

L.T. - Simoco - Thursday, Aug 17, 1939

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It's seldom that war ~~is~~ manoeuvres are anything that most of us can understand. They're usually involved in such a complication of technical strategy that some generals must ~~xxx~~ have trouble figuring out who won the theoretical battle. So ~~is~~ it's a relief to find that our own war practice in Virginia turns out to be something quite comprehensible. A mythical engagement between National Guards ^{men} and the regular Army -- sixteen thousand ^{men of the} National Guards and Six thousand regulars. Fighting against great odds, those regulars. Not quite that -- it was the new war against the old. The sixteen thousand National Guards ^{men} represented the older kind of military organization -- soldier and rifle fighting. The six thousand regulars were mechanized and motorized units - with armoured cars, ~~seventy~~ seventy tanks, motorized artillery.

Military operations in Virginia were completed today -- with the mechanized army overwhelmingly victorious. The small motorized units defeated the National Guard on all sides. Tanks swept in so fast, supported by swift-moving artillery and aviation, ~~and~~ that divisions were surrounded and theoretically

wiped out. The attack was directed against Washington, and today the two weeks of battle ended with Washington virtually captured.

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The theoretical fight began on the old ~~VI~~ Civil War Battlefield of Bull Run. The Confederates, so victorious at Bull Run, failed to take Washington. But the mechanized army of today did the trick - in theory.

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Among the defeated are three soldiers. They met their Waterloo. A fast tank swept through barbed wire entanglement so fast that it whipped a length of barbed wire around ^{the} ~~three~~ unhappy soldiers. Getting wrapped up in barbed wire may not sound so pleasant, but the dispatch tells us that none of the three was seriously injured -- just scratched a bit.

The German American Fuehrer, Fritz Kuhn, talks English with something of an accent -- yet Fritz today showed ~~wh~~ himself to be a stickler for nice correctness in English. Appearing before ^{the} Dies Committee on Un-American Activities he rebuked Congressman Dies of Texas for not being just right in a vernacular. The Texas Congressman was asking Fritz about some visits that somebody paid to his office. "These visits were purely personal," the Texan remarked. "You just said 'Howdy' and let it go at that."

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"Well," Fritz corrected him, "That's what you say in Texas. We say 'How do you do?'" Ja wohl, auf wiedersehen -- and how do you do?

Fuehrer Kuhn, so proper ~~ij~~ in his English, ended his testimony in storm fashion today. It's been stormy all along. He ~~n~~ repeatedly denounced the committee for being unfair, and time and again said he wanted a lawyer. He insisted that the Deutsch America Bund ~~xxx~~ had no connection with the Nazi Party abroad. He declared that he favoured an American union of groups which are commonly called Fascist - he said he called

them patriotic.

There was a mild flurry today when Kuhn declared that Attorney General Frank Murphy made an address before a Deutsch America Bund meeting, and praised the German Americans.

It turns out that this was about the time when Frank Murphy was elected Governor of Michigan, ~~and no doubt comes under the heading of election time orations which are delivered any place where a few votes are concerned.~~

an *campaign speech.*
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ALASKA

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There's a plan to permit refugees from Europe to enter Alaska. That's been talked of before. Now it approaches the realm of the practical -- with a statement by the Secretary of the Interior, ~~Ickes~~, who declares today that the Department of the Interior is working up a concrete plan. Not only that, the Department is ~~r~~ preparing legislation to be submitted to Congress.

The idea would be to allow the persecuted from Europe to take refuge in Alaska without any quota whatever. Apparently it isn't the intention to have the refugees settle on the land as colonists and farmers -- along the line of the Matanuska Valley development. Secretary Ickes said the scheme was to allow the refugees to stay in Alaska until they got a chance to be admitted into the United States proper under existing quotas. Alaska would be a sort of temporary way station for refugees enroute to the United States -- whenever the quota would let them in. *Keep them in cold storage in Alaska, seems to be the idea.*
This news was flashed to the North, and immediately

there were Alaskan protests. The people of Juneau said if a lot of refugees were admitted it would put the Alaskan merchants ~~of~~ out of business -- since the refugees would be mostly commercial

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folk. Secretary Ickes holds the opinion that the persecuted from Europe would be a benefit to the northern colony because of what he calls - their special skill. Alaskans think they special skill would ^{provide altogether} too much competition for the people already established in the North.

EUROPE

Late this afternoon two bulletins flashed with an alarming sound, bulletins from Europe and its crisis.

