

POLES

S.I. - Sunoco.

Thursday, Oct. 1, 1942.

There is a loud report of New Nazi peace moves.

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We are told that Hitler recently made two attempts to contact the exiled government of Poland, his idea being to come to an agreement with the Poles and use this as an entering wedge for general peace overtures. A spokesman for the exiled Polish government stated today that Hitler sent one of the most important of German officials to Lisbon to confer with Polish ~~xxx~~ leaders there. They, however, refused to receive the Nazi envoy. Then later a Hungarian was sent to talk peace, but the Poles wouldn't have anything to do with him either.

After scoring these two failures, Hitler gave up the Polish idea, and then sent emissaries to the Vatican -- in an attempt to get Pope Pius to intervene for peace, so we hear.

The Poles in London have word that if all the Nazi peace efforts fail -- as they surely will -- Hitler will build all possible defenses, and sit tight, defying the United Nations to oust the Nazis from their stolen territories. And this view would seem to fit in with Hitler's declarations of yesterday -- with their defensive tone.

RUSSIA

47

News from Moscow tonight reveals that American tanks are playing a slashing part in the defense of Stalingrad. In fact, those speeding fire-snorting tanks made in America have been in the Stalingrad battle for some time, although the disclosure is made only now. First word of this came from enemy Berlin today, with the Nazis reporting the powerful Red Army counter-attack north of the city on the Volga. The Soviet drive is described by Berlin as a mechanized affair, with American and British tanks leading the charge.

On the southern side of Stalingrad, Red Army troops smashed hard today at Rumanian soldiers, vassels of the Nazis. The Rumanians were driven out of three villages. This success, however, is balanced by Soviet statements that the Germans are bringing up heavy reinforcements. These new and fresh troops, with masses of ~~motorized~~ motorized equipment, are being hurled into what Moscow calls -- "a final desperate smash at the defenders". And the Russians say that the street and house fight on the banks of the Volga has arrived at a decisive phase.

48

The new German offensive at Stalingrad is coordinated with another drive further to the south. There the Nazis have launched a major effort to ~~xxx~~ smash their way to the Grozny Oil Fields on the shores of the Caspian Sea. They are making a little progress, say the Soviets, attack after ~~xxx~~ attack is being repelled and the Germans have suffered what today's Moscow dispatch calls -- "reverse after reverse". They ~~are~~<sup>are</sup> throwing in huge tank forces in an attempt to accomplish the full occupation of the Caucasus -- what Hitler yesterday indicated would be a final military goal this year. Take Stalingrad, and establish a <sup>all</sup> line along the River Volga to the Caspian Sea, -- ~~That's~~ the enemy strategy.

Moscow reveals today that the defense of Stalingrad was organized by the man after whom the city was named -- Stalin. He did it by telephone, as the Panzer columns approached the great industrial center. Stalin, at the other end of the wire, dictated <sup>ing</sup> the tactics of the defense that has been one of the heroic episodes of this war.

49

Today's Moscow dispatch cites one order given by Stalin. He grimly decreed the elimination of what Moscow calls -- "panic-mongers and cowards". Before the defense of Stalingrad began the frightened and half-hearted were what they call -- eliminated.

ADD RUSSIA

The latest is a night dispatch from Moscow which states that the Germans have launched six more attacks on the northwestern outskirts of Stalingrad. And <sup>have</sup>~~they~~ made a slight advance.

EGYPT

The British reveal that they have launched an attack against the German line in Egypt. So we hear in a late dispatch from Cairo. Imperial troops struck heavily at the middle of the enemy position -- this while the Nazi Commander, Field Marshal Rommel was in Germany, listening to Hitler in Berlin yesterday. The British assault was first announced by Berlin, with the claim that it had been repelled.

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The British described the affair as a successful line-straightening operation -- just a local offensive that improved their position.

LORD LAVOT

The stately House of Lords in London heard some strong talk today. One noble peer delivered a blistering attack against another noble Peer. The assailant was Lord Lovat, who did not wear his aristocratic ermine. He appeared in a Commando uniform -- for Lord Lovat is a Commando ~~ixxy~~ leader, who has distinguished himself in the various raids, including that against Dieppe.

The Peer assailed war Lord Strabolgi, a Labor Peer. Recently Lord Strabolgi wrote an article criticizing the British Army and British Military leadership. This article published in the United States, painted no brilliant picture of the British Army - and it aroused the ire of Lord Lovat. So today he denounced <sup>Lord Strabolgi's</sup> ~~the~~ ~~ixi~~ journalistic peace, calling it -- "random, ill reasoned".

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He defended British military competence and pointed to the Commandos. "Their's is a simple faith", he cried, "they have no politics but have the faith which made our forebearers feared and respected in every battlefield.

"If any tub-thumping politician," <sup>he continued</sup> ~~he railed~~ "came

around and attacked their leaders policy, there'd be only one answer -- the nearest horse ~~in~~ trough".

All of which raises a rather fearsome picture -- a Peer of the realm tossed into a horse trough.



ROOSEVELT

Well, it seems that the President has done some traveling. He has just returned to Washington after a most extensive tour of the nation and its war industries.

The whole thing was kept secret, though the news men were informed, <sup>publishing</sup> They were asked to refrain from ~~publishing~~ anything about the fact that the President was on the road, and they complied ~~very~~ scrupulously, -- <sup>a</sup> good example of our voluntary wartime censorship. The secrecy was based on the reasoning that it was just as well to keep various sorts of people from knowing that President Roosevelt was journeying from <sup>this</sup> place to that.

