

L. J. - Sunoco. Monday, March 13, 1939.

CZECH

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There's no tremendous surprise in the news from Czechoslovakia. All that tension and uproar were foreshadowed almost in detail after the show at Munich. ^{Just} ~~They're~~ a natural development of the implicit ^{now} hēgemony of Nazi Germany over the ^{both} affairs of Czechs and Slovaks.

(The latest from Berlin is that Premier Tiso, who was turned out as Premier of Slovakia, had his conference with Fuehrer Hitler in Berlin and the immediate consequence is to be a further dismemberment) of the state that the map-makers tried to create at Versailles. (What used to be Czechoslovakia is to be split up into three independent states.) This isn't official yet, just a report ascribed to diplomatic spokesmen.

The Nazi government is said to have sent a note to Prague. In this Hitler demands the splitting up of the country. The three new independent states are to be Bohemia, Slovakia, and Carpatho-Ukrainia, ~~that's~~ ^{and Poles} the eastern end of Czechoslovakia, which the Hungarians have been trying to grab.

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The Fuehrer also insists upon the reorganization of the

cabinet at Prague. Specifically, he wants two particular ministers turned out, General Elias, Minister of Communications, and General Sirovy, Minister of National Defense. You will recall it was Sirovy who was Prime Minister at the height of the Sudetenland tumult. On top of this, word comes from Prague that the entire cabinet of Premier Bera will probably resign before midnight. ~~The dispatch from Berlin says that it took Hitler just forty minutes to confer with the Ex-Premier of Slovakia.~~

German newspapers are full of ~~sensational~~ alarmist reports from Czechoslovakia. Headlines proclaim that Czechs have been attacking Germans with bayonets; That there's a reign of ~~bloody~~ terror, a critical situation, unbelievable brutality, Communists helping the Czech police to terrorize Slovaks and Germans.

In Bratislava, the chief city of Slovakia, there's evidently much excitement with extreme tension. The probability is that an independent Slovakian republic will be proclaimed within the next few hours. To avoid any open outbreak, all the Czech

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troops in Slovakia were kept within their barracks.

There was a riot, a fight between Slovaks clamoring for separation and Czech policemen, six killed by bombs. The demonstration was ended when a message from Berlin was repeated to the crowd. It was a telegram from Ex-Premier Tiso and it read: "The Slovak problem already is solved."

LONDON FOLLOW PRAGUE

The question has been raised: ^{will} ~~in some quarters~~
~~whether~~ England ~~would~~ interfere? At the Munich conference, the
four powers, Britain, Germany, France and Italy, undertook to
guarantee the future frontiers of Czechoslovakia. But a
spokesman for the foreign office said that Prime Minister
Chamberlain and his Cabinet have no intention of intervening.
The guarantee given at Munich applies ~~in~~ only in case some other
power attacked Czechoslovakia. It doesn't cover any such
emergency as the secession of Slovakia.

SPAIN

Here's the latest from Spain, it just came in a few minutes ago. Generalissimo Franco is getting all set for his final assault on Madrid. An immense concentration of guns, soldiers, munitions, has been assembled around the old Castilian capital. Inside the city lines, General Miaja had reported that the Communist revolt was crushed. But he still had to cope with ~~guerrilla~~ ^S guerrilla sniping in certain parts of ~~Madrid~~ ^{the city}.

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KENNEDY

A much thrilled visitor at the Vatican today was Joe Kennedy, our Ambassador to London. He took with him almost the entire Kennedy family, the Missus and eight of the nine children. Joe spent twenty minutes alone with the ^{newly crowned} Pontiff, after which he introduced his wife and the eight offspring. Said Kennedy:

"The Pope spoke English to me and recalled his stay at our Bronxville home in November, Nineteen Thirty-Six." ^{And the ambassador went on!} His Holiness even recalled that Teddy, who was only four years old then, sat on his knee and played with a cross around his neck, asking all kinds of questions about his large cardinal's ring."

~~The Ambassador also related: "When I was ushered into his presence, I found the Pope still sitting in his old secretariat-of-state office. When the children came in he arose from his seat and went across the room to a flat table where he took out some rosaries and presented them to the children and then to all of us."~~

KING

The British Home Secretary made a statement today about the visit of King George and Queen Elizabeth this coming summer. Sir Samuel Hoare told the Chamber of Commerce of Great Britain that, ~~the~~ ~~royal visit to Canada is sure to be an unqualified success, and he added: "I am convinced that the citizens of Canada will feel they are the best of personal friends after they've seen our King and Queen."~~

~~Sir Samuel Hoare added a bit of historical comment when he said that~~ "if Queen Victoria had gone to Canada a hundred years ago she would have had a mixed reception. But today," he added, "the welcome to the King and Queen will be unanimous."