One was from England, and gave the news that sailors from several British warships had suddenly been recalled to duty! --

duty - but
Emergency, [^]no explanation. The other was from Rome, and concerned Italian soldiers now in Albania -- ordering them to remain under arms.

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Together these seemed ominous. Then -- an explanation of the British report came through, warship sailors ~~had~~ had been recalled suddenly not because of any war emergency - but because a British submarine was overdue, missing. There was worry about the sub. Maybe another undersea tragedy. So the order was given to man several ships for possible rescue work -- the crews called back to instant duty. Later on the missing submarine appeared in port safe and sound - - just delayed a bit.

The Italian dispatch looks more serious because it mentions -- "exigencies of an exceptional character."
Soldiers in Albania whose term of service is expiring are ordered

to remain on military duty because of the "exigencies of an exceptional character."

The crisis seems to be dragging along just about the same as ever, though there are a multitude of indications that Hitler will soon make a move in the direction of Danzig. ~~Nazi~~ German expressions of official opinion predict that the ~~Danzig~~ Danzig question is about to be solved - a matter of days. Nazi newspapers are blasting against Poland, and the press of their Italian ally is chiming in with advice to the Poles to yield. The Poles don't seem to be quite in the mood - for Warsaw news tells of a round-up of German Nazis in Poland, many arrests.

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One thing that doesn't seem to be getting anywhere is the proposal made at Oslo, Sweden, by our own American Congressman, Hamilton Fish. He's attending the Inter-Parliamentary Congress, and he's calling for a thirty-day truce among the rival nations to talk things over and avoid war. He suggests a thirty-day war moratorium, to let things cool off with a lot of negotiating. But the Inter-Parliamentary Union doesn't seem to think so much of the idea. The latest is that the Hamilton Fish motion is

likely to be put on the shelf at Oslo.

That's because from the tricks of fakers. Fake -- the
"Bechiva Graves," as archaeologists call them. They're stone-
age remains found in northern Europe, relics of a dim and
distant people who flourished at the end of the Neolithic Period.
One thing about the people of the Bechiva Graves is that they
were skillful at pottery. They made a kind of urn which
collectors treasure highly. Recently a lot of these urns
have been noticed in circulation -- the people of the Bechiva
Graves simply must have left a lot of pottery. Today the police
of Utrecht in the Netherlands ordered an investigation far and
wide, to catch a gang of fakers who have been making and selling
counterfeits of the ^{Neolithic} pre-historic urns. More than a thousand
fakes are in the market, for sale to collectors.

There seems to be hardly anything in the world that's immune from the tricks of fakers. Take -- "The Beehive Graves," as archaeologists call them. They're stone - age-remains found in northern Europe, relics of a dim and distant people who flourished at the end of the Neolithic Period. One thing about the people of the Beehive Graves is that they were skillful at pottery. They made a kind of ~~th~~ urn which collectors treasure highly. ^{TP} Recently a lot of these urns have been noticed in circulation -- the people of the Beehive Graves ~~must~~ must have left a lot of pottery. Today the police of Utrecht in the Netherlands ordered an investigation far and wide, to catch a gang of fakers who have been making and selling counterfeit^s of the ^{Neolithic} pre-historic ^{urns}. More than a thousand fakes are ~~in~~ on the market, for sale to collectors.

CHINESE LOCUSTS

China has not only war, but likewise floods,
and also locusts. Southeast of Peking there's ²/₁ combination
of flood and locusts. A Far Eastern ~~in~~ dispatch tells of the
insects darkening the sky while the water^s covers the land.
The dense locust swarm above the flood area descends on all
plants that stick their heads above the water. The vociferous ^{nas}/_{^ ^}
bugs devour the vegetation right down to the water level.
In areas that are dry the insects are reported to cover the
land two inches deep.

GENGHIS KHAN

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Tonight in an ancient temple deep in the interior of China a silver coffin reposes in state, a seven hundred-year-old casket covered with drapes of red silk and hidden behind yellow curtains. The mortal remains of Genghis Khan, the mighty & Mongol "conqueror of nations" and "slayer of men."

Today from the Chinese capital of Chungking comes the announcement that the Genghis ^{Khan} casket has been successfully removed from inner Mongolia, to keep it from being seized by the Japanese. Possession of it would have helped the game that Tokyo is playing among the Mongols. But the Chinese got there first. They've transported the silver coffin to the Province of Kansu and placed it on what they call "Rising Dragon Hill," in the ancient ~~temple~~ temple there. ^{TP} Genghis Khan! - that name which swept the world with terror seven centuries ago.

