

L.J. - Sunoco. Monday, Oct. 16, 1939.

WAR

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There was a good deal of excitement today when the hectic tone of dispatches from Europe made it appear that the Nazis had really begun to carry out Hitler's threat of war in earnest against Britain and France. But when the actual facts were analyzed, the excitement seems to have been mostly much ado about nothing. As usual, the Germans say one thing, ^{but} the British give a totally different color to the principal event of the day, —

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~~It was~~ an attack by a squadron of a dozen Nazi bombers on the Scottish coast. Evidently, they were aiming at the dock yards near Edinburgh, and trying to blow down the famous bridge over the Firth of Forth. They were greeted with a hot fusillade from British anti-aircraft batteries around the Scottish capital. Fighting planes of the Royal Air Force ~~made~~ met them in the air, and there were dog fights over the rooftops of the famous old city which the Scots used to call "Old Reekie." (The British claim is that the German bombers lost heavily, ^{a number of} three out of twelve shot down, ~~many men~~ ^{airmen} killed.) They admit that there were casualties among the crews of British cruisers and one destroyer in the Firth of Forth. It was a ~~spectacular~~ spectacular show from all accounts, but in the light of cold

afterthought, not much to shout about.

(The German supreme command, for its part, declares that the losses taken by the Germans were ridiculously small, and that the attack by the raiding bombers achieved positive results.

At about the same time, the German authorities retract a claim they had made previously, a claim that the same submarine which sank the ROYAL OAK had also attacked the British battle cruiser REPULSE and put her out of action. They now say that though a German torpedo had struck the REPULSE, it did not really disable her.

NAVAL BATTLE

Another rumor of a naval battle in the North Sea.

It comes from Bergen, Norway. A Norwegian newspaper reports ~~that~~

three warships were firing through heavy clouds of smoke. Upon

the appearance of a fourth man-o-war, the three that had been

firing disappeared toward the west.

It's all a puzzle.

DIPLOMATIC

From the diplomatic front, we get a torrential volume of surmises, guesses, soothsayings. The British report, hopefully we ~~we~~ suppose, that the negotiations between Turkey and Soviet Russia, ^{have} struck a snag. But from Moscow we learn that the Turkish Foreign ^{has} Minister received fresh instructions from his government and resumed his conferences at the Kremlin. ^{In fact} ~~and~~ from Turkey comes ^{has} ~~a report~~ ^{word} that the Russo-Turkish Treaty is on the way to being consummated.

In Berlin, Chancellor Adolf Hitler is reported to have sent a special courier to Soviet Dictator Stalin at Moscow. Concerning this there is a lot of guessing and crystal gazing, ~~about~~ none of which is reliable or particularly worth repeating.

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In Rome there's a peculiar change in the tone of the Fascist newspapers. Last week they were pounding the Bolsheviks. Tonight they are printing caustic things about the British and French. Said one paper:- "If the German submarines continue as they are ~~now~~ going, all British armored ships will be destroyed by the end of next year." ~~Another Fascist publication blames the Jews for Chamberlain's decision to keep fighting the war. Still another Fascist paper declares that Hitler offered peace but Chamberlain and Daladier cried "No."~~

SURVIVORS

Several more survivors from the destruction of the ATHENIA reached these shores today aboard a British liner. Some of those survivors, when they landed, were complaining loudly against the British authorities. These were Polish and Czechoslovakian refugees. They claim they were compelled by the Glasgow police to sail aboard the British ship that landed them today. And they hadn't wanted to travel under the British flag. But, they say, the Glasgow police told them that if they didn't sail, they would starve in Glasgow. They wanted to sail on some American ship but the American Consul wouldn't let them, saying that American ships were for American citizens. So the refugees had to take what they could.

LINDBERGH

(The British newspapers are throwing epithets at ~~our~~
Colonel ~~Charles~~ Lindbergh, ^{One London} ~~some~~ ~~abuse.~~ ~~One~~ columnist called ^S him
"American Trouble Maker Number One",) and said:- "There's a guy
I don't like." A British lady columnist threw scorn on
Lindbergh's flying record, called him "the flying Yänkee Hitler"
and "a barnstorming mischief-maker who doesn't know how to keep
his mouth shut." (The LONDON SUNDAY EXPRESS carried a headline:-
"Hitler's medal goes to Lindbergh's head.") The LONDON SUNDAY
CHRONICLE declared that Lindbergh "shows his gratitude by telling
Canada she ought to quit the British Empire."

