

C.I. - Sunco. Tues., Feb. 20, 1940.

FINLAND

Here's ominous news about Finland. The Moscow radio tonight broadcast^S the claim that Stalin's troops have occupied the city and

fortress of Koivisto. That was a strongly fortified place just outside the harbor of Viipuri. And the Moscow broadcast continued ~~with~~ that the Russians had cleared all the Finnish soldiers out of the Koivisto peninsula. ^{TP} Stalin's generals claim ~~also~~ that a large amount of ^{Finnish war} ~~enemy war~~ material fell into their hands.

^{form} ~~the shape~~ of a rumor from Copenhagen. ^{And} The Moscow communique ~~XXXXXXXX~~ tends to confirm that ^S ~~the~~ earlier report.

The capture of Koivisto, ^{probably will be} ~~is~~ a sad blow to the defenders of Finland. It means that, if ~~it is~~ ^{that} true, the Bolsheviks will be able to ^{the city of} attack Viipuri over the ice as the Koivisto fortress was the principal protection of the seaport.

The late communique from Helsinki makes no mention of Koivisto. The statement from Finnish headquarters merely reports that Russian attacks on the Isthmus of Karelia were repulsed and that in the eastern part of the Isthmus the enemy had to withdraw after heavy casualties. On other parts of the front, the Russians suffered

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heavy losses, according to ~~the~~ Finnish ^{accounts.} ~~side of the story.~~

But it is to be noted that ^{all} this ~~communicate~~ refers ~~entirely~~ to

operations on February Nineteenth; ~~which means~~ yesterday, *not today.*

Concerning
~~on the subject of what happened~~ today, the Finnish communique

is silent.

WOLCOTT

~~A Republican~~ ^Q congressman rose in the House today to attack the proposal to help Finland with a loan. Wolcott of Michigan made the charge that the bill to give more money to the Export-Import Bank and allow it to loan money to the Finns was a subterfuge and a farce. Incidentally, Wolcott is not opposed to helping the Finns. He said we should be sincere in wanting to help Finland, but ~~it is~~ ^{that it's} ridiculous to predicate help for her on the success of her armies in the field. If we ~~are~~ ^{are} sincere we ought to make the money available immediately, ~~and not tie any~~ ^{with no} strings to it.

SWEDEN

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A political crisis in Sweden! That's ^{the} hint that comes out of Stockholm today by way of Norway. Apparently, the War party ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ among the Swedes refuses to be squelched by that proclamation issued yesterday by King Gustav. The leaders of the army want to jump in with ^{all of Sweden's might and main} ~~might and main~~ to help the Finns against the Bolsheviks. Their belief is that if the Swedes don't help to repel Stalin, they too will be gobbled up as soon as the Bolsheviks have wiped out the Finns. Siding with the Swedish generals, is the former Foreign Minister who resigned a few weeks ago as a protest against the pacifist policy of the government.

Naturally, this produces an acutely tense situation in ^{northern} Gustav's kingdom. It was hoped that ^{the King's} ~~his~~ proclamation of yesterday would avert a crisis. But the advices that come from Stockholm today indicate that the Activists, as the military party is called, will not stay squelched. They are threatening a palace revolution, to force the abdication of King Gustav in favor of his son, the Crown Prince. And that of course would mean immediate war against Red Russia, and succor for the Finns. At a pinch, Sweden could throw in an army of six hundred thousand men against the

Bolsheviks. What the pacifist party fears, on the other hand, is Germany. If the Swedes intervene actively, Stalin might invoke his treaty with Hitler, call upon the Nazis to stab Sweden in the back.

BRITAIN

The British Government stands pat on the setting free of those three hundred and twenty-six prisoners from the ~~so-called~~ ^{German} ~~hull~~ ship ALTMARK. Prime Minister Chamberlain made this clear in a statement to the House of Commons today.

