

FINLAND

P.T. - Sunoco. Friday, Dec. 22, 1939.

Three weeks of the
~~Tonight ends the third week of the~~ Russo-Finnish War ~~had~~
passed today - and
~~And it finds~~ the Finns, though still with their back to the wall,
~~are~~ holding out in extraordinary fashion against the Red Bolshevik
hordes.

Webb Miller of the United Press, who is with the Finnish
army in the field, cables ~~us~~ that the ~~sub~~⁺born armies of Finland
have blocked or hurled back the Soviet forces. ~~on all but the Far~~
~~Northern front.~~

~~And~~ glowing report from Copenhagen has it that ~~even~~ in
the Far North, the Finns have won a signal, ~~and even~~ ^{in fact} startling
victory. (The rumor in the Scandinavian countries is that the
Bolshevik armies have had to abandon the positions they ~~had~~ captured
in the Arctic. ^{a major} ~~a~~ military catastrophe ^{its}
called.

~~Nothing of this was known today at Finnish headquarters~~
~~on the Karelian Isthmus, but~~ Corroborative details indicate that
the Russians up there have been obliged to fall back to the coast.
And headquarters reports that they have also been heavily defeated
on the north central front and are in retreat.)

The Finnish ~~headquarters~~ official statement tonight is that
no fewer than three hundred and fifty, ~~of~~ Soviet tanks have been

destroyed or captured in these three weeks, thirty-five Russian airplanes shot down. *And the Finns* ~~Finnish headquarters~~ makes no attempt at estimating Russian casualties. But the Scandinavians declare positively that Stalin's generals have lost thirty thousand dead. That takes no account of the captured and wounded. ~~But we have read that the Finns do not take many prisoners.~~

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Finnish officers state definitely that the Russians have used five hundred and fifty planes in raids over Finnish territory in the last two days. They have bombed twenty Finnish towns. And they have used at least one thousand tanks, including the *giant tanks,* ~~heavier machines~~ in their futile assaults on the Mannerheim Line.

The American correspondents today had the opportunity of an interview with Finland's man of the hour, Marshal Carl Gustav Mannerheim, the Commander-in-Chief. Among other things, Mannerheim, *Line named for him, and largely* who created the ~~Mannerheim Line~~, who in fact ~~is~~ *was* principally responsible for Finnish independence, sent a special message to Americans. Said the tall, erect seventy-two year old Marshal to the American newspaper men:- "As a special favor I ask you to express the thanks

of the Finnish army for the encouragement you have given them."

And he said further:- "We know the world understands our position and wants to help us despite great difficulties in these hard times.

They proved ^{he went on to say,} it by sending contributions to our sanitary organizations, and by support for our evacuated families and by taking our small children to safety."

Mannerheim, who is six feet two, looks the part that he plays and dresses it to the last button. ~~He is known as one of the best dressed men in his country.~~ As he spoke to the correspondents, the breast of his light grey tunic was literally covered with service ribbons.)

8 They say that in peace-time he is a rare companion, jolly, fond of fun, loves ~~music~~ music, goes big game-hunting in India, and once rode almost entirely across Asia on horseback.

It is ironic to reflect that thirty-four years ago, in the Russo-Japanese War, Mannerheim was fighting for the people he is now resisting. He was a captain in the Russian Army against the Japanese. At the time the World War came along, he became a general and was in command of Russian troops on the Roumanian front.

When the revolution broke out, he returned to Finland, imperiled his life, didn't even trouble to change his uniform. He went through the most tumult-ridden parts of Russia in the full regalia of a Czarist general. Back in Finland he organized an army of patriots, ~~led~~ and led them against the Bolsheviks.

In fact his countrymen said that he did more than any other

single person to make Finland a free republic. *And now*

*leading the Finns in their
desperate fight.*

PARIS

Still more material help for Finland is in sight.

Hitherto the Allies, Great Britain and France, have proceeded rather cautiously in letting the world know what they were going to do for the Finns. But (today French Premier Daladier told his Chamber of Deputies that France is sending what he described in so many words as "real military aid", to Finland.) He did not go into details, but the interpretation of his terse communication to ~~the~~ ^{the French} Parliament is that what Daladier said goes for Great Britain too.

BRIDGE

A barge full of gasoline was on its way down the River Seine through the heart of Paris today, when suddenly it ran amuck. Out of control, it crashed into the central pier of one of the famous bridges of Paris, the St. Louis Bridge, behind the Cathedral of Notre Dame, ~~which~~ ^{The bridge} connects those two ancient historic islands in the middle of the river, the islands on which the Palace of Justice, the City Hall, and other government buildings are situated. The bridge collapsed, whereupon gas pipes broke and the escaping gas caught fire. ^{The} motor cars, cabs, and people crossing the bridge on foot were hurled into the Seine, three of them killed, and about twenty badly injured.

