, King Carol's government is said to have withdrawn its troops behind the border at various places - to avoid the danger of large scale hostilities.

The prospect of a flare-up is magnified by reports that Nazi Germany is concentrating large forces near the ~~Sovi~~

50

Soviet border, as many as a million and a half troops.

There's no reason for such ponderous ~~x~~ precautions, save ~~xxxx~~ the Hitler fear that Stalin will go on grabbing, and may have to be checked.

On the side of Roumania and Hungary, one story describes clashes between the border patrols of those rival nations. Another account tells of a sky incident - a Roumanian war plane attacking a ~~xxx~~ Hungarian craft of the air, the Hungarian plane forced to land. These incidents are the more dangerous, as Bucharest and Budapest seem to be getting nowhere in adjusting the ~~xx~~ claims that Hungary is making for Roumanian territory. There are increasing chances of trouble between those two capitals that sound something like a rhyme: Bucharest and Budapest.

## FRENCH SPORTS

You'd think that unfortunate France has had enough trouble, without having a new disturbance - on the subject of sports. In this we discover two famous names, Borotra and Carpentier. Remember Borotra, the bounding Basque of tennis fame? And Carpentier, the orchid man of France who battled against Jack Dempsey some twenty years ago.

Borotra has been appointed Czar of French Sports, and has issued an edict - that there shall be no more professional sports in France, save for cycling. You know, those bicycle races so popular in France. All the rest of the sports are to be strictly amateur - says Borotra.

There's plenty of opposition to this, and it is headed by Carpentier, the one time Orchid Man. Today in Paris he issued a manifesto denouncing the Borotra amateur policy, and proclaiming the benefits of professionalism in sports. He's backed up by powerful interests, and a lively battle seems in prospect.

This French sporting turmoil in today's news stands

52

in moody relation to an ~~ix~~ incident of bitter irony related by the famous French writer, ~~ANDRE~~ Andre Maurois. He has a series of articles running in Collier's Magazine, and tells mournfully of the military state of affairs last winter - before the blitzkrieg began. At that time the principal worry of the Allies was that their armies on the western front might be bored to death. "Prominent people in London and Paris", writes Maurois, "stated a variety of new enterprises: reading matter for the armies, sports for the armies, art for the armies, plays for the armies. A chagrined woman was disturbed by this frivolity, "relates Maurois. "She said that she was going to found a new agency - war for the armies. ~~T~~ She was right", he adds, "but such ideas were not popular."



Hollywood announces the production of a new film.

53  
~~Well, Hollywood is always doing that. But this new super-~~  
~~feature is to be~~ something ultra-special. ~~It is to do~~ Something  
super-ultra British. More than a score of the highest ranking  
British actors and actresses in Hollywood ~~are~~ to play in it,  
and they're going to ~~do their screen acting~~ <sup>all</sup> -- free of charge.  
Now, that <sup>is</sup> news. In fact, it <sup>is</sup> - war news.

The new film is to be in answer to criticism that  
has been voiced over in England, criticism of the number  
of British actors who have gone to Hollywood while war is  
raging around the shores of Britain. Recently, in the House  
of Commons there were remarks about Gracie Fields, the  
Lancasterhsire Lass, and the amounts of money she has taken  
to the United States. ~~There were also~~ ~~in~~ questions about  
Noel Coward's stay in America.

The British colony in Hollywood resents the  
imputations. Today a spokesman ~~talking~~ for them, said the  
criticism ~~back home~~ emanated ~~from~~ from what he described

as - "irresponsible, disgruntled persons in the British movie industry who have tried unsuccessfully to get Hollywood contracts". ~~That's one answer~~ But the big reply will be made on the screen, a film feature ~~that will glorify~~ old England.

54

The cast as released today will include such leading luminaries as Cary Grant, Vivien Leigh, Charles Laughton, Gracie Fields, Merle ~~OBERON~~ Oberon, Lawrence Olivier, etcetra, etcetra, and etcetra. And possibly - Charlie Chaplin, *who was born in London.* ~~who is of British origin,~~ The idea is - they're in Hollywood, but they'll do their bit.

