

SPAIN

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A naval battle - Admiral Cervera! It sounds like the Spanish-American War, the Battle of Santiago, where the Americans sunk the Spanish fleet under <sup>the gallant</sup> Admiral Cervera. He lost the fight, but Spain continued to honor him - and named a cruiser after him. That cruiser right now is fighting with the Rebels. ~~in Spain~~

Today - the first naval battle of the Spanish Civil War, and the ADMIRAL CERVERA was in it. Gibraltar! - the Rebel Cruiser met two government destroyers in the Straits. The ADMIRAL CERVERA, at the Atlantic entrance, opened a fire of heavy guns. The government destroyer GRAVINA was hit badly, lurched and sank. Of a hundred and fifty-five officers and men, only twenty were saved - by a British ship. Shells hit a second government destroyer, likewise named after a sea commander - the ADMIRAL JUAN FERNANDIZ. This craft was damaged but got away - fled to the Left Wing port of Malaga. <sup>R</sup> Meanwhile, Rebel airplanes were bombing Malaga. Sky torpedoes burst in the city. The bombing was so fierce that the Argentine Consul at Malaga made a hasty getaway and fled to Gibraltar.

The same story of sky bombing at the northern port of

Bilbao. There the besieged Left Wingers are holding fifteen hundred hostages. Reports had it that they had massacred ~~the~~ <sup>many</sup> hostages, as a reprisal for previous air raids. They have been threatening to kill all the prisoners if there were another sky attack. Nevertheless, there was ~~a~~ <sup>an</sup> <sup>from the air</sup> attack today, with the bursting of bombs in Bilbao. <sup>And what will that mean</sup> ~~while the insurgents outside blasted~~ <sup>for those unfortunate hostages?</sup> ~~with heavy cannon fire at the Left Wing defenses.~~

( In the battle for Madrid, the government has mobilized every man, is sending its last reserves of militia to ~~take the Rebel~~ check the Rebel attack. Having conquered Toledo, General Franco's motorized columns turn north toward the capital. ~~They are driving north on the Madrid Toledo road.~~ <sup>TR</sup> Again the report comes of the flight of the leaders of the Madrid government.)

There's <sup>a</sup> rumor today that President Azana has gone to the port of Alicante - abandoning Madrid. The Left Wingers deny this. They admit that the President has left the capital, but say he has merely gone on a tour of the eastern provinces.

( Reports from Toledo declare that the ~~raid stage~~ Reds staged an orgy of killing when the Rebel army burst <sup>in and</sup> ~~into~~ Toledo )

and relieved the Alcazar. Six hundred priests reported to have been massacred by the enraged Anarchists.)

And meanwhile new stories about the defense of the Alcazar, which is now an old story. ~~Now~~ We wondered about the food supplies that could provision twelve hundred people during a desperate siege of two and a half months! That question is answered today. When the cadets and civil guards took refuge in the Alcazar, they drove with them the civil guard troop of horses and mules. These animals they ate during the siege. Moreover, the Rebel planes that bombed the Left Wingers in Toledo, also dropped packages of food to the Alcazar defenders.

It's extraordinary that of the eighty lives lost among them, not one was a woman or child. The women and children survived unscathed. In fact, there was an addition to their numbers - two babies born in the underground caverns - infants that now for the first time see the light of day.

In the stories of the defenders <sup>Just coming out</sup> ~~today~~ dramatic tension is at its highest, when they tell how the Left Wingers exploded their dynamite mines. Within the Alcazar men, women and

children could hear the drilling of the mines in which the high explosive was planted. They knew perfectly well what it meant - that ominous sound of the drills. The engineers among them took careful note, listening, making calculations. The sound told them <sup>where</sup> ~~when~~ the dynamite was being placed, and they could <sup>estimate</sup> ~~calculate~~ the effect the explosion would have, what part of the great stone building <sup>would</sup> ~~be~~ be blown up. Thus, the defenders were forewarned, <sup>and</sup> ~~they~~ could keep away from the danger zone. Only one man was killed in all that dynamiting <sup>that</sup> ~~the~~ the Loyalists did.

FRANCE - GOLD

Tonight in France a lot of politicians are sleeping soundly, snoring and snoozing -- not even disturbed by bad dreams of gold or <sup>by</sup> ~~by bad~~ nightmare visions of what the French public is likely to say and do. They are that tired -- those weary statesmen of France. Today they finished a twenty-five hour session, twenty-five long hours of speech making and deliberation.

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Yesterday they passed a preliminary bill ~~that~~ for devaluing the franc. Then they took up the main business of going off gold. They ~~xxxx~~ debated the proposition to cut the gold content of the franc from a fourth to a third of its present value, ~~theyxxxx~~ and to establish a substantial fund of ten million francs. They were listening to Premier Blum's arguments in favor of the bill, his statement that going off gold was an essential part of his program. And he compared his program to New Deal legislation in the United States, in the course of which, President Roosevelt cut the gold value of the dollar. R After the dreary twenty-five hours the deputies passed the devaluation bill, passed it decisively -- by a

majority of one hundred.

