

D.I. - Sunoco. Monday, Jan. 29, 1940.

HULL

The Honorable Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, evidently is annoyed. He's tired of the attacks on his pet baby, the Reciprocal Trade Treaty program. ^{Hull} ~~He~~ broke a precedent ^{today} and hurled back some of those criticisms. He remarked that the trade treaty program was one of the drastic emergency measures devised in Nineteen Thirty-Three to meet emergency conditions. And he said that the Government is asking for that program to be continued because the European War has precipitated even graver international conditions today. However, he added that his program was a temporary agency, that as soon as conditions return to normal, Congress and the country can determine a permanent commercial policy in the light of changed conditions everywhere.

The Secretary went on to say that for this course and attitude none of us has the slightest apologies to offer. Then he made some acid remarks about the Hawley-Smoot Tariff Bill. And ~~he~~ said that his critics do not offer the slightest remedy as an alternative to his trade treaty program.

On this same day another appeal was made for restrictions on Secretary Hull's program. Howard ~~E.~~ Young, Chairman of the

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Tariff Committee of the National Association of Manufacturers
appeared before the Ways and Means Committee of the House.

He urged that the program should be continued only if the
trade agreements are approved by the Senate. ~~That's a point
on which many senators have already agreed.~~

SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court of the United States disappointed a lot of people in New York today. It was over that two per cent sales tax in New York City. A protest was made that it should not apply to anything in interstate commerce such as coal brought into New York from outside the State. Several business firms took an appeal to the highest tribunal, complained the proceeding was unconstitutional. The Supreme Court said No, nothing of the sort; perfectly constitutional. Incidentally, this reverses the courts of New York itself.

Thereupon Mayor LaGuardia, who has an apt reply for everything, grabbed a quotation from Shakespeare as a comment on that Supreme Court ruling. "A Daniel come to judgment!" says New York's Mayor. Maybe he forgot that the character who said that phrase was Shylock. Shylock or no Shylock, interstate or no interstate, that two per cent sales tax in New York sticks, whether you like it or not.

TOWNSEND

Another Townsend old-age pension plan is to come up in Congress. It'll be offered by Senator Sheridan Downey of California and Representative Joe Hendricks of Florida. The idea is to tax all incomes over two hundred and fifty dollars a month, a two per cent tax on gross. ~~That means no exemptions, no allowance for dependents, no deductions, just a flat two per cent.~~ With the money from that, the Townsend people would expect to start old-age pensions at around fifty dollars a month.

GAS TAXES

Some figures are released concerning taxes on gasoline during NineteenThirty-Nine. During the year, federal, state and local governments collected a total of taxes from all sources amounting to thirteen billion dollars. The total petroleum taxes were one billion, three hundred million. ^{Ten per cent of all.} The oil industry paid out for every sort of expense the sum of four billion, one hundred million dollars. Of this, the largest item was wages, which came to a billion and a half. The second largest item was taxes, about a third of the entire outlay. These figures are just another tip-off to the heavy tax load the nation carries - especially the drivers of automobiles *who pay 10% of all taxes.*

JOHNSON

Today's feature at the Convention of United Mine Workers in Columbus was a speech by Brigadier-General Hugh Johnson.

Iron
Old ~~iron~~ Pants was in pretty good form. He told the miners an interesting piece of unwritten history from the archives of his days as head of the N.R.A. It concerned the leading employers of one industry, he didn't mention which. But it was an industry in which many manufacturers had company unions. And Johnson said the employers came to him and offered to do away with their company unions and replace them with an independent labor organization covering the whole industry and modelled after the United Mine Workers Union. The plans would have gone through, said the ex-head of the N.R.A., except for one man, President Green of the American Federation of Labor. Green, he said, refused to okay it. And, said ~~the General,~~ *the General,* "that was a shock and an eye-opener to me."

General Johnson then ~~stuck out his neck for a few more~~ *had some more unkind things to say about the A.F. & L.* He declared ~~dead cats from the American Federation of Labor.~~ that union racketeering was said to be principally, ~~if not wholly,~~ in the unions of the Federation. ~~For the rest, Johnson's speech,~~ was ~~largely an eulogy of John L. Lewis.~~

LEWIS

John L. Lewis also contributed to the day's proceedings at Columbus. His offering was an attack on Miss Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor. He told his miners that she's a nice lady and he likes her a lot, which ought to please her. Then he added that he thought she'd be a good housekeeper but he doesn't believe ~~that~~ she knows as much about economic problems as a Hottentot

does about the moral laws. Or add the learned anthropologist, as much as John Lewis knows about Hottentots, who have many moral laws.