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The operation of rescuing those British seamen, he said, was admirably conducted, and he added these words:- "I am sure the House will join with the Government in the satisfaction they feel at the release of the officers and crews of the vessels sunk by the German raider, the ADMIRAL GRAF SPEE."

The Prime Minister then turned his attention to the attitude of the Norwegian government. "It is difficult to resist the conclusion," he said, "that Norway has not been behaving consistently as a neutral and displayed complete indifference as to the use the German fleet was making of its privilege to use territorial waters." And he threw out the hint that if Norway persists in such an attitude, the British Navy might keep a closer watch over that channel along the Norwegian coast.

COAL SHORTAGE

The citizens of London are up against a new war hardship. In the midst of the most severe winter they've had for many years, there's a shortage of coal. One of the labor members in Parliament described it as one of the most acute within living memory. And that same labor member warned the Government that the lack of heating fuel throughout Greater London and other parts of the country is causing serious social discontent. The shortage is most severe in the poorer districts of ~~the~~ large cities ^{of Britain.} The Prime Minister replied that the Government is doing everything that can be done to put this right at the earliest possible moment.

TURKEY

The Turkish Government is girding its country's loins for something serious. The ^{Ankara} National Defense Law went into effect today, and a pretty drastic law it is. One of the first steps is the rigid control of the currency. It also restricts the rights of Turks to travel abroad. Even foreigners residing in Turkey have to obtain permission to buy tickets if they want to leave the country, and Turkish subjects have to prove that the trips they want to take are for essential business reasons.

The best guess is that this is only the first of a series of extraordinary measures which the Turkish Cabinet is about to enforce. The obvious interpretation is that the Supreme War Council of Turkey expects trouble at any moment and is getting ready for lightning action in any direction.

WIENER

Another American Communist comrade goes ^{into "duration vile."} ~~to the hossgow~~

A federal judge in New York today sentenced Welwel Warszower, known to the faithful as Robert William Wiener, ^{sentenced him} to two years in prison, for the same offense as Comrade Earl Browder, using a passport obtained illegally. Wiener, the Financial Secretary of the Party in America, gets just half the sentence awarded to Browder. Lately it has come to light that although he posed for twenty years as a native born American, he was actually born in Russia, never naturalized.

Before pronouncing sentence, Judge Knox asked whether Wiener Warszower, or Warszower Wiener, would be willing to return to Russia of his own accord. The judge intimated that he might impose a shorter term of imprisonment if the prisoner were willing to return to the bosom of Stalin. His attorney hastily jumped to his feet and replied:- "No, No!" and begged the judge not to include that in the sentence. Judge Knox thereupon recommended that after the comrade had served his term in prison, the government should deport him back to the land of Red Communism.

After pronouncing sentence, the judge delayed its execution for a week, to give Wiener's attorneys time to file an appeal.

He was escorted from the building by a crowd of the comrades who shouted abusive remarks at the judge. Because the courtroom doors were closed, they were not heard on the bench.

BIOFF

~~While~~ Bioff, the Hollywood labor czar, is back in Chicago, ready to serve out the rest of his six months' term in prison.

He ^{returned} ~~went back~~ to Illinois by plane, traveling under an assumed name.

When he arrived in Chicago he made a statement about the ~~MOVEMENT~~ agitation against him to compel him to serve out his sentence.

He said it was due to the moneyed interests and the Communists.

As a matter of fact, one of the chief spokesmen for sending Bioff back to jail is our colleague, Westbrook Pegler, who certainly represents no moneyed interests and is a long way from being a Communist. Be that as it may, Bioff will serve out his sentence.

HOLDEN

Q
~~Here's a novel~~ plea for the preservation of the freedom
of the press, *has just been* ~~novel and interesting.~~ It ~~was~~ made by Oliver Holden,
a newspaper man on the staff of the NEW YORK TIMES, also executive
director of the American Press Society. That's an organization
formed by some of the newspaper men who *don't* ~~do not~~ want to belong to
the Newspaper Guild and got together to protect themselves from
being forced to join.

