

L.J. - Sunoco. Tuesday, Nov. 11, 1941.

WAR

The war in Russia is still pretty much at a standstill. The Moscow front is a morass of snow and mud, and only local operations appear to be possible. It's the most difficult kind of battling ground, but still the blitzkrieg forces ~~exist~~ and the Red Army come to grips whenever they can. Both Moscow and Berlin tell of Soviet counter-attacks, each side claiming success. The Red Army states that a large German unit northwest of Moscow has been encircled, but the latest of the war reports fail to tell anything more about this, don't indicate clearly what is happening in this local battle of encirclement. The heaviest pressure that the Nazis are able to exert on the field of snow and mud is south of Moscow - in the sector of Tula. That's a critical point, and there the blitzkrieg is trying to drive <sup>ahead</sup> Heavy fighting and successful resistance - says the Red Army.

In the Crimea - nothing new. Berlin ~~xxx~~ tells of advances continuing toward the important cities of Sevastopol and Kerch - with the great Soviet naval base of Sevastopol doomed to fall - say the Nazis. We have one Axis report that Stalin has ordered the Russian Black Sea fleet to scuttle itself, if

Sevastopol should be lost. The implication is that the Red warships would have no other naval base, ~~tongowto~~.

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The most significant war report concerns the northern tip of the Nazi line - the Leningrad area. There the Germans are said to have driven along the shore of Lake Ladoga and have captured a harbor on the lake. The Germans claim they are now only seventy miles from the Finns, who have been coming around Lake Ladoga from the north. If they should join forces, Leningrad would be completely encircled - its last water route cut off as well as the land routes.

## BRITISH FLEET

The British Admiralty announces the sinking of six more Axis vessels in the Mediterranean, ~~and that would~~ bring the total to nineteen - that many destroyed since Sunday morning. The latest six are said to have been sunk by submarine attack.

This new naval activity in the Mediterranean is taken as a sign of great battles to come on the north African desert.

The British action against convoys means, that the Germans and Italians are making large moves to reinforce their armies of the desert, and the British are striking vigorously to prevent such reinforcement.

Here's something of particular interest to Americans - a statement telling of United States submarines in the Mediterranean. It comes from Rome, an article written by Mussolini's ~~mouthpiece,~~ <sup>who</sup> Gayda ~~He~~ speaks of the number of American submarines in the Mediterranean as having been - increased.

London gives us a grim terrible story of attacks on transports in the North Sea. German ships crowded with soldiers were torpedoed, were sinking, with hundreds of soldiers struggling in the water. German patrol boats dashed to the scene. Instead of trying to rescue

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the men in the water, they dropped depth charges - attacking the British submarines, and hundreds of Nazi troops were blown to pieces by the blasting depth charges. So says London.

CHURCHILL

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill today repeated Britain's aims to punish Nazi outrages committed during the war. He referred to the executions in France, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and other occupied countries. Churchill said that in the determination to exact retribution for these, his government was not lagging behind what he called "the most fiery hearted."

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So retaliation for wartime atrocities becomes more and more a British war aim, and this is a sign of the increasing bitterness of the struggle -- bitterness provoked by the Nazi terrorism on the continent.

Prime Minister Churchill was queried about a British income ~~as~~ being paid to Marshal Petain of the Vichy government of France. It was divulged in the House of Commons that some years ago Petain bought an annuity of six hundred pounds, about twenty-four hundred dollars -- the veteran warrior lining up some security for his old age. This six hundred pounds a year is still being paid - in spite of hostilities <sup>y</sup>~~ies~~ between London and the Petain government. Today a labor member said that these payments were a cause of what he called -- "the greatest perturbation" and he demanded to know

why Petain was still getting the British pound of sterling. The reply of the Churchill government was made that they had looked into the Petain annuity, and found that it was a contract with a Canadian company -- and Canada still maintains diplomatic relations with Vichy. After due deliberation of these facts, the London government decided it would be petty to stop payments.

CHURCHILL ATTACK

*And* *the*  
~~In the House of Commons~~ today, Prime Minister ~~Churchill~~.

was accused of having violated British censorship in a cable to President Roosevelt. This is said to have happened during the time when Neville Chamberlain was Prime Minister, and Churchill was a member of his Cabinet. In Parliament today, a Labor member stated that Churchill had sent a cable to the President ~~of the United States~~ without the knowledge of Chamberlain, thereby going behind the then Prime Minister's back. In doing this, said the Labor member, Churchill also evaded British censorship.