A.F. of L. fellow JOHNSON

At the same time, the Executive Council of the ^{A.F. of L.} ~~Federation~~
~~of Labor were~~ ^{was} holding a meeting at Miami, Florida. The first action
was an order to all state and central federations, an order of
ostracism for the International Typographical Union. ~~The~~
~~federations are ordered not to have anything to do with the~~
~~typographers locals.~~ It's all because of the refusal of the
~~typographers~~ ^{printers} to pay the assessment levied on ~~it~~ ^{them,} the war chest
assignment for the fight with the C.I.O. This is considered just
a preliminary to throwing the typographical union out of the
American Federation of Labor.

President Green of the A.F. of L. also expressed himself
angrily because certain leaders of the building trades unions
have been indicted. And the head of the building trades council
made the accusation that ^(this) ~~these~~ anti-trust campaign was a move by
the government to play up to John L. Lewis and the C.I.O.

CROPS

In some parts of the country farmers are rejoicing, rubbing their hands as they look with satisfaction at the heavy blanket of snow that covers their spring crops. In the prairie states it's the first moisture that reached the earth since early autumn.

But in other regions the men of agriculture are weeping, wailing and gnashing their teeth. For the frost has inflicted on them the worst blow that growers in the south have suffered in a decade. In Texas whole acres of citrus fruit and vegetables are destroyed. In Louisiana and Mississippi, thirty-five per cent of the cabbage crop was ruined, and thirty per cent of the onions damaged. The sugar growers in Louisiana have appealed to the Department of Agriculture to let them plant more cane because of the excessive cold.

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Fruit growers in Indiana report that their peach crop is almost a total loss. And even in southern Illinois, the orchards were injured to the extent of two millions. Perhaps the gloomiest report comes from Florida. This is just an estimate, but the farmers and orchardists are guessing that they've lost perhaps twenty millions.

PARALYSIS

A benefit performance of a play was given at Washington last night, the proceeds to go to the ^{Paralysis} Infantile Fund. The President and Mrs. Roosevelt were among the seventeen hundred people who crowded the theatre, and one line in the play got a particularly loud laugh. This occurred when a leading character, a confirmed Republican, shouted out, "Why did God make so many ~~blankety~~ ^{blank} ~~hypnotized~~ fools and Democrats?" The President exploded with laughter and the whole house followed suit.

The nation's capital began to look somewhat like Hollywood today. A whole galaxy of stars from the Pacific Coast came to Washington to help celebrate the President's Fifty-Eighth Birthday and help in the March of Dimes Campaign. Edward G. Robinson, Mickey Rooney, Pat O'Brien, James Cagney, Olivia

deHaviland, arrived at the Union Station, greeted by large throngs.

~~The nation steps to the merciful tune of
The March of Dimes.~~
The March of Dimes Campaign is about the only solution

we have for most distressing news about the prevalence of poliomyelitis, the infantile paralysis that has laid sinister hands, without warning, upon so many hapless youngsters. It is indeed heart-rending to learn that in spite of all that has been done,

ELEANOR

The First Lady of the Land today gave utterance to a sentiment which may provoke ~~quite~~ a sensation. It certainly will interest those who believe in isolation for Uncle Sam.

Mrs. Roosevelt began by saying that it was much too early to call a peace conference now, the time is not ripe. Then she went on to say that when the time is ripe, the United States should be prepared to pay the price, the price of peace. When we take part in any peace conference, we should do so in the frame of mind which will accept international responsibility for economic questions.

FINLAND

In Finland, a squadron of Bolshevik airplanes made a ~~raid~~ raid over Helsinki. Several of their bombs hit the mark, lit on the roof of a Red Cross hospital. The dispatch relates that there was a huge Red Cross on the roof of the hospital and that "the humane Red bombers," as they are called in their own newspapers, swooped low in order to make their hit. One of the bombs dropped plumb through the middle of the building and in a few minutes the whole hospital, two hundred feet long, was in flames. There were thirty people in it at the time, and twenty-three of them perished.

There was also a raid of ten bombers on the seaport of Turku. ^{There} they killed twenty-eight, wounded forty-six. But three _A of the invading planes were shot down.

On the Mannerheim front, the Finns have been fighting off ~~the~~ persistent Bolshevik attack for nine days. At the end of the ninth day, the Russians were finally repulsed and the Finns promptly ^{being} made a counter-attack, found twelve hundred and fifty Russian dead on the field and took a hundred and sixty prisoners.

CZECHS

More rumblings from the unfortunate country that used to be Czechoslovakia. A dispatch from Prague reports that the Nazi police are arresting more people in that ~~so-called~~ protectorate, trying to stamp out an agitation against the Hitler regime.

