

L.T. SUNOOO. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1940

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

Exciting news from the Greek War. There's a hot battle under way for the possession of Argyrocastron, the principal Italian base in southern Albania. At latest reports the Greeks were within two miles of it, with the Fascists still on the run. And this comes in a dispatch from neutral territory, Jugoslavia.

But, the most exciting report of all is one that the Italians are withdrawing from Porto Edda, the harbor which the Fascisti built in southern Albania and named after Mussolini's daughter. At first this was believed to mean that Mussolini's forces were evacuating southern Albania. But there are later tidings that they are merely leaving Porto Edda, going north towards Valona, along a coastal road, ambushed as they go by Albanian rebels.

The explanation of this move is that the Greeks have managed to cut off Porto Edda from Argyrocastron. If that's true,

they are in a fair way to encircle that strong Italian base, ~~where~~
~~so much material has been concentrated.~~ The Italian troops in
Albania are led by General Soddu, Commander-in-Chief and
Mussolini's Under-Secretary of War. One dispatch brings word
that he has issued a command that Argyrocastron must be defended
to the last man. But there's a still later dispatch that the
Fascists have ~~×~~ already begun to evacuate Argyrocastron and are
concentrating ^{on} new positions to the northeast.

All this news comes from the Greek or pro-Greek side.
What's the Italian report, [?] ~~about Argyrocastron?~~ Nothing. The
high command at Rome hasn't a word to say about that part of the
front where the Greeks are reported to have them on the run.
~~The official communique talks only about air bombing attacks on~~
~~positions in Greece.~~

A dispatch from Athens ^{also} reports that an entire Fascist
battalion just walked out of the war, crossed the frontier into
Jugoslavia, and submitted to being interned.

A British wire service ^{gives out the news} reports [^] that the Royal Air Force

in Greece made a highly successful raid on Valona, the Fascist

harbor in northern Albania. Also that British fliers have inflicted heavy damages on Italian tank and infantry columns in Albania. One big ship was hit in the harbor of Valona.

the great Italian industrial city of
The Royal Air Force also raided [^]Turin again, set fire to the royal arsenal, [^]a tremendous fire they reported. The Italians admit the raids on Turin and Valona but make light of them.

Mussolini's mouthpiece, Virginio Gayda, announces *— against* that a big Italian offensive is about to begin ~~in~~ Greece.

There was a naval battle somewhere in the Mediterranean, but we don't know much about it. The news comes in a communication from the British Admiralty. The British fleet sighted an Italian squadron, two battleships with a large number of cruisers and destroyers. The Italians promptly took to their heels and the British warships engaged them at extreme range. And the statement adds that no further information is available at present but full details will be announced soon.

RUMANIA

Today's

~~The~~ blood purge in Rumania bids fair to become one of the most ferocious of all. ^{and} People who know Rumania are predicting that ~~it~~ ^{this} may be only ~~the~~ ^a beginning. It was officially admitted in Bucharest tonight that the number of political prisoners shot at one coup today ^{came to} ~~was~~ a total of sixty-four, sixty-four men executed for their politics ^{all} at one swoop! It was retaliation, a reprisal for the blood purge that Ex-King Carol indulged in two years ago when he killed Codreanu, the leader of the Iron Guard.

At the ~~the~~ same time, Carol put a price on the head of Professor Sima, chief of the terrorist groups of the Iron Guard. Sima is now in the saddle and an American correspondent who knows him says he can be expected to do a thorough job.

^{star roving emissary for}
Bonney Powell, ~~cameraman of the Fox Movietone, Newsreel,~~
has just come home by clipper - and, ~~he's~~
~~also knows Rumania pretty thoroughly. He says it was~~ there was
just in from Rumania. Bonney tells of
~~the~~ ^{more} graft in that country. ~~than anybody had ever heard of.~~
~~could be~~ Anybody could be bought,
~~Bribes were even paid by check and you could even bribe the King,~~
including the King. And
You could buy immunity for anything. Even the escape of King Carol

and Magda Lupescu was a financial transaction, says ~~RENN~~ Bonney Powell. The Iron Guard could easily have got them if they had

wanted to.