This alleged disclosure is tied with that beguiling story of a spy in the American Embassy in London - an English clerk in the Embassy convicted of espionage. The story also connects with the headline case of a member of Parliament, Captain Archibald Ramsay, who was sent to a British concentration camp on charges that have never been clearly revealed. Today the House of Commons was told that the spy in the American Embassy gave certain documents to Member of Parliament Captain Ramsay, and one of these documents was the telegram that Churchill had sent to President Roosevelt.

LONDON

As if the war were not enough, London today had a reign of terror staged by a man with a machine gun. An automobile, a black sedan, went racing around the streets. In it was a middle-aged man who blazed away with a machine gun, firing streams of bullets along the crowded streets. He raced along in his car, stopped and opened fire. Then started off again for another dash and another spree of ~~shooting~~ shooting. Two persons were killed, and seven wounded - in what seemed like some fright of war come to the middle of the British capital. It was only after five hours that the London police were able to catch the machine-gunning mad man. They forced his car into a trap, where it crashed.

He turns out to be a soldier, a member of the Royal Artillery on leave. The story would seem to be that he went on his murderous rampage because he had a grudge against a lawyer. He started out for revenge, taking along a machine-gun and hiring an automobile. ~~The Royal artilleryman~~ <sup>He</sup> waited, in ambush, for the lawyer, and shot him. And then the Royal artilleryman ran amuck.

A terrifying thing in the crowded city - running amuck with an automobile and a machine-gun.



ARMISTICE

*Here in this country we*  
The nation today celebrated Armistice Day with the solemnity born of the thought, that as we commemorate the end of one war, another is raging in grim fury. <sup>The</sup> President Roosevelt, in Washington, led the observances. He recalled that previous war, and said that we had to make the world safe for democracy then, and we must do it again. He foresaw the goal in these words:- "The world a place where freedom can live and grow into the ages." And the President repeated to us that we face what he today called - "a terrible danger."

Under-Secretary of State Sumner Welles carried on today's Armistice theme of what the world shall be like. He stated that the United States must be prepared to help in the creation and maintenance of a new and just order after this war is over.

In Michigan, at Belle Isle, an international peace monument was dedicated today. It commemorates the happy historical state of affairs between the United States and Canada. Erected by the Monument ~~Builders~~ Builders of America, the Belle Isle structure is dedicated to the following ideal - "To a hope of ever-lasting peace between the United States and Canada."

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Houston, Texas, had its biggest Armistice Day, but the celebration was marred by a bad accident. Throngs on the street were watching a parade, when the canopy of a bus station collapsed. ~~It was~~ a massive affair of wood and plaster, and beneath it people were standing. Something gave way, and the canopy came crushing down. Two men were killed, and other persons were injured. The roar of the collapse disrupted the parade, as Armistice Day marchers rushed to the rescue of the victims under the debris.

Civilian Defense Week began today. And also - President Roosevelt opened the annual roll call of the American Red Cross.

LABOR

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Once again Congress is flaring with demands for labor legislation. The continuing crisis of strikes is arousing new clamor for congressional action to deal with labor disputes in defense industries - ~~xxxx~~ laws to limit strike activities. Today some administration lawmakers predicted that sooner or later the President would tell Congress to go ahead with some kind of anti-strike legislation. ~~(There are plenty of bills pending right now, but none has a chance to pass without White House backing. That backing is likely to be forthcoming, said Administration leaders today)~~ a green light from the White House.

At San Diego, California, a Federal Conciliator is working hard to get a settlement of the strike of the building trades workers. He wants to achieve an agreement before the Navy carries out its threat to take over - call out the Marines. The walkout of more than two thousand workers has tied up the building of eight important Navy and Marine Corps projects valued at twenty-three million dollars. The Navy stated yesterday that unless work was resumed tomorrow - there would be an attempt to operate the projects with non-union workers. Today this was

reaffirmed with the words - "The Navy attitude is not changed."

So the federal conciliation authorities are working their heads off to end the strike and avoid the necessity of - calling out the Marines. Word just in -- prospects of a settlement are said to look good.