One of the men they put in prison is a former official of the Czechoslovakian government. He's seventy-four years old and used to hold office under the late President Masaryk.

There was a parade in Prague yesterday, two thousand Storm Troopers marching through the principal square of the ancient capital of Bohemia. As the Swastika flag was carried by, twenty-four Czechs in the crowd did not raise their hats. They were arrested and thrown into jail.

MOTHER

Here's an interesting note from Hitler's country. The golden mother's cross of honor was bestowed upon six women, all sisters, at a small town in Bavaria. Those six have given birth altogether to no fewer than eighty-two children. That's an average of almost fourteen apiece. But one of them alone brought the average up, for she had twenty-one.

Oh mama.

SHIPS

Since the beginning of the War, the Nazis have sunk a total of two hundred and eighty-five merchant vessels. That's the figure announced, not by the British Admiralty but by Lloyds, the famous organization of insurance underwriters. Of those two hundred and eighty-five, only a hundred and thirty-three were British. A hundred and thirteen were neutral.

~~On the other hand, the Allies have sunk only twenty-five~~

~~German merchantmen.~~

TRAIN WRECK

Another catastrophe in Japan, a big ^{railroad} scale disaster.

It happened right in the suburbs of Osaka, one of the largest manufacturing centers in the Mikado's Empire. A train of only three cars, drawn by a gasoline engine, was taking a number of workers to their jobs in some of the big factories. The train was wrecked, and ^{out} ~~the spectacle must have been appalling. For out~~ of those three coachloads of passengers, a hundred and eighty-six were killed, sixty-nine injured. ~~Fifty-eight of the injured were quite seriously wounded.~~

SUTHERLAND

Here's something for the football fans. ~~You will~~

Remember Dr. John Sutherland, the great coach who made the Pittsburgh Panthers so formidable, the team of the University of Pittsburgh. Nothing much has been heard from him since he resigned in disgust, although he did coach the All-Star team of the eastern colleges for their charity game against the New York Giants last December.

Of course several colleges tried to get Jock Sutherland, but none of the negotiations were consummated. The news is that he's going in for professional football. He has completed arrangements to sign a contract to coach the Brooklyn Dodgers, in the National League.

~~In case you share the vulgar curiosity of the rest of us about salary?~~ ~~it's rumored~~ ^{Phy be} between twelve thousand and fifteen thousand a year, *the story says.*

LEIGH

A lawsuit was decided in London today which is decidedly interesting in this country at this particular moment. It was heard in what the British call "The Division of Probate, Admiralty and Divorce." It was, in short, a divorce action. The divorce was granted to a lady known to British fame as Jill Esmond. And the lady who was called as co-respondent is Vivien Leigh, ~~star of~~ ^{Scarlett O'Hara of} "Gone With The Wind." The action, incidentally, was not defended.

At the same time it was announced in London that the husband of Miss Leigh has brought an action against ~~her~~ ^{Scarlett O'Hara} which will be heard later on. Miss Leigh's husband names as co-respondent the ^{actor,} ~~the~~ [^] Lawrence Olivier, husband of Jill Esmond.

LOVE

Out in Los Angeles they have several unique establishments, and one of them is called the "Institute of Family Relations."

It investigates sex, heredity, love, marriage and parenthood.

Dr. Paul Popenoe, the Director of this ^{odd} ~~interesting~~ institute, has been studying the ways of man when he proposes marriage.

And the conclusion he draws from his studies is not, ~~to put it~~ ~~frankly~~, flattering.

Dr. Popenoe gives us some interesting examples ^{of} how a man is led to say those dangerous words, "Will you marry me?" One man was out with his girl and she was frightened by a rattlesnake, and it was that which led him to pop the question. *She clung to him, when scared.*

Another man was at a picnic, where they fed him a slab of gooseberry pie. It was so good that when he was introduced to the girl who made it, he stuck his neck out, and got the fatal answer, "yes".

Still another man was a bit of an opportunist. He's a ranch owner and ~~he~~ learned that a schoolhouse near his ranch was vacant. So he went and proposed to a young school teacher.

~~In fact~~ Dr. Popenoe declares that the average man, when in the throes of the thing that makes the world go round, is ^{just a sap.} ~~flippant~~

~~a stumblebum and a paleoka.~~ The form and method of his proposal of marriage is usually so inept, so unromantic, so inopportune, that the average woman is ashamed to remember it.

And that reminds me — here's

~~and now, Hugh, I'm sure you have something to say which~~

Hugh.

~~will not make us ashamed to remember it.~~

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