So you can score one for Premier Blum -- and then you can score another. From the Chamber of Deputies the devaluation bill went to the French Senate, an exceedingly conservative body of lawmakers. They're not supposed to be so much in favor of cutting <sup>the</sup> gold in <sup>the</sup> France. First the Senate Finance Committee took ~~it~~ <sup>the bill.</sup> up. What did they do? They ~~it~~ passed it. And they did it so quickly ~~that~~ it was a surprise. The main body of the Senate still has to take a vote ~~on~~ before France is officially off gold. But, there's no doubt they will pass the bill. So

tonight we can count the French franc as good as cut. ~~by a third~~

*Blum has decided to devalue it by 29%.*  
~~or a fourth of its gold value.~~

This is by no means a local affair of Paris and France. It's decidedly international. (In cutting the value of the Franc, the Blum government is acting in collaboration with the United States and Great Britain. The three nations have formed a stabilization program. They have a gentleman's agreement not to go fooling around with their own currencies in any <sup>mad</sup> ~~wild~~ fashion. They won't cut down their money in any such <sup>R</sup> ~~wild~~ way as to cause

an inflation race among the nations. Today in Washington  
Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau declared that there was no  
secret money pact <sup>between</sup> ~~among~~ France, Great Britain and the United States.  
It's all in the open and based on honor and good faith. <sup>That is -</sup> There's  
no fixed ratio between Francs, Pounds and Dollars. It's flexible.  
The three nations are merely using stabilization funds to prevent  
violent fluctuations of their currencies.

And, Secretary Morgenthau issued an invitation. In  
effect he said to other nations - "Gentlemen, come in and join  
our gentleman's agreement." He'd like to have everybody join in  
the currency <sup>fact</sup> ~~agreement~~ between France, Great Britain and the U.S.A.  
~~United States.~~

SYRACUSE

Syracuse reminds one of Philadelphia tonight.

Everything was cut and dried at the Philadelphia convention.

Everybody knew who would be nominated. And so it ~~is~~<sup>was</sup> at

Syracuse. Everybody ~~knows~~<sup>knew</sup> that Governor Lehman ~~will~~<sup>would</sup> be

renominated, ~~There is no suspense.~~<sup>for governor of New York. And he was.</sup> The high spot is not

the voting. It will be ~~President~~<sup>Mr,</sup> Roosevelt's address tonight.

And that also is like Philadelphia where the Presidential

oration at Franklin Field was the ~~climax and~~<sup>high power -</sup> climax.

And, maybe Albany today was a bit like Cleveland.

It was no foregone conclusion at the Cleveland convention,

but, it looked like Landon all the time. And ~~it~~ was. And

so at Albany it looked pretty much like Bleakley, although

there were a few rifts in the New York Republican ranks.

Today the Westchester County Supreme Court Justice was nomi-

nated on the first ballot. He's popular and well-thought

of, and is expected to be a strong candidate. So the New

York line-up for the governorship is not surprising -- Lehman

~~versus~~<sup>47 Presidential</sup>  
~~against~~<sup>^</sup> Bleakley -- with New York's ~~forty-two~~<sup>^</sup> electoral votes

very much in the foreground.

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## PRESIDENT

Who'll be inaugurated as President of the United States on January Twentieth? Roosevelt or Landon? Maybe neither one - and not Browder either. Maybe - nobody. Perhaps it will be no president at all, and that sounds alarming. We Americans might get along without earth or sky, or popcorn. But how could we get along without a president? Who would smile upon the nation? Who would get all the blame? Who would sooth us and lull us on the radio? Who would say where the money should be spent? Only a president. So let's review the alarming news from Washington.

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Under the Norris Lane Duck Amendment, Inauguration Day has been changed from March Fourth to January Twentieth. But before a president can be inaugurated, Congress must ratify the November election - must make it official that a president has really been elected. So, at the last session, a bill was passed, according to which Congress must meet on January Fifth. Then the next day, on January Sixth, the lower House and the Senate are required to meet in joint session and do that ratifying - make the election official. But the lower House, in order to do anything at all, must formally organize, which means - ~~much~~ elect a speaker.

But, supposing it should be unable to elect a speaker tie  
vote, neither Republicans nor Democrats able to produce a  
majority. That would tie up all **business** in the Lower House.  
It would prevent the joint meeting to ratify the election.

This in turn would stop the inauguration of the President.

Legally, the ~~nation would be without a president~~ <sup>White House would be without an occupant</sup> and would stay  
without one until the Lower House straightened out its affairs.

This is a peculiar angle which nobody thought about, when they  
wrote the Lame Duck Amendment and the laws that go with it.

This year, many expect the Republicans and Democrats  
to run a close race. The Lower House might turn out ~~by~~ to be  
evenly divided. Moreover, there's a liberal bloc of some thirty  
members. They organized during the last session, and part of  
their strategy will be to tie up the choice of the speaker -  
until a few of their pet bills are passed. That's an old  
familiar trick - tying <sup>things up</sup> ~~up business~~ until something is forced  
through. In this case it would mean - stopping the inauguration.  
~~of the president.~~

However, let's not sink into black despair.