The political prisoners who were shot today were of course anti-Nazi. And they were executed right in front of the tomb of Cordreanu, now cherished as a Nazi martyr. In addition to the sixty-four, numerous other Nazi haters were dragged out of bed and arrested. And that's why it's reported that the killing of the sixty-four is just a preview of what may come.

A startling statement was made in the British House of Commons today. The speaker was the former Secretary of War, Leslie Hore-Belisha, ^{who was} the cause of a terrific rumpus when he was dropped from the War Office in the Chamberlain Cabinet during the early months of the war.

Hore-Belisha declared that the British are ^{now} losing four million, six hundred and eighty thousand tons ^{of shipping} a year. Though they got eight million tons from their Allies those will be dissipated within two years. Britain at present is constructing only one million, three hundred and fifty thousand tons a year, and he added: "At the present rate of sinking that would not see us through fifteen weeks."

The former ^{War-} Secretary ridiculed the Churchill Government's hopes of replacing lost shipping in the United States. For, ~~he~~ said ^{he}: "The United States is not a mercantile shipbuilding nation." What the British need most, said the former War Minister, is to knock Italy out at once.

GREENWOOD FOLLOW HORE-BELISHA

That speech of Hore-Belisha's is characteristic of reports ~~and denunciations made about~~ ^{from} Britain in the last few days.

However, the gloom is offset somewhat by another speech made today in the House of Commons, a speech by the Right Honorable Arthur Greenwood, Minister without Portfolio. The situation, ~~he~~ said, ^{he}:-

is not one which the British relish, but the picture is not as gloomy as some people have painted it. ^{Then he went on to state that} During the past six months,

the output of shipyards in Britain has gone up more than fifty

per cent. ^{And, he} ~~He~~ hopes that before long North America will become a

second arsenal from which Britain can obtain supplies in increasing number.

Greenwood has just returned from visits of inspection to Coventry and Birmingham, which suffered so heavily in Nazi Bombing raids. His report was that the Industrial recovery that has taken place there in such a short time was literally incredible. The destruction in Coventry and Birmingham, he reported, has not eaten to any serious extent into British productive capacity.

NORWAY

The Norwegian people are demonstrating their own way of rebelling against the Nazi occupation. Hitler's invaders have been obliged to declare martial law in western and southern Norway.

The Westland area of the country in the last few days has been ravaged by prodigious ~~landslides from the mountains~~ -landslides for which there was no natural cause. The railroad between Oslo and Bergen ~~was~~ wrecked at ten points, meaning that weeks will be needed to repair it. Highways from Oslo to the Westland province ~~have been~~ cut, bridges destroyed, telephone service disrupted.

~~And what's the explanation? of all this? Sabotage,~~

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Today
patriotic sabotage! Hitler's Gestapo ~~has~~ retaliated by making
also numerous arrests, ~~and~~ destroying the homes ~~houses~~ of suspected Norwegians.

SIAM

Here's a new war. ^{It's that} ~~just as though we needed one!~~ ~~It's~~
~~fight~~ ^{fight} between French Indo-China and Siam. ~~This was~~ announced
officially today at Vichy. The Petain Government said that
hostilities began along the Cambodian frontier November Twenty-Third.

[#] This has been foreshadowed for some time, ever since the Siamese
began clamoring for the return of land that they accused the
Indo-China government of having taken from Siam in Cambodia and

Laos. So, the first thing we know
we may hear of a battle amid
the splendors of the dead city
of Angkor Wat, which is one of
the wonders of the world.

BRITISH LOANS

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Congress will take no action on loans to Great Britain this year. That was decided today by the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, the Committee which would have to start the argument. The vote was unanimous. Nothing doing until next year, until the next Congress convenes.

FIFTH COLUMN

President Roosevelt has sent a telegram to Chairman Dies of the Committee on UnAmerican Activities. It was in answer to a ^{wire}~~telegram~~ from Dies begging the President to coordinate the work of all the federal agencies that are fighting Nazi, Fascist and Communist skullduggery in this country. Mr. Roosevelt agreed with Mr. Dies on that, but he added that the work of the government agencies may be seriously handicapped by premature disclosure of facts and hasty seizure of evidence.