I suppose the Lone Eagle
didn't expect applause from
England.

WARNING

The authorities of the Canadian Navy have published a warning to the masters of merchant ships. It concerns particularly the way they enter the harbor of St. John^s, New Brunswick. They were cautioned that if they do anything that looks suspicious, they're liable to be fired at by the coast defense artillery in St. John^s. First of all, on approaching the harbor, they must give notice in advance. They must enter the harbor only in daytime and immediately seal their radios. They must not come near any government ships or government docks.

HEPBURN

The political campaign in Canada is getting warmer.

Premier Hepburn of Canada delivered an attack on the dominion government today, said it's badly prepared for war. In fact, so ill-prepared that the army is unable to accept any more recruits.

NEUTRALITY

The fight for a new Neutrality Act continued in Congress today. Critics of the government bill gained one decided victory. The administration forces yielded to the attacks made on the proposal to allow the belligerent governments ninety days' credit. This was formally acknowledged by Senator Pitman of Nevada, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and leader of the fight to get the bill passed. He introduced an amendment cutting out those ninety day credits and making it a strictly cash-and-carry affair.

ARMISTICE

today

President Roosevelt issued his annual proclamation ordering the celebration of November Eleventh as Armistice Day, *as provided* by an Act of Congress. In his proclamation, the President said that "in the tragic situation in which the world finds itself today, with the destructive forces of war once again unleashed, it is appropriate for the people of the United States to reflect upon that hour of November Eleventh, NineteenEighteen, when the voices of war were silenced."

the President

Whereupon ~~Mr. Roosevelt~~ urges us to look forward even now to a time when a just and enduring peace will be established among all the peoples of the earth.

MAVERICK

San Antonio, Texas, today furnished the world with a surprise. The central figure was the Honorable Maury Maverick, former Representative in Congress and later elected Mayor. You may recall what a row was made at San Antonio when Maury Maverick permitted Communists to hold a meeting against the protests of many people. Maverick declared he had no more use for Communists than anybody else but he was going to preserve free speech in San Antonio.

Today a grand jury handed down five indictments against Maury Maverick, accusing him of felonies and ten others charging him with misdemeanors. Specifically, the indictments concern the illegal advancing of money to pay poll taxes. Officials of the International Garment Workers Union are also involved. Maverick promptly raised ten thousand dollars bail and said the whole business was a political smear.

GALLOGLY

Governor O'Daniel of Texas today heard a story explaining how a couple of rich undergraduates had turned hold-up ^{men.} Richard Gallogly of Atlanta, who escaped from prison, appeared before the Texas Governor, pleading not to be extradited back to Georgia.

His attorney told the Governor that Gallogly had originally pleaded guilty of that crime to save a friend, also that he had been beaten by guards in the Georgia Penitentiary, and that the only reason he had been imprisoned so long was because of the interference of professional politicians.

Those undergraduate hold-ups at Atlanta, Georgia, started in a hilarious college prank. Gallogly's classmate, in a gay moment, had shot the face out of the college clock at Oglethorpe University. He was ordered to pay the cost of repairing the clock, and staged the hold-ups to get the money to pay the costs and his fines.

Gallogly
he said he had accompanied this classmate on the hold-ups but had carried no gun and had tried to prevent the killings.

Gallogly's lawyer told the Governor that he had been mistreated because his family were rich. If he had come from poor folks, said the lawyer, Gallogly would have had a better break.

Persecuted because he was rich!

ROOSTER

The State of Washington has a champion, a sprinting rooster. He's a three year old white leghorn, named Dot. He had to defend his title yesterday. They held the fifth annual championship of the rooster racing world at Big Harbor, Washington. After eight elimination races, they narrowed the field to three white leghorns. Dot won again, covered eighty yards in fifteen seconds flat.

I was curious to know how they made those roosters race.

Here's how: —

They hold in front of them a bag of corn, and ~~start them off with~~

~~the roosters~~
~~and~~ chase the corn.