CONSCRIPTION

The debate on the ~~SEEM~~ Conscription Bill went on and on in the Senate today, ~~with fireworks of oratory, charges and counter charges.~~ The administration leaders expect to get the measure to a vote very soon now, but still the speech-making continues. It was made the more striking today by one interesting bit of English prose, which was read by Senator Johnson. <sup>R</sup>The Senator was attacking the conscription as a menace to democracy, and he ~~presented~~ produced what he said was an army training manual which was used from nineteen twenty-eight to nineteen thirty-two. In ~~this training manual~~ <sup>it</sup> was a definition of ~~the word~~ "democracy" and Senator Johnson read ~~the definition as~~ <sup>it as</sup> follows: Democracy: A government of the masses. Authority derived through mass meeting or any other form of 'direct' expression. ~~Results~~ <sup>R</sup>Results in mobocracy. Attitude toward property is communistic - negating property rights. Attitude toward law is that the will of the majority shall regulate, whether it be based upon deliberation or governed by passion, prejudice,

55

and impulse, without restraint or regard to consequences;  
results in demagogism, license, agitation, discontent,  
anarchy."

Such was the definition of democracy attributed to  
the army training manual. Inquiries were immediately made  
at the war department, where the following explanation was  
issued: The book in question, said the war department, was  
an army pamphlet on citizenship which contained some  
objectionable matter. ~~This pamphlet, declared the war~~  
~~department,~~ <sup>It</sup> was recalled and ~~the~~ copies confiscated. The  
~~sixxxx~~ statements it contained were repudiated as unauthorized.  
That's the official explanation of the curious definition  
of democracy which figured in the Senate debate today.

56

WILLKIE

Wendel Willkie today repudiated the support of Father Coughlin; - or, was it really the support of the radio priest? It was pointed out to the candidate that Father Coughlin's magazine, social Justice, has come out in support of the Republican ticket. In response to this, Willkie stated: "I'm not interested in the support of anybody who stands for any form of prejudice as to anybody's race or religion or who is in support of any foreign, economic or ~~xxx~~ political philosophy in this country."

Did this include Father Coughlin, Willkie was asked? He replied that he understood ~~that~~ Father Coughlin was opposed to certain persons because of their race. This of course referred to charges of anti-semitism against the Detroit Priest. Willkie <sup>stated</sup> ~~said~~ that if these charges were true, he wasn't interested in any Coughlin support, didn't want it.

This was followed by a retort from Father Coughlin.

57

He said that he had not come out in support of Willkie, had nothing to do with the article printed in Social Justice. He said he hadn't made up his mind about the election, and added: "Maybe I'll prefer to ~~xxxxxxx~~ keep silent."

He concluded that anyway he wasn't anti-semitic but only against people who refused to condemn both the Nazis and communists.

SHAKESPEARE

Today at Buffalo, a book was handed over under mysterious circumstances, a volume which is the central item in a crime case and which is also of number one importance in the world of ~~literature~~ literature. It's a rare first folio edition of Shakespeare, a collector's item, the value of which is appraised by fifty thousand dollars. Today it was given to an assistant United States District Attorney by a messenger who brought it from somebody else. Who ~~is~~ that somebody may be is not revealed. The identity of the sender of the treasured book is being kept a secret.

The first folio of Shakespeare, a magnificent red morocco volume, was the most precious item in the library at Williams College at Williamstown, Massachusetts. It was stolen last February by the cleverest kind of crook. Today the story was revealed. The burglar visited Williams College, representing himself as a Professor, and was received with scholastic courtesies. Well, it is indeed a clever crook who can get by as a Professor among the other professors. <sup>!</sup> As

As supposedly a learned ~~scholar~~ scholar, he was given cordial access to the library. And he swiped the magnificent first folio of Shakespeare, <sup>valued at \$50,000,</sup> and substituted another book that looked like it.

The police proceeded to do some detective work and arrested four men in ~~connection~~ connection with the affair. They're to be put on trial. And now comes the word that today the missing first ~~fi~~ folio was turned over to an assistant United States District Attorney at Buffalo, this under conditions of blank secrecy - more mystery.



HORN

58 1/2  
At Kingston, Ontario, Delbert Bradley owed his life today to the way the horn of his automobile was smacked when the crash came. Early this morning in an isolated section, his car got out of control, went off the road, and crashed into a culvert. Delbert was knocked unconscious and badly

cut, so seriously that he would have bled to death -- ~~had~~ it not

<sup>been</sup> for the automobile horn <sup>which</sup> ~~it~~ was jammed in such fashion

that the electrical control was grounded, and this made the horn blast away. It just kept on blowing. It echoed across

59  
hill and dale. The pestilential noise awakened farmers, annoyed them. Finally they went to take a look ~~XXXX~~ and see what was causing that incessant ~~XXXX~~ horn-blowing.

So they discovered the crash, and saved a life.

59 1/4  
And now Hugh the air is  
-yours.