LEPKE

Even Canada is hunting Lepke -- the fugitive racketeer from New York. Two waitresses in Quebec happened to see one of the manhunt circulars with the photographs of the much-sought gangster. And today they reported to the police that they recognized the pictures. A man whom they think was Lepke stopped recently at a hotel in ^{the border city of} ~~the town of~~ Sherbrooke, where the waitresses worked. So today there's a manhunt all over the Province of Quebec. Some officials believe that Lepke may have gone aboard a ship at the city of Quebec; ^{may have} ~~and~~ sailed for Europe.

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SQUALUS

This afternoon they lifted the Squalus once again, raised it seventy feet more. And right now the sunken submarine is being towed ~~into~~ at the one hundred foot level. They are taking it to shallower water. The first lift some days ago raised the submarine part of the way. This second lift brings it to within one hundred feet of the surface. But, there still remains the final job of raising it to the top of the water.

RACE

A race against death, a ship steaming at top speed to get an ailing person ashore -- that happens every so often. Today we have an instance of it, with a touch of oddity. It tells of a cable ship bearing the appropriate name of Lord Kelvin -- he was a great scientist in the miracle of electricity. The Lord Kelvin was on the North Atlantic, laying cable, plowing a channel on the ocean floor, laying therein a long stretch of trans-Atlantic cable. A member of the crew fell suddenly ill, and the Lord Kelvin went racing a hundred miles to the nearest shore -- Ireland. The patient was delivered to doctors, a life saved, and the Lord Kelvin went back to its job -- laying cable.

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HOT DOGS

Hot dogs and pineapple -- that certainly would be something for an epicure. It's announced in Chicago -- frankfurters to be dipped in pineapple juice. Sounds like a cockeyed combination of flavors, but it isn't taste that the hot dog scientists are after. They say the pineapple will provide the sausage with an enzyme. Enzyme is one of those complicated chemical things - it will diminish the toughness of the frank. That accomplished, the pineapple will be washed off the hot dog. So you won't get any taste of the tropical sweet -- just the enzyme.

TAXES

Public opinion is rated highly in this country, and taxes are a lively theme of controversy. So how about investigating public tax opinion? That's what they're doing in Washington. The Acting Secretary of the Treasury, John W. Hanes, announced ~~that~~ today that wholesale invitations have been ~~sent~~ sent out to industry, commerce, banking, labor and agriculture -- asking for advice about taxes. Cooperation ~~is~~ is requested -- cooperation to formulate a program of tax revision. People are requested to express themselves -- the Treasury Department sounding what the Acting Secretary calls "Public Tax Opinion".

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Democratic National
Committee for Indiana, No Vice-Presidential nomination for
his man, declared the campaign manager. And he stated the
Revere position in these words: "We are predicting our
campaign on Roosevelt not running for a third term," says
he. "We don't think he will. When Roosevelt announces his
intention not to run or we feel he will do, we will have our
candidate already chosen." So they are betting on -- in a case.

McNUTT

The report is wide spread that Paul V. McNutt may run for Vice-President on a third term ticket. Rumor gives an explanation of the appointment of McNutt to the important New Deal post of Security Administrator. It tells of an understanding that if there should be no third term campaign, the former High Commissioner of the Phillipines is to have Presidential backing for the Presidential nomination. But if there is a ~~xx~~ third term campaign, McNutt will take second place on the ticket.

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This gets a public denial today from the McNutt campaign manager. He's Frank McHale, Democratic National Committeeman for Indiana. ~~No~~ Vice-Presidential nomination for his man, declares the campaign manager. And he states the McNutt position in these words: "We are predicting ^{at} our campaign on Roosevelt not running for a third term," says he. "We don't think he will. When Roosevelt announces his intention not to run as we feel he will do, we will have our candidate already known ^{states McHale.}" So they are booming ^{McNutt} ~~him~~ -- in a case.

THIRD TERM

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The United States Solicitor General, Robert Jackson, is the logician ~~wh~~ who propounded the argument -- that if President Roosevelt runs for a third term he won't really be running for a third term but only for a second term, because the courts knocked out his first term and made it null and void. Today the solicitor General gives us a new bit of ~~xxxxx~~ verbal wizardry. Talking up the third term idea once again, he declared^s himself against a "middle of the road candidate". And he explained^s it this way: "A middle of the road driver," said he, "simply holds up traffic going in both directions." Right you are, Mr. Solicitor General. But on the other hand if you drive too far over to one side of the road you may ~~winn~~ wind up in a ditch. Aren't figures of speech wonderful -- they'll prove almost anything.

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