

P.J. - Sunoco. Monday, Sept. 7, 1942. *Common*

PRESIDENT

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President Roosevelt spoke bluntly to Congress today express regret that the lawmakers have not passed the price control bill he requested four months ago. In fact he said that if Congress should fail to act, and act wisely, by October first, he himself will have to act. Meaning, that he will use the power already granted him.

The lawmakers have been timid about tampering with farm prices, and ~~putting~~ jittery about putting a ceiling on Union Labor wages.

The President pointed out that if the cost of living starts jumping that will endanger our war effort.

Along with his message to Congress, the President had his own Labor Day joke with the White House correspondents. Some of them had been predicting that he would ask Congress to let him appoint an economic Czar to deal with inflation. They even went so far as to name several likely candidates. When the message was sent today there was no such request in it. So Mr. Roosevelt sent a special message to the White House newspapermen. It read:-
"Good mornint suckers." That was all.

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As to his message to Congress. It was a long one. And in it he repeated his previous seven point program that he had offered to the Senate and the House to keep the cost of living from going up and up.

"The experience of the Government during the last four months," he said, "has proved that general control of prices is possible, but ~~only~~ only if that control ~~is~~ all-inclusive. If the costs of production, including labor, are left free to ~~rise~~ rise indiscriminately, or if other major elements

are left unregulated, price control becomes impossible."

~~Then~~
This

by saying: - he illustrated; - "It is impossible for the cost of living to be stabilized while farm prices continue to rise. You cannot expect the laborer to maintain a fixed wage level if everything he wears and eats begins to go up drastically. On the other hand, it is impossible to keep stability in farm prices or any other prices if wage rates continue to increase." "In war time", he continues, "The Government has a most ~~vital~~ vital interest in seeing to it that wages are ~~kept~~ kept in balance with the rest of the national economy". War, he said, once more, "calls for sacrifice, makes a privilege of sacrifice. That sacrifice will have to be expressed in terms of a lack of many of the things to which we have all become accustomed." ~~Workers, farmers, white collar people and businessmen must expect that~~. *And he* Mr. Roosevelt went on to show that ~~the~~ prices of foods that have been controlled actually fell within two months after Price regulation began. *while* But, he added, "uncontrolled foods advanced seven point three percent during the same period and are still going up". ~~He cited for instance, butter and all agricultural commodities which are uncontrolled.~~ The greatest

danger, he pointed out, is in dairy products, most important items in the American diet. Butter, cheese and evaporated milk are all ^e exempt under the price control act. Prices for these have been going up so fast that they constitute a serious threat to an adequate supply of fluid milk. ^{TP} ~~Then he added:~~ ^{The President} "The limitations

~~of agricultural ceilings are now being cited by other groups as a reason for resisting economic controls that are needed".~~ He

advanced three principles to guide Congress with respect to farm

products: first, to hold the line against inflationary price

increases. Second, to get the required production of necessary

farm products. Third, to maintain the principle of parity for

agriculture. ^{//} ~~Then he made the point so important for farmers,~~

~~in these words:~~ "The agriculture ceilings should be permitted

~~at either parity or at the price levels which prevailed at some~~

~~recent date, whichever is higher."~~ The formula, he added, should

~~preserve the general structure of wholesale and retail price controls.~~

^{TP} The President also urged Congress to consider a law which would

place a floor on the prices of farm products. "We should not

only place a reasonable ceiling or maximum, but also a guarantee to

to the farmer that he would receive a fair minimum price for his product for one year or even two years after the end of the war."

Mr. Roosevelt ^{also} ~~then~~ dealt with the shortage of labor on the farms.

He had no concrete suggestion ^{on this} but said that the time is at hand

when in many parts of the country we shall have to use the

help of women and grown people. ~~"I feel certain," he said, "The~~

~~nation will cooperate whole heartedly",. Then he said: "It not~~

only would be unfair to labor to stabilize wages and do ~~not~~

nothing about the cost of food: 'it would be equally unfair

to the farmer," ^{says he,} So what does the President propose? He ~~says~~ says,

"I ask the Congress to pass legislation under which the President

would be specifically authorized to stabilize the cost of living

including the price of all farm commodities." He said also: "I

have given the most thoughtful consideration to meeting this issue

without further reference to the Congress, however," he added:

"I have determined on this vital matter to consult with the Congress."

~~"If we are invaded," he said, "The people of this country would~~

~~expect the President to use any and all means to repel the invader.~~

^{TP} I cannot tell," he added, "what powers may have to be exercised in

order to win this war." ^{TP} Mr. Roosevelt also dealt with rationing.