50 The same barge, on its erratic career, also damaged one of the pillars of the Notre Dame Bridge. But the damage there was not so serious and no lives lost.

WRECK

A great
~~Another~~

train wreck in Germany! It brings to light the startling fact that since the War broke out, there have been no fewer than seven serious railroad calamities in Hitler's land.

In this latest fatality, which occurred near Brandenburg, the list of dead mounted ^S~~ed~~ up to at least seventy-seven. A hundred ^{more}~~people~~ ~~besides those~~ were injured, and fifty are in serious condition.

This is all the more remarkable as up to ^{the War}~~now~~ the record of the German railroads has been singularly good, train wrecks few, and ~~a remarkable low casualty list.~~

~~My friend~~ Norman Ferguson, a Philadelphia newspaperman,
just sent me a copy of an exceedingly interesting cablegram.
A message sent across the ocean on August twenty-first, eighteen
ninety-eight. The man who received it on this end was Simon
Lake, the American inventor of the submarine. The man who
sent it from Paris was none other than Jules Verne. Said
Jules Verne:-

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"While my book, 'Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the
Sea', is entirely a work of the imagination, my conviction is
that all I said in it will come to pass.

"A thousand-mile voyage in the Baltimore submarine
boat is evidence of this. This conspicuous success of submarine
navigation in the United States will push on underwater
navigation all over the world.

"If such a successful test had come a few months
earlier it might have played a great part in the war just closed.

"The next great war may be largely a contest between

submarine boats. I think electricity rather than compressed air will be the motive power in such vessels, for the sea is full of this element: it is only waiting to be harnessed as steam has been. It will not be necessary to go to the land for fuel any more than for provisions. The sea will provide food for many and power without limit.

"Submarine navigation is now ahead of aerial navigation and will advance much faster from now on. Before the United States gains her full development, she is likely to have mighty navies not only on the bosom of the Atlantic and Pacific, but in the upper air and beneath the water's surface."

QUAKE

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Late last night and at two o'clock this morning, the ^aseismograph, the earthquake recorder, at Fordham University, started registering violently. Not as violently, however, as yesterday afternoon. That ^{provided} ~~was~~ the first ~~indication~~ knowledge in this country that Costa Rica had ^{once again} been shaken by severe earthquakes. Later came news from Costa Rica itself that those earth tremors were the worst in sixteen years. Only one death, but much damage to property in the capital of Costa Rica.

LOST PLANE

In the icy wilderness of Alaska, a woman and a baby just fifteen months old, were marooned for three days. There were two men with them, one the pilot of the airplane in which they were traveling. The pilot, Fred Chambers, found he had a broken airline which clogged his engine, so he was forced to land. That was last Tuesday. He was able to radio the officials of the airline what had happened to him. But as he was in the midst of a blinding Alaskan blizzard he was unable to give his position. And he knew that the blizzard had driven him ~~off~~ off his course before he was forced ~~down~~ ^{down.} ~~to land.~~ ^{^ Air rescue attempted!-}

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^ For two days Pilot Jack Jeffert, the brother-in-law of the marooned woman and ^{uncle} ~~mother~~ of the baby, flew around that part of Alaska straining his eyes, searching over the frozen tundra in the below-zero weather. ~~of the Arctic.~~ He finally located the wrecked ship, which was lying helpless in the wild, rocky region along the ^{— north of the Yukon.} utter reaches of the Nulato River. ^ The country was so broken that it was impossible to rescue the marooned people by plane. Even dog teams will have a tough time getting to them. Jack Jeffert found his sister-in-law just in the nick of time. The party in

the plane had finished all their emergency rations and were

beginning to be painfully hungry. Though Jeffert could not ~~not~~

pick them up,
~~reach them~~ he was able to drop food and sleeping bags. *Now dogs*
are on the way.

And, a missing plane is being looked for in ~~remote and~~

another
~~totally different~~ part of the world. Early yesterday, a British

Egypt, bound for the Island of
airliner left Alexandria, ~~for~~ Malta. But it never reached that

stronghold
British ~~island~~ in the Mediterranean. More than thirty-six hours

have gone by now and no word from the plane, not even ~~any~~ signals

of distress. ~~All attempts to communicate have been in vain.~~

Aboard ~~that plane~~ were five passengers from Egypt bound for

England, and a crew of five. Not only planes but ^S warship of the

British Mediterranean squadron ^{are} ~~is~~ hunting for the missing ^{air liner.} ~~plane~~

MOTORIST

William Joyce of Kalamazoo, Michigan, was driving his car along U.S. Highway Number Twenty in Indiana. Just as he reached the sign dividing South Bend and Mishawaka, he had about as ghastly an experience as could befall a motor car driver. Lying right bang in the middle of the highway was a man quite motionless. It was impossible for Joyce to avoid him, and he drove ^{right} over that man lying ^{there} in the middle of the highway.