52

How extensive the Presidential travels have been is expressed graphically in the White House statement. He was on the go for two weeks, from coast to coast -- a trip of eight thousand, seven hundred and fifty-four miles. He went from Washington on West through Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana and Idaho, to the Pacific Coast. Then down the coast to <sup>the</sup> southwest, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, <sup>a</sup> Mississippi, South Carolina, and so back to Washington.

"The President", says the White House statement, "inspected Army and Navy bases, shipyards, tank, airplane and shell-producing plants, Army, Navy and Marine training centers, supply depots, and ~~XXXXXX~~ embarkation ports".

From all of which we gather that the President <sup>as</sup> ~~and~~ Commander-in-chief } ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ has acquired one huge lot of first-hand information about the nation's war effort.

53  
Late this afternoon the President held a news conference. It is just over, and here's what he had to say. He described armament production as going well, but added that you have to allow for a percentage of lag in a schedule that was purposely made higher than human ingenuity could carry out. In other words, they deliberately put the figures high, as a lofty goal to shoot at -- higher than could actually be achieved.

PRODUCTION

Today in Washington Production Chief Donald Nelson gave a report on American war industry -- and he was none too optimistic. He described armament production during September, in these words -- "still spotty". He pointed out that in August we turned out weapons at a rate that was fourteen percent below what had been expected, and added that September was no better: "Nothing to brag about", he said.

*Then* He talked about the food situation, and gave a much more favorable account. "In the main, good", were the words he used, and he added that he saw no possibility that the food situation would become acute in the near future.

54

The big farm bill controversy in the Senate is now followed by another controversy -- this one fairly cheerful in aspect. The passage of the compromise bill to restrict agricultural prices as both sides say they won the victory. The Administration leaders claim that they carried the day while the Farm Bloc Senators maintain that they got what they wanted. ~~W~~ That is - the assurance that Farm labor cost will be considered in placing a ceiling on agricultural prices.

Today, administration leader Senator Brown denied that this was a victory for the Farm Bloc but he added:- "I'm not going to be ~~g~~ dragged into a newspaper controversy that will rekindle the flames".

~~The flames had died down so far as the Senator is concerned. And now~~ all that remains is to adjust the bill with the proposals put forward by the Lower House. Conferences to accomplish <sup>this</sup> ~~the adjustment~~ are going on now.

SMALL BUSINESS

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The plight of small business was discussed today by Elmer Davis of the Office of War Information. Testifying before a special Senate Committee, he gave the opinion that the fault lay with the government, on the one hand, and with little business itself on the other.

He said the government has not done a good job of informing minor industrial concerns of exactly what they can do in the war effort. They have been left confused by priorities, restrictions, shortages, and what not, and have not been told how they might be useful and stay in business.

But, on the other hand, small business itself has been remiss. <sup>Elmer</sup> Davis declared that minor concerns have been slow in adjusting themselves to war conditions. They have been reluctant to change from the methods they have been following. And many preferred -- "to let the other fellow do it", in the words of Elmer Davis.

Such is <sup>his</sup> ~~in~~ explanation of the fact that a host of small business concerns find themselves in difficulty -- with three hundred thousand retail stores facing failure - according to an official prediction.

TRANSPORTATION

54

In Washington today an order was issued freezing all railroad passenger schedules. The office of Defense Transportation decrees that passenger train service shall remain as it is, that means -- no new trains to be scheduled. Also -- no special cars for individuals or groups of people travelling together. This freezing order is in line with the policy, previously announced, of abolishing trains for taking people to football games, races and other sporting events. Only the regularly scheduled trains will run hereafter.

BASEBALL

Today's game in the World Series provided examples of mistakes in baseball strategy. The Yanks lost, really, ~~because~~ because of errors of judgement. This is the analysis given by the United Press Diamond expert who reports the game from St. Louis.

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Take the two runs that the Cards put across in the first inning. Yankee Pitcher Tiny Bonham passed the first man up. The next batter, Terry Moore pursued the obvious kind of strategy. He bunted, and that was when the first tactical error was made by the Yankees. Bonham fielded the ball and tried to catch the runner at second -- instead ~~of~~ of going for the sure-out at first. The attempt failed -- the runner beat the throw. And so there were two on and none out. Bonham retired the next two Cardinal batters. So, except for the strategic error, the side would have been out.

Then came another strategic error. The next Cardinal batter hit a line drive that automatically would have gone ~~in~~ straight at second baseman Joe Gordon. But Gordon, the moment before, had left his natural position. He had run over

toward second base to make the base runner stay closer to the bag. So the drive went through for a double -- and two runs were in.

The final strategic error came in the ninth. With the <sup>S</sup>core four to three against them, the Yanks made it a thriller. Bill Dickey, the big catcher, led off the Ninth with a single -- and a pinch runner was put in for him. Dickey is no speedster. Buddy Hassett came up next and hit a single -- and the pinch runner made the mistake of trying to go all the way to third, error of judgement. He was thrown out. If he had stopped at second, he might ~~very~~ well have scored on the next two plays, but he was out -- and that was the ball game. And so the world series <sup>is now</sup> ~~is~~ even stephen, one game <sup>^</sup> for each team.

58



## HEATING

Today we have some medical advice on the subject of the reduction of house heating. How will it affect health?

"The body," says the Journal of the American Medical Association, "adjusts itself readily to temperatures at least ten degrees below what we in the United States consider standard."

It is pointed out that the English, for example, find a house temperature of sixty degrees quite all right. Any American who has been to England will vividly recall that.

The experts say we should dress in a way to counteract the lower temperatures -- be a clothing engineer. The slogan is : "wear a sweater and help win the war."

And, my advice to my Sunoco colleague is get out your red flannels, Hugh!