THAT'S

An English weekly called MEN'S WEAR, also had something to say about the royal visit to America. It was a full description of the King's wardrobe. He ^{is} ~~is~~ wear trousers cut considerably higher than those advocated by American tailors. ^{That is} ~~is~~ the news.

And the article continues: "The royal black morning coats which the King will wear ~~to some degree~~ will be featured by a single button fastening on the waistline instead of the link button

avored by some tailors, while the tails will reach barely four inches below the knee."

And here's some more: "Black and white cheviot trousers with straight bottoms nineteen and a half inches wide, will be worn with a black jacket." Also, "His Majesty's trousers for lounge suits have permanent turnup bottoms." ~~Furthermore, "Their Majesties will take their crowns and regalia and various uniforms for state occasions in Canada, but it is doubtful whether any uniforms will be in evidence in the United States."~~

AMBASSADOR

It was made known today that our legation in Panama has been raised in rating to an embassy. The new Ambassador there is William Dawson of Minnesota, a career man at present Minister to Uruguay. And Lawrence Steinhardt, now in Peru, does definitely go to Moscow.

GUAM

One of the arguments in favor of our fortifying the Island of Guam is that Japan has no right to object. It has always been said that the Japanese, in violation of solemn treaty promises, have for their part fortified islands in the Pacific ~~that they were~~ ^{held} ~~holding~~ under mandate from the League of Nations. The Naval Affairs Committee of the Senate directed a question to the State Department asking: "Is this true, is Japan fortifying those islands?" The State Department made a reply today, and the answer is, "The State Department has no knowledge that Japan has done so."

PUBLIC DEBT

A late bulletin from Washington informs us that the public debt limit is not to be raised just now. The announcement was made by Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau.

At present it's restricted to forty-five billion dollars.

GREEN

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The Supreme Court of the United States settled an interesting argument between four states of the Union. It was an argument that involved something like twenty million dollars. Also a picturesque figure. Massachusetts, Texas, Florida and New York were squabbling about the estate of the late Colonel Edward H. R. Green, ~~He was the~~ ^{Hetty --} only son of the famous [^] Hetty Green, that curious powerful little old woman who lived squalidly in a couple of rooms at Hoboken while amassing one of the biggest American fortunes. Her son was a colorful fellow in quite a different way. His pleasure was spending in real princely fashion the princely fortune bequeathed to him by the lady miser. He had sumptuous residences in all of the four states that ~~have been~~ ^{are} fighting for the right to tax his estate. For all his spending - and he denied himself nothing - Colonel Green left the tidy little sum of thirty-seven million dollars.

It became somewhat less after Uncle Sam had taken his mouthful, seventeen million ^{5.} ~~dollars~~. After that had been handed over, Texas wanted four million, six hundred and eighty-five thousand

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odd, Florida clamored for four million, six hundred and sixty-three thousand, eight hundred and fifty-seven. New York said, "Give me mine, a little matter of five million, nine hundred and one thousand dollars odd;" while Massachusetts put its hand out for four million, nine hundred and forty-seven thousand. ~~dollars odd.~~ The executor pointed out to the state governments that if all those claims were paid, the estate would wind up one and a half million dollars in the hole. That pathetic plea left the states cold. So eventually the argument got to the highest court, which says today: "We find that Edward H. R. Green was a resident of Massachusetts."

So Massachusetts is the winner.

Parenthetically, this was the first case in which Mr. Justice Frankfurter gave a dissenting opinion. He held that the appeal should have been dismissed for lack of jurisdiction, and Mr. Justice Hugo Black agreed with Mr. Frankfurter. However, the majority was against them.

EINSTEIN

Dr. Albert Einstein, the great mathematician, has always been looked upon as essentially a pacifist. Tomorrow is his sixtieth birthday, so the National Association of Science Writers thought it a proper occasion to get him to answer a few questions. His answers indicate that the discoverer of relativity has somewhat modified his pacifism. He describes himself now as "an active pacifist."