Stopping his car, he rushed back to see what he had done, and ~~he~~ discovered that the man had been bound, gagged and blinded with adhesive tape. ~~He rushed the man to a hospital,~~
~~then reported the disaster to the police. The cops found it was~~
~~just as he had said, the victim's hands were bound behind his back,~~
~~his feet tied, and he was gagged and blinded. The officers~~
~~searched the road in the surrounding~~ ^{The police} ~~country, and found signs that~~
~~the victim had been dumped out of a car; in a few hours they had~~ ^{Left to be run}
~~a woman and two men detained for questioning.~~ ^{over. A particularly fiendish}
^{kind of murder.}

BUDGET

Here's a drastic idea for the federal budget. It comes from Democratic Senator Millard Tydings of Maryland ^{who is} ~~he is~~ going to try to have a law passed by Congress to set up the means of providing an automatically balanced budget. ^{Says the Senator:—} ~~and he said,~~ "All this talk about the federal budget is pure bunk, for," he explained, "there hasn't been anything remotely resembling a budget since Nineteen Twenty-Nine."

^{Sen. Tydings}
More specifically, the law ~~he~~ wants would require Congress, whenever there is a treasury deficit, to find sufficient revenue to liquidate the debt within a period of fifteen years. "There's nothing experimental about this," says the Maryland Senator, "for it has been tried in the Free State and is successful."

ROOSEVELT

The White House correspondents put a leading question to the President today. They wanted to find out what he thought about Vice-President Garner announcing that he was a candidate.

They asked Mr. Roosevelt if that announcement had changed his plans in any respect. The President's ~~first direct~~ reply to the question was that ^{himself} he had a sense of timing and proportion. Some of his listeners interpreted this to mean that he thought it was a sense which Vice-President Garner did not have. But Mr.

Roosevelt then changed the conversation, said he was too busy about more immediate matters such as ^{too busy} foreign affairs, to be talking about matters so far off as next year's campaign.

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WHITE HOUSE

There was a pre-Christmas ceremony at the White House today. The entire office staff of the executive mansion was summoned into the presence of the President and ~~Mrs. Roosevelt~~ ^{First Lady,} There they received the President's wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, also a present for everybody, a hundred and ninety of them. Several years ago, ~~Mr. Roosevelt~~ ^{the President} started giving everybody in the office one piece of a pewter-desk-set every year. This year it was a pewter stationary stand.

BOOK

A new book about America, published today, was written by a highly distinguished foreigner. The author is the ~~Most~~ ~~Reverend Almeto Cicognani~~, Apostolic Delegate to the United States. The title, ~~of this book is~~ "Sanctity in America." It reviews the lives of American men and women who, in the opinion of the Pope's Nuncio, are worthy some day be become canonized. ~~Saints. of the~~ ~~Catholic Church.~~

CHICAGO

Forty-eight years ago, a gentleman in Chicago received a check from the packing firm of Armour and Company. It was for thirty-five dollars, in payment for services he had rendered the Company. He received that check just as he was going away on his honeymoon, and he tucked it in the inside pocket of the suit he was wearing. But before the honeymoon was over, the bride exercised her prerogative of telling him she didn't like the suit. So he put it away, never wore it again, forgot the check.

A couple of years ago his daughter was going through some of her deceased father's things, found the suit and ~~found~~ the check. ~~in it.~~ And Yesterday she took her courage in both hands, went to the treasurer of Armour and Company and showed him ^{it to} ~~the check.~~ ^{— the check.} The Armour Company paid it, declared it was a moral obligation. And, said the daughter, "It isn't everyone that gets a posthumous Christmas present from father."

EMERALD

Three years ago a famous jewel was stolen from its owner.

It was an emerald, of enormous value, known as the "Empress Josephine

8 1/2 Emerald." ~~It was~~ One of the presents given by Napoleon Bonaparte

to Josephine, the lovely Creole, his first wife. ^{Lo and behold it} ~~It had passed into~~

^{eventually came into} the possession of a firm of Hollywood jewelers, and was loaned ^{by them} to a

fur store in Hollywood, for an exhibition. — and stolen from

them. For three ^{now} ~~all these~~ years, the police of California and the

Federal Bureau of Investigation have been on the trail of the thief.

And Today they say they have him. At San Francisco they arrested

William Benedict Quinn, who in Nineteen Twenty was a member of the

29 American Olympic Wrestling Team. He's arrested on a charge of

having violated the federal statute called the "National Stolen

^{The Empress Josephine} Property Act." ~~The~~ emerald is valued at forty thousand dollars —

the ~~gem~~ ^{gem} Napoleon gave.

29 1/4 And Hugh, what is Santa going to give you?