Holden stated his case to the Labor Committee of the
House of Representatives. He asked for an amendment to the Wagner
Labor Act which would prohibit a closed shop in newspaper editorial
offices.

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He explained that the American Press Society is not a
union, but at the same time is not against unions. And he told the
Congressmen that if the closed shop were enforced in the news
rooms of the American press, it would definitely be an infringement
on the freedom of opinion of the ~~xxx~~ men who gather, write and edit
the news. Then he explained that the ^{existence} ~~xxxxxxx~~ of a strong,
nationwide editorial union would have power to cause the economic
death of any of its members who were to hold or write opinions

contrary to those held by the majority of the union. And that in turn would endanger the ~~xxxxix~~ constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech, no matter how laudable the intentions of the union. One congressman asked him whether membership in the American Newspaper Guild had resulted in news written with a bias. And he replied that he knows of a tendency in that direction and he said he would be glad to submit evidence.

It was recalled by way of example that during the *recent* Spanish Civil War, the element in control of the Newspaper Guild at one of its conventions, forced through a resolution which put the Guild on record as favoring the so-called Loyalist side, which turned out to be controlled by Stalin, ~~and opposing the~~ ~~General Franco side~~. This resolution was highly distasteful to a number of newspaper men including members of the Guild.

Holden told the Congressmen that labor leaders who have the real interest of American workers at heart are willing to make an exception in this case of the newspaper men, although as a rule they favor the closed shop.

Holden then offered definite instances of oppression.

In one case he said a writer had been kicked out of the Guild because of his opinions. Then, as he was employed in a newspaper with a closed shop, he lost his job. Another man, said Holden, had been asked to join the Guild and he refused. ^{Whereupon} ~~Then~~ he had been tricked and sabotaged. Still another had been the victim of misstatements by officials of the Guild, published in a Guild newspaper. ^{And} ~~Then~~ he declared that the Guild is run by a small clique, and that ~~applies~~ the plays of all writers who offended that clique had been unfavorably reviewed. The same applies to authors of books. All that, ^{he maintained,} ~~he maintained,~~ was an illustration of the way things would work out if the closed shop were enforced in all newspaper offices.

SMITH

You will of course remember how a few years ago a famous ~~REMEMBER~~ Democrat, named Smith, took a walk from the Party, the Party which had once nominated him its candidate for president. That of course was Ex-Governor Al Smith. Today another Smith says he finds himself in a similar position. Senator Ellison D. Smith, *Senator Cotton Ed says he now is* better known to all of us as "Cotton Ed", ~~said he is~~ a man without a party. He explains that the South had ^S been treated worse by the New Deal than ^{under} any Republican regime since Reconstruction Days. States rights and white supremacy have both been mishandled by the Roosevelt administration. Cotton Ed suggests a remedy. Let the southern Democrats declare their independence, organize a Southern Democratic Party, disown the New Deal party.

Does that mean that Cotton Ed, a typical South Carolinian, would vote for a Republican? Never! But he'll probably stay at home on election day if President Roosevelt wants a third term. Then he added: "I ~~XXXXXX~~ shall not bolt the Democratic Party, but the Democratic Party is bolting me."

TRIMBLE

Out in Seattle, Washington, the law courts have an official who is called a divorce proctor, or proctress, since she's a lady proctor. *And she is puzzled.*

Today that divorce proctor ^{ess} in Seattle was up against a problem that seemed to ^{require the help of} ~~indicate the use of~~ an adding machine, a slide-rule, a theodolite and an astronomer's telescope. A lady appeared before that divorce proctor to ask that her marriage to a gentleman named Floyd Trimble ~~should~~ be annulled. And the story that came to light in court ~~with~~ ^{ess} had the divorce proctor gasping. In the first place, ^{the complainant} ~~she~~ claimed that the gentleman named Trimble had been sort of following in the footsteps of the late Brigham Young. Not that he was a great administrator and governor like Brigham, but he had acquired more wives than is considered usual.