A reliable observer has remarked that pacifists nowadays are divided into two classes:-those who want us to fight Germany and Italy; those who want us to make war on Japan. It's not in either of these senses that Einstein has become an active pacifist. Said he:- "I don't renounce my previous opinions." And explains: "Years ago one hoped to fight militarism by individually refusing to serve in the army. But," he adds, "today we are in the presence of entirely different circumstances." The solution he favors today is one suggested by a Harvard professor two years ago, a "Supreme Court of Wisdom." This would be a ~~xx~~ court composed of the world's leading scientists, philosophers, artists, poets. *a sort of poetic league of nations. But* it would also

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include industrial leaders. That sounds interesting. But it has been remarked that scientists, when they disagree, can quarrel more fiercely than any soldiers. Almost as ferociously, in fact, as pacifists.

Another fact became known in connection with Einstein's Sixtieth Birthday, which will be far more thrilling to the ~~scientifically-minded~~ scientifically-minded than any ideas about pacifism. Said Einstein: "A year ago I discovered a new solution to the problem of a unified field ~~theory~~ theory." Then he added: "The mathematical constructions for a unified field ~~theory~~ theory devised by me heretofore had not stood the test of experience. But I am now engaged with two collaborators, developing the results of this new solution where they can be checked with experimental facts." *And that sounds as difficult to figure out as relativity - which in fact it is.* Scientists declare that if he is right, it means ^{Einstein} ~~he~~ will

have found a clue they've been seeking a long long while, a single law that will clarify the structure of the whole universe.

DARROW

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The late Clarence Darrow, famous as a lawyer, was just as famous as an agnostic. Before he died he made an agreement a couple of years ago with a magician, ~~Clarence Noble~~ Claude Noble, Darrow made a rendezvous with Noble to take place exactly one year after he died. The understanding was that the magician should go into the silences, hold a wand, and say: "I'm here Clarence." Then if Clarence was able to materialize he would take ~~xxx~~ the wand out of Noble's hand.

The magician kept the date today in a hotel room in Detroit. In the room with him were a small group of newspaper men and one of Darrow's friends. There was a table with two candles burning. Noble knelt down, repeated the Lord's prayer, then held forth his wand, saying: "I'm here Clarence, in fulfillment of that pact. If you can manifest yourself, do it now."

So what happened? Nothing. *Just as Darrow said.*

BIGAMY

In the pretty little southern town of Red Bay, Alabama, two ladies, neighbors, obtained divorces on the same day. On the following day each one married the other's husband. This was ~~was~~ careless of them since the judge who gave them their divorces told them they would have to wait sixty days before marrying again. But it seems they were in a hurry. The police say there was something besides true love that inspired their haste. For the cops charge that husband number one gave husband number two, eighty acres of land and two mules to carry out the deal. And one of the two ladies was to be given a present of two of the other lady's children as soon as she took her new spouse.

And now
All this was displeasing to the law. For two of the people involved, ^{one of the couples} ~~one man and one woman~~ ^{to it} it ~~was~~ a case of marry in haste and repent in ^{tail.} ~~the sneezer.~~ They are languishing in cells, being unable to furnish enough bail. The other couple ^{is} ~~are~~ at large; ^{able to raise bail.} ~~but their bail was smaller so they were able to raise it.~~

WEATHER

Old-timers tell us that the ^{weekend} blizzard was nothing to compare with the historic one of Eighteen eighty-eight. ^{But} That's a small consolation ~~solution~~ for the thousands of people who suffered from it. Records of New England show that it was the worst snowstorm that swept the northeastern states in five years. ^{Perfect skiing everywhere,} In some places that fifty mile northeaster had piled up snowdrifts twenty feet deep. Schools are closed in many parts, country roads and even main highways blocked. Transportation communications interrupted. What's more, there may be worse to come. When all that snow melts, streams and rivers may flow over their banks. Already floods are reported in Missouri, Iowa and other middlewestern states.

Just the time to run those long ski trains,

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ICEMAN

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Some thirty-four people in the town of Bog^ota, New Jersey, had a ~~little~~ surprise today. They were people accustomed to being served regularly every morning by a certain iceman. The iceman made his rounds as usual this morning, but he didn't deliver any ice. Instead of that, as he reached each house he smashed the window and cried: "Run with your life before it's too late - the world is coming to an end!"

When those Bog^ota folks recovered from their surprise, they found they didn't need any ice. Through the windows broken by the iceman came enough air to refrigerate everything in the house including the inhabitants.

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The law finally caught up with that iceman and found him with both hands torn to shreds ^{by} with broken glass. They learned that he had been thrown off his ^{mental} balance ^{all} because the weekend-blizzard had ruined his business. That's why he decided the millennium ~~millennium~~ ^{was} at hand and people should be warned.

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