

L.T. SUNOCO-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1938

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:-

Today was opening day at Lima, with Argentina anxious to make the first proposal. There was stately ceremony, as the delegates of twenty-one nations began the session of the Pan-American Conference -- opened by the President of Peru. Everyone of the twenty-one delegations has some plan or other to offer, and Argentina wants the spotlight with Suggestion Number One. The boys from B.A. are eager to offer a resolution which goes this way -- the nations of the Americas to prohibit foreign residents exercising political rights which their own countries grant. Foreigners not to be allowed to play a part in the political affairs of the homelands from which they came.

It sounds a bit abstruse, but one instance will make it clearer:-Germans in South America voted in recent German elections, sent their ballots back home. In this way they were exercising their German citizenship, though living in the Western Hemisphere. There are a lot of Germans in the Latin-Americas, and when they take part in political doings back in Germany, they're not actively continuing their alien citizenship, a tendency to keep them Germans

2--Pan American

with German loyalties, meaning - Nazi. That's what the Argentine resolution wants to stop. ^
with all the nations of the west forbidding that sort of thing.

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The American delegation, headed by Secretary of State Hull, is involved in a lively row, with a group of ladies doing a lot of complaining. And ladies sure can complain when they get around to it. The chief complainer is Doris Stevens, Chairman of the Inter-American Commission for Women. She's a noted feminist leader. *And* She's feminist with a vigor and strenuousness that can hardly be called feminine. The trouble arises over the fact that our delegation is preparing a resolution designed to elevate the status of women in Latin-America -- give them suffrage, for example. No, feminist Doris Stevens doesn't oppose suffrage. But the resolution also suggests that laws be made to protect women in industry, special laws in behalf of women workers. That's what Doris Stevens and her Inter-American Commission for Women do not like.

It's the old story how the extreme feminists are opposed to regulations favoring women in industry, making things easier for them. They claim that this is contrary to the principle of the equality of women, in conflict with the doctrine that women in industry should have exactly the same status as men.

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Secretary Hull's American delegation invited the feministic group to join with them in preparing the resolution, and the reply

is a blast: *a blast of feminine fireworks.*

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\$--MEXICO (Follow Pan American)

Secretary Hull in the midst of Pan-American deliberations, has something else to think about -- something from Mexico. The Mexican Tamales are always giving the Secretary a touch of indigestion. And here comes another seizure of American property south of the Rio Grande.

Today, the Mexican authorities began the expropriation of a lot of foreign owned acres, taking them away from the foreign owners, seizing them -- and dividing them among small peasant holders. And one huge slice of the expropriated land belongs to the United Sugar Company. That's an American concern, the president of which is Sherwood Johnston. He's an American too, but he has been living in Mexico for some time. Back in prohibition days, he was indicted in a liquor smuggling case, a big one -- ten million dollars big.

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And Secretary Hull must be thinking sadly of another item of Mexican news. The New York Times today carries the story about a new big Mexican deal in oil, petroleum from the properties seized from American oil companies. We've been hearing that this ex^{no}propriated
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Re- Mexico

American oil is being sold to Nazi Germany. And the Times says a new giant deal has just been concluded, with Hitler's government taking a consignment of seventeen million dollars' worth of oil out of wells that American owners drilled. It's described as one of these barter arrangements -- an exchange of oil for ^{things of} German manufactures.

^{Hitler} ~~Hitler~~ getting supplies of petroleum for the ^{Nazi} ~~German~~ fleet.

This will be painful for our secretary of state to contemplate, with all the talk of keeping the Dictator countries from achieving economic penetration of Latin-America. Not merely a case of Hitler getting oil, but of operating his warships on oil seized from American owners. And the Cardenas government in Mexico is so radical, pink, ~~or~~ even red. A strange combination of the Swastika and the Red, [^] with Uncle Sam getting the worst of it.

4. HOLLYWOOD FOLLOW MEXICO.

Hollywood is issuing a declaration of independence. Really-- it's a boycott against Nazi Germany.

There was a meeting of film stars and film magnates at the home of Edward G. Robinson, a conference called by Melvin Douglas. They agreed that Hollywood must boycott German goods a hundred per cent, and then went on to the idea of a national boycott of Nazi products. How could that be put across? Leave it to Hollywood to think up a striking idea -- showmanship. The assembled film lords and ladies decided to issue -- a Nineteen Thirty Eight Declaration of Independence. A telling phrase, reminiscent of that famous signing of Fourth of July, Seventeen Seventy Six.

That historic document, as we all knew, starts out like this:

"When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands," etc. But that wouldn't ^{quite} fit the Hollywood idea. The movie meeting drew up a tentative draft goes like this: "In Seventeen Seventy Six," it reads, "the people refused to submit to tyranny ^{of despotism} ~~despot~~ abroad. Today, a new ^{has} tyranny _^ risen abroad."

Leaders of Nazi Germany have threatened the security of the world through their despotism. They've abolished freedom of speech, press and assemblage. They've degraded women, enslaved labor, and made cannon-fodder of youth."

In conclusion the Hollywood manifesto speaks thusly:

"We have waited patiently for sanity to return to Nazi Germany but it does not appear."

Who are to sign that declaration? Well, just think of all the scintillating stars in the Hollywood sky. There'll be fifty-six names. Why that particular number? Because they were fifty-six signers of that other Declaration of Independence. When the ceremony of signing is enacted, the cameras will be there -- shooting plenty of film. The plan is to have the Hollywood Declaration of Independence shown by the newsreels in theatres far and wide -- Hollywood's way of making Hollywood's influence felt.

I ran into Wallace Beery and Man Mountain Dean at the Congress here in Chicago today -- just in from Hollywood. I wonder if they'll be signers of film land's Declaration of Independence.