RAILROADS

Good news for men in uniform. The Association of American Railroads will sell tickets at reduced rates to men of the army, navy and marine corps during the holidays. That is, provided they're in uniform. Those low rates will be available between December Fourteenth and January Fourteenth.

DEFENSE

The Defense Commission has been making a survey of ghost towns, towns with abandoned plants and factories. Some five hundred concerns holding contracts to make things for the Army and Navy complained that they couldn't get busy because they needed some place to make machine tools and other materials. Hence the Defense Commission's research into ghost towns. And today they report that there are fifteen communities in the country with plants that are either ~~idle~~ idle or partially idle, seven in Pennsylvania and Ohio, five in the middlewest, three in the south.

How about Passanoguody?

Sidney Hillman, the Coordinator of Labor for the Defense Commission, told the ~~Commis~~ contractors that there is a considerable supply of skilled workers available, men who own their homes, but ~~they~~ ^{who} want to work where they live.

A.F. L.

The Convention of the American Federation of Labor today approved one significant resolution; ~~It is~~ a resolution approving the policy of the Administration in giving every possible aid to Great Britain, ^{that is} short of war. It is essential, says the A.F. of L. resolution, that we should do everything possible for the defense of our borders, including the Western Hemisphere, so that a free trade union movement may continue to function within our hemisphere.

The Convention also repeated its old boycott against Japanese goods.

MILLIS

The National Labor Relations Board is now up to full strength. The new Chairman, Dr. Harry A. Millis, took his oath of office today. And the word around Washington is that this means a general shake-up in ~~the~~ personnel. Three important officials resigned when Millis was appointed, the Secretary, The Associate General Counsel, and the Chief Administrative Officer.

CAPLIN

An eminent fight promoter is indicted for grand larceny and conspiracy! The fight promoter is the gentleman known in the polite circles of the sporting world as "Howling Hymie Caplin." He manages the destinies of three champions. ~~You may recall that~~ The other day ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ^{Law} one of his champions, ~~Lee~~ Jenkins, had to ply his art in public without benefit of Caplin, who was even then under accusation of operating a card swindle. Today it became definite, the grand jury acted, charged Howling Hymie and fifteen confreres with operating a ^{gyp} ~~swindle~~ ring in Brooklyn and taking some four million dollars out of rich business men in crooked card games.

Manager-of-champions Caplin and his colleagues appeared in court today, were fingerprinted, and pleaded "not guilty." So for some time to come ~~yet~~ the prize ring will be bereaved of the services of Howling Hymie.

WRECK

In the storm tossed-North Atlantic, three steamers and a
Cutter
Coast Guard [^] are plowing through mountainous waves on an errand
of rescue. A Greek steamer sent out calls for help, her master
broadcasting the message that she was in a bad way, shipping
water ^{— a} ~~some~~ ^{or so} hundred and fifty miles [^] off Cape Race, Newfoundland.

WEATHER

Tonight parts of New York State are carpeted with the heaviest snowfall of this year, and that takes in most of last winter! Skiing in the Adirondacks. The snow was pretty general; with below-zero temperatures in the Rocky Mountains. A carpet of white in New England; thirteen inches in parts of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa, and deep drifts in Canada. As for those floods in Texas, thousands of people are homeless.

SANTA CLAUS

Remember sometime ago, when Ex-Governor Al Smith said he never heard of anybody shooting Santa Claus? Well, Al Smith couldn't say that today. Out in Kankakee, Illinois, they did take pot shots at Santa Claus, and this is how. The Chamber of Commerce of Kankakee arranged a Santa Claus parade with floats, high school band, two live reindeer, dwarfs, fairies and everything. Everybody thought it was most appropriate that Santa Claus should hit the town the same day as the first snowfall.

There were five thousand youngsters on the line of march, waiting to see the jolly old Saint. Before you could say "Christmas", a snowball fight was in progress, and one of the snowballs caught St. Nick bang in the eye! A snowball with a dornick in it evidently. The Kris Kringle eye began to swell. And kindly Santa got out of his sleigh, made some most unChristmasy remarks and went for his assailants. In fact his remarks were so hot, according to bystanders, that they melted all the snow in Kankakee.

Where's hugh? Oh, here he is!