LETTER

We all know how certain articles are sold with a guarantee - the company for a certain length of time ~~xx~~ will repair them gratis if they get out of gear. Sometimes people claim free repairs and the company feels they're not entitled to them. ^{But} ~~and~~ often folks are pretty scrupulous. As for height of scruples, let me submit this one:—

The manufactu^rers of the Rand Shaver got a letter from Lieutenant John C. Nichols of the United States Navy. Lieutenant Nichols is one of the survivors of the SQUALUS. He writes that when the ill-fated submarine was raised and they pumped it dry, he retrieved belongings of his. ~~That had sunk with the SQUALUS.~~ And he found his electric ~~Rand~~ Shaver. The razor, he writes, had been submerged in salt water in the presence of chlorine gas and silt since the twenty-third day of May. Yet when he put electrical juice into it, he found it worked. However some parts ~~of it~~ had rusted. So now he was sending the ~~xx~~ razor back to the company for repairs. "I enclose the guarantee with it," he writes, "though I ~~xxx~~ fully realize that such does not hold in this case. I do wish, however," he continues, "that you would adjust and repair the razor

as necessary and bill me for the charges."

Bill him for the charges? The Company should send Lieutenant Nichols, U. S. N. a thousand dollars for the year's perfect publicity story!

AUTO SHOW

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This is the week when most highways lead to the Grand Central Palace in New York for the Fortieth National Automobile Show. That's always news because everybody wants to see what improvements the manufacturers have achieved in their Nineteen Forty models. From what I've observed after a quick glance at *this year's stunning* ~~the beautiful~~ new cars, the day is approaching when there'll be no such thing as shifting gears. ~~That~~ day isn't here yet, but the ease with which gears are shifted now is *an outstanding* ~~a remarkable~~ feature of the new cars. *and one car has eliminated the gear shift.*

This was Safety Day at the Show. Paul Hoffman, President of the Studebaker Corporation and also of the Automotive Safety Foundation, had an interesting report to make. He pointed with pride to the fact that in the last year there were twenty-nine thousand fewer traffic fatalities than four years ago; and one million fewer accidents involving personal injury and damage to property; one billion dollars less loss in cash, and insurance costs reduced as much as forty per cent.

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One of the biggest drawing features at the Grand Central Palace is the Highway Safety Center. There people have a lot of fun

testing their knowledge of driving, competing with their friends. The game is to answer questions about driving and then reading the answers registered on boards controlled by electricity.

Another chaste little exhibit is what they call the Harger Drunkometer. It measures how drunk you are, if any. Indeed, they say it has been accepted by judges as a means of testing the degree to which a driver may be under the influence of the cup that cheers and inebriates.

*the boys will claim their titles
just the same and they'll have
the evidence.*

ENDURANCE

Those endurance flyers are still up in the air over Rosamond Dry Lake and Santa Anna, in southern California. A couple of them have been up three hundred and forty-three hours, breaking the record for light planes. Two others have been aloft eleven days. And the two who are flying around over Muncie, Indiana, are only seventy-two hours behind their California rivals.

When they come to earth they will hear some things that they may not like. They can fly all they want to, but their efforts will not be officially recognized. The headquarters of the National Aeronautical Association in Washington announced that it recognizes no endurance flights except those ~~in~~ that it has officially approved and supervised. About a year ago, the Association announced that they will have nothing more to do with endurance records.

But the boys will claim their titles just the same — and they'll have the evidence.

PLANE THEFT

A cool customer showed up at the airport of Sudbury, Ontario today. He jumped out of his car, pulled a revolver out of his pocket, and held up the watchman. The robber then tied the watchman up with copper wire, gagged him, and parked him in the office. He then found some cigarettes in a desk and a bottle of rum. He smoked the cigarettes, drank up the rum, went out into the field and craked up a seaplane belonging to Austin Airways.

The next thing he did was to tear out the ignition wires from a couple of other planes that were moored in the lake. Then he stepped into the cockpit of the plane he had cranked, taxied down the lake and took off with his motor roaring.

The police had a theory that this airplane bandit intends to use the plane in a bank robbery. Late today they found the plane -- crashed. The robber flown, without wings.