The story is that the gentleman named Trimble started February, Nineteen Thirty-Eight by being sealed to a lady named Norma. A few months later he left her and became the unblushing bridegroom of a lady named Jennie Stoddard. But he didn't like Jennie so well, and went back to live with Norma. Then, in December, Nineteen Thirty-Nine, he married another lady named

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Maxine, and she's the one who wants the annulment. ^{Indeed she} ~~she~~ told the divorce proctor or proctress that "his other wives came to live with us, and it wasn't until then that I learned he hadn't been divorced."

But, the gentleman named Trimble had an equally bewildering story to tell. He said the lady named Norma, his first bride if you've followed me this far, had been married both before she married him and afterwards. Consequently, she has three husbands and only one divorce - which also is considered unconventional. The second lady he married, said Trimble, likewise had been married before and had become his bride without the formality of a final ~~divorce~~ decree. Therefore, he maintained, all his marriages were illegal. In other words, he had three wives but was not a polygamist.

~~Get a pencil and a piece of paper and figure it out for yourselves, while I go on with the next story. It evidently has~~
^{And that one has}
~~the lady divorce proctor of Seattle ^{beat} ~~beat~~ for she's going into~~
^{puzzled. So much so that she}
an asylum for ten days to consider her decision.

puzzled

PRINCESSES

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For several years one of the citizens of San Rafael, California, was a shabby little old man, in poor health and with practically no means of support. He was too old and sick to work, and often the neighbors had to come to his rescue with food and room rent. They thought he was pathetic, ~~also~~ ^{— and also regarded him as} a spinner of tall yarns. For in return for the help they gave him he used to tell them stories, ^{stories of} ~~about~~ the money he ^{once had,} ~~used to have,~~ his social prominence, the gold mines he owned, and the exalted stations in life of his two daughters. ^{His} ~~The man's~~ name? ~~was~~ Edmund K. Stallo. The neighbors didn't believe ^{the} ~~those~~ yarns; just thought they were what the psychologists call "compensation for ^a ~~his~~ miserable existence."

Today the authorities had to step in and Edmund K.

Stallo was committed to the State Hospital. ^{And today it was discovered} ~~then it turned out that~~

^{that} all his stories were true. He was born in a rich family, in fact his father was a former United States envoy to Rome. His first wife ^{to a fortune of} ~~was~~ a Standard Oil heiress ^{with} ~~with~~ twenty-five million dollars. His second wife, ~~was~~ a former daughter-in-law of United States Senator Mark Hanna. And his two daughters are just what he represented them to be, princesses. One, ~~is~~ the Princess Francesco Rospigliosi, and

Moo-rah.

the other ~~is~~ the Princess Michel Murat. So the father of those two Princesses goes to the Napa State Hospital, a sick, aged man and a pauper. His third wife, a lady from Salt Lake City, testified that she couldn't do anything to help him, that she had to work as a dressmaker to support herself.

ORGAN

8 1/2

The Methodist Church at Freeboro, Pennsylvania, is having radio trouble of a peculiar kind. A new spic and span electrical organ was recently installed there, and now the pastor is being embarrassed by radio antics. You can imagine how embarrassed when I tell you that they happen sometimes in the middle of his sermons. Radio technicians explain that the sound cabinet of that electrical organ is somewhat similar to the loud speaker of a radio. The consequence is that while the pastor is exhorting the brethren and sisters he'll be interrupted by such remarks as "Hellow P.D.Q.X.", "Go ahead P.D.Q.X.", or "How is the weather in your town, Joe? It's snowing like blazes", and other remarks which have no place in the middle of a sermon. — picked up by the organ, and amplified.

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9 1/4

And now Hugh what have you got that ought to be picked up and amplified?