Here's a late piece of labor news right off the wire.

The two C.I.O. members of the National Defense Mediation Board have resigned - C.I.O. President Philip Murray, and, Thomas Kennedy, Secretary-Treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America.

They're quitting the Federal Defense Mediation Board as a protest against the rejection of the miners' demand in the Soft Coal dispute.

The Miners' Union <sup>wants</sup> ~~demands~~ a closed shop in the Captive Coal Mines -

those belonging to the steel corporations. This closed shop

requirement was rejected by the Mediation Board, and now its ~~two~~

C.I.O. members resign in protest.

## TAXES

Washington reports that the administration proposals for new huge taxes have brought a congressional response something like this -- instead of the staggering taxes, why not cut down the money to be spent on things not necessary for defense? Congress has put aside the tax proposals, and they say that this is one of the reasons for the conference at the White House today - on the subject of a budget and on possible ways of trimming the non-defense items in the budget.

PIGEONS

A new contribution to national defense was made today, ~~by a well known citizen of Pittsfield, Massachusetts.~~ A new idea is propounded for the Signal Corps, an up-to-the-minute novelty to promote military communication. The Army uses homing pigeons a good deal, and the scheme is one to make the message-bearing pigeons more effective. The proponent of the new idea is Clarence A. Crandall, known as the Pittsfield weather <sup>prophet,</sup> ~~profet, Bkxix~~ ~~He today made his proposal before the commander of the Signal Corps.~~

<sup>to</sup> He says they should cross their homing pigeons with woodpeckers. That would produce a bird combining the best features of both the pigeon and the woodpecker. It would carry the message, and then, upon reaching headquarters, would rap sharply to announce its arrival. In that way the general would only have to sit listening for the woodpecker tapping, and then he'd know that the battlefield message had arrived, brought the pigeon way.

The Pittsfield weather <sup>prophet</sup> ~~profet~~ has a great idea. It reminds me of an incident that occurred in Paul Bunyan's day, a strange event that I related in my book - TALL STORIES. It was an affair of mosquitoes and bumble bees. At a logging camp, the

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mosquitoes were so bad that the lumbermen imported a swarm of bumble bees to fight them. Then, to their dismay, they discovered that the bumble bees had bred with the mosquitoes and produced a swarm of hybrids with stingers at both ends.



FOOTBALL

Today, down in Oklahoma, ~~him~~ leniency was recommended for Football Star Ralph Schilling - and the recommendation for mercy was made by the man whose nose he broke. So it looks as if Pigskin Hero Schilling will not be chucked out of school, will not be expelled from Oklahoma City University. ~~Yet, of course, his misdeed was most flagrant - considering what the ethics of football are supposed to be - sportsmanship plus. Decisions of the referee are to be accepted without a squawk - let alone a punch in the nose. And worst of all - a punch in the nose for the wrong guy. It was a deplorable mix-up.~~

Last Saturday's big game at Oklahoma City was warmly contested- with all that competitive spirit. Nerves were frazzled, and Schilling, the Q.C.U. star, didn't like decisions made by Referee Skillern. Schilling and Skillern had an argument, and Skillern ejected Schilling from the game - gave him the old heave-ho.

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That made the football player exceedingly irate, and between the halves he went looking for the referee. Under the stands, Skillern was standing with the head linesman, Paul Keen, a person of importance. *In fact* ~~He is~~ Intramural Director at the University of

Oklahoma. The angry football player walked up to them, and swung a haymaker. But he made a mistake. He hit, not the referee, but the Intramural Director of the University of Oklahoma - and broke his nose. It was a touchdown, but at the wrong goal line.

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This, you'll admit was hardly in accordance with the good old rah-rah spirit of sportsmanship, and things looked bad for Football Player Schilling. The least he could expect was to be bounced right out of college. Today he uttered a fervent apology. "I was wrong," he cried, "and I am sorry." But the more important statement was made by Intramural Director Keen - with his broken nose. He displayed not only rah-rah sportsmanship but **also** Christian charity. He recommended leniency, and so it appears that the nose-punching pigskin artist will be allowed to continue his academic career - with the promise that hereafter

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he'll keep his fist away from other people's beezers. *who don't know how to duck.*  
*and, Well well here comes Hugh accompanied by Donald Ducks.*  
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