A few hundred congressmen, split evenly in a tie vote, is  
mathematically unlikely, when a majority of <sup>just</sup> one would do the  
trick. So there isn't much chance on January Twentieth -  
of our being a widowed and presidentless nation. <sup>So cheer up.</sup> ~~So cheer up,~~  
~~and SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.~~

AIR RACE

Today in England, it was one a minute. Fast planes took off at minute intervals, and flew south. Britain's biggest air race of the year. England to South Africa <sup>to</sup> Johannesburg, the City of Gold. Nine <sup>all-British</sup> speedsters battling for fifty thousand dollars in prizes. They expect to make that southern flight

in less than forty hours, although the time limit is a hundred and twenty hours. <sup>That is</sup> They'll have to do it <sup>in 120 to qualify for a cut</sup> ~~that fast to get any cut of~~

<sup>of</sup> the money. <sup>in the lead.</sup> Capt. ~~Horse~~ <sup>has passed</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>^</sup> Cairo, Egypt,

The race began with the weather reports saying okay.

Ideal flying conditions for all those sixty-five hundred miles,

~~except~~ - high winds over the Mediterranean.

<sup>A British</sup> flyer broke the world altitude record to day.

BASEBALL

The night before the beginning of the World Series - and the G-men are on the job! Tomorrow <sup>- if it doesn't rain -</sup> the battle will begin for the supreme honors of baseball - and the Federal Agents are doing their stuff. You'd think that there were Dillingers around, maybe the bleachers full of public enemies at the World Series, or perhaps - that J. Edgar Hoover and his G-men were going to trot out on the diamond and play ball. But it isn't that - it's scalping - which sounds like Indians, Redskins with tommy hawks. But <sup>there are</sup> ~~they're~~ ticket scalpers. So the World Series this year begins with the old familiar refrain - the speculators have got the tickets. This year the scalping is bigger and worse than ever.

The G-men are investigating reports that the speculators have cornered the market in World Series tickets, have bought up between three hundred thousand and a half million dollars' <sup>worth.</sup> ~~world.~~ The federal agents are looking into the rumor that the scalpers are getting from twelve to fifteen dollars for ordinary reserved seats which have a regular price of five fifty. For box seats they're getting from seventeen fifty to twenty dollars a seat - regular price six sixty. They're calling this a subway

series, a jitney classic, a five cent battle of baseball - but it might cost you a hundred bucks to see the minimum of four games - plus the subway fare. All the boxes and reserved seats are already sold out. The unreserved seats will be put on sale tomorrow, <sup>and</sup> the line will form early. All signs point to a million dollar series, not counting the number of scalps the scalpers take.

The G-men have been asking the baseball officials about how the speculators got all those <sup>ducats.</sup> ~~seats~~. The club owners say they can't <sup>ham</sup> account for it. President Stone <sup>ham</sup> of the Giants denies vigorously that there was any deal to sell tickets to the speculators. He adds - that in the regular sale it was impossible to tell who was a scalper and who was not. You couldn't get credentials from everyone who bought a ticket. <sup>¶</sup> But, what have the G-men, Nemesis of kidnapers and bank robbers, got to do with the World Series scalping orgy? The answer is - taxes. At regular box office prices, the government is entitled to a dollar and twenty cents in taxes on each reserved seat, a dollar seventy-five on more expensive places, but the scalpers are selling tickets

for far higher prices. So what about the taxes on those larger

*Shouldn't they be paid?*  
amounts? <sup>^</sup> The way the speculators have got the seats and are

selling them, the Treasury Department might lose at the rate of  
twenty-five thousand dollars per game. No wonder the G-men are  
on the job!

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How's the betting on the Series? Two sets ~~xx~~ of odds  
are quoted - one way on the series and the opposite way on the

first game tomorrow. They're betting ~~five to five~~ <sup>odds</sup> on the Yanks

for the Series - laying the money on the big ~~acts~~ <sup>rate of</sup> Lou Gehrig,

Joe DiMaggio, and Bill Dickie. But, for the first game the odds  
*favor the Giants and that*  
~~are five to three for the favorites - the money laid on the~~

whip-like pitching arm of Carl Hubbell. Bill Terry is virtually

certain to pitch Hubbell in <sup>that</sup> the opener, <sup>tomorrow - or there.</sup> Joe McCarthy seems to be

uncertain. Maybe he'll put Ruffing in, <sup>his</sup> the most dependable ball

tosser. Or he may take a gamble on Goofy Gomez, who looks as if  
he might flash his old-time winning form.

This strategy <sup>of the diamond however</sup> ~~is not the drawing card~~, <sup>^</sup> is not the

problem that is <sup>bothering</sup> ~~interesting~~ the G-men. They're after  
*the scalps of the scalpers. And*  
*solong until after the big game tomorrow.*

*if it rains tomorrow*

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