16--FRANCE.

Premier Daladier seems to have made that choice about which we heard yesterday. Either to the Right or the Left, and apparently he has chosen the Right. Today in the Chamber of Deputies he made a violent attack upon the communists, shouting at them, "Your policy is a policy of war !" That was greeted by a storm of applause, and observers reckon that two-thirds of the Deputies shouted their approval. With the Communists thus denounced, a vote was taken by that other party of the Left -- the Socialists, led by former premier Blum. They decided to vote against the Daladier government. So the Premier must find his support in the ranks of the Conservatives, and apparently he'll get it.

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KAPPA SIGMA.

I happen to be broadcasting from the N.B.C. studios in Chicago tonight. Here in the studio with me are a hundred or more men, members of a Greek Letter fraternity known as Kappa Sigma, reputed to be the oldest of all Greek Letter societies. Among these men are many old friends, here from different parts of the country. If I had an hour on the air instead of only a few minutes I would like to turn to each and say: "Bill, or Jim, or Wilbur; what's the news from Denver?" And then have him tell just how it happened that my boyhood newspaper rival, Ralph 'Trolley' Carr was elected Governor of Colorado, the other day. Or have one of the others tell us what it's like to live in Los Angeles in December with the thermometer at 92 in the shade as it was yesterday. But there isn't time! ^{! R} I will ask just one of these Kappa Sigs to speak up though. He's the United States District Attorney who prosecuted Al Capone and had him sent to prison. The other evening I had an item to the effect that Capone was about to be released from prison, about to get out of the Rock, ^{of Alcatraz to open for Al Capone.} ~~the doors to open for him at Alcatraz,~~ ^R The whole world knows the story of the Chicago underworld, and its big shot racketeer, ~~Al Capone.~~ ^{and} the whole world is still interested, in the sequel.

Green.

Dec. 9, 1938.

L.T.:- The man who put Al Capone away, was United States District Attorney Dwight H. Green. He's right beside me. Will Capone go free in January, Mr. Green?

GREEN: Hardly, Lowell. You may recall that he was found guilty on five counts. Three of these were for felonies, each carrying a penalty of five years, or a total of fifteen years in all. But the judge said that two of these could run concurrently, cutting the total down to ten. The other ^{two} counts were for misdemeanors, with a penalty of one year each. The judge said one of these could be paid off to society, could run concurrently while in the federal penitentiary for those ten years.

L.T.: Which sums up to what "Pete"?

GREEN: Just this: It is possible to get three and half years off for good behavior. So if he has behaved himself, Capone may be let out of Alcatraz in January.

L.T.: Then what?

GREEN: Then he must come back to Chicago and serve that one final year for misdemeanor; serve it in the Cook County jail.

L.T.: So Al Capone is likely to be all through serving all his sentences by a year from this January. Has the Chicago Underworld changed? Is he likely to return to rule as its overlord, as King of Vice? Or will he watch his step; walk the straight and narrow?

GREEN: It would take the Prophet Issaih to answer that, Lowell. But after what Al Capone has gone through I'll bet he'll watch his step for the rest of his days. As for the Chicago underworld having changed, I'll duck that question! I suppose I shouldn't say this, Lowell, but right at this moment what I am most interested in is the fact that along with a lot of other Kapps Sigs, in one hour from now we're going to proclaim you our "man of the year."

L.T.: Let's skip that, Pete, and see what else there is in the news tonight.

ESPIONAGE

Spy hunting is much in the news these days, and spy hunting cost money -- as does most everything else. President Roosevelt said today that he will ask the new Congress for some extra cash with which to battle against foreign espionage in this nation. The President declared the spy hunting agencies of the government have been co-ordinated, are working together in harmonious unison. He praised the work of the United States District Attorney Lamarr Hardy, who did the prosecuting in New York's recent big Nazi spy trial. But all this has not cleaned up the espionage situation. There's more to be done, and paid for -- hence the need of more extra spy hunting cash.

Even a stickup man can be gentle with a girl -- sometimes with unfortunate results. Today on the eighth floor of a New York building, Lillian Rosenberg, twenty years old, was on her way to her employer's office with a two hundred dollar payroll. In the hall she was held up by a robber. "Now don't be afraid," the crook said soothingly. And she wasn't. She kicked him down a flight of stairs.

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Today in New York a Chinaman faced a painful dilemma, a dilemma that featured the possibility of being beheaded by the public executioner. It was the case of that Chinese bos'un of whom we had a story the other night, Tsin Ho Zon, caught smuggling opium. He pleaded guilty today and was sentenced to prison. And then the question was raised -- it's the custom for the United States to deport smugglers back to their native countries when they have served their time in prison. But it was pointed out a smuggler deported back to China was likely to face the death penalty -- which traditionally is beheading.

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The judge took this into consideration and offered Tsin Ho Zon two alternatives. Three years in jail, with the likelihood of being deported and beheaded at the end of that time. Or ten years in jail, which would delay the sad eventuality. Tsin Ho Zon thought it over and decided he would take the three years. Also -- take the chance. He expressed himself in these classical words: "I will worry about the headsman," said he, "when that worthy catches up with me." And that suggests the vision of Tsin Ho Zon running like the

14--Smuggling

Dickens with the headsman chasing him.

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19--INSANE.

Here's a late one and a weird one from Italy -- believe it if
you like. A man named Acerbo went crazy. A neighbor named Brugna
took him in his car to convey him to a lunatic asylum. As they
drove along, the car collided with a truck. Both the insane Acerbo
and his custodian Brugna were injured. They were taken to a hospital,
and now the doctors discover that as a result of the crash Acerbo
has become sane and Brugna has gone crazy.

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