"It is now in effect on some ^{commodities} ~~commodities~~," he pointed out," and

when necessary will be extended to others." ^{TP} One of the most

powerful weapons in our fight to stabilize living costs, he

said further, is taxation. That still waits upon the Congress

to act. He insists ~~one~~ more that Congress must eliminate tax

exempt securities. ^{TP} And he repeats his request for a tax rate that

would make it impossible for any individual to have an income

higher than twenty-five thousand a year.

BROWN

One reaction to President Roosevelt's message came from Democratic Senator Prentiss Brown of Michigan; ~~he is~~^a member of the so-called farm bloc in Congress. ^{The} President ~~Roosevelt, he~~^{he,} said, will have a tough battle on his hands if he tries to get Congress to lower the ceilings on farm prices without also stabilizing wages. The President, he added, has already full power to do that without any new law. ^{It} Senator Robert Taft of Ohio said the President's message evidently ~~was~~^{is} a notice to Congress that so long as the war lasts he intends to make the laws of the United States, himself, by executive order. The implications, ^{adds} ~~he~~^{Sen. Taft,} would make Congress a ~~mere~~ shell of a Legislative body. ^{It} Senator George Norris of Nebraska evidently agreed ~~with~~^{he thinks} Mr. Roosevelt. He said ~~he thought~~^{he thought} that a hundred and ten per cent of parity for farm prices ~~was~~^{is} too much, ~~and he thought the farmers were entitled to a hundred per cent.~~ Representative Fulmer of South Carolina, Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, ^{tells us he sees no} ~~said he saw no~~ reason why Congress should not do what the President asks and pass a law curbing farm prices by October first. But he added that he does not believe in putting ceilings on all prices

and working down, giving the farmer whatever is left. ^{TP} Senator

McNary of Oregon, Republican leader, made a motion to refer the

President's message to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, ^{which} ~~That~~ [^]

is the heart and core of the powerful farm bloc in Congress.

But the presiding officer of the Senate, Senator Hatch of New

Mexico, referred it to the banking committee.

NELSON FOLLOW THOMAS

Meanwhile War Production Chief Donald Nelson was making
~~the~~ ^a Labor Day speech at Cleveland, Ohio. ^{warning us} He warned the crowd
that the United States is going to lose this war unless it fights
with the same determination and the same unity of purpose as the
enemy. The United States, he pointed out, ^{will} ~~would~~ not get a second
chance to win. Win or lose, he added, it is going to be final.
As for shortages of critical materials he explained that we have
been making some things faster than others. Until we get back in
balance, as we will before long, said Nelson, there are bound
to be shortages here and there. He urged workers to quit taking
an extra day off and to stop going on ~~quicky quicky strikes, or~~
unauthorized strikes over minor grievances. Any absence from a
factory, ^{he, up} ~~he~~ said, slows productions. ~~Even the smallest strikes~~
~~can slow it up a little, many slow it up a lot.~~

RUSSIA

Regarding

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On the battle for Stalingrad, Moscow has been curiously silent all day. Consequently the only reports we have come from Berlin. Even they are scanty and vague. The Nazi high Command admits that violent fighting is going on before Stalingrad, which means it is not inside the city itself. The Nazis claim that the German and Rumanian forces have gained further ground as they naturally would claim. But the Germans also acknowledge that the Russians have strength enough to make strong country-attacks with infantry and tank forces from the north of the beleaguered city. The Nazi High Command claims that all these attacks were repelled with heavy losses and that a hundred Russian tanks were destroyed. The Nazi Air Force is attacking the red defenders day and night.

RAIDS

In the air over Western Europe, the British, Canadians and Americans are carrying in what is described as a non-stop aerial offensive. Our own flying fortresses were assigned to raids on Nazi shipyards at Schiedam. ~~That is~~ a name th hitherto associated mostly with a highly potent beverage. It is important today because it is a place where Nazi warships are being turned out in numbers. ^{TP} The flying fortresses also bombed Utrecht, famous as the town where an historic treaty was concluded in Seventeen thirteen, important in this ~~historic~~ instance because it is a railroad junction vital to Nazi operations in those parts. From today's raids, every flying fortress returned safe to base in spite of heavy resistance from enemy fighter planes. They destroyed twelve of the enemy for sure, and probably many more. ^{TP} Elsewhere, squadrons of Royal Air Force and Royal Canadian Air Force bombers and fighters carried on raids over territory occupied by the enemy. British heavy planes bombed Duisburg again, the great inland port in the Ruhr, as well as other targets in the Ruhr district. The operations were begun by heavy flights of allied fighter ~~h~~ planes which spent the entire night clearing the air of Nazi pursuit planes, thus leaving

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the skyways open for the bombers. ^{TP} Today's operations were evidently of a different plan from previous raids. There was no monster con-

~~centration~~ concentration of bombers, like those at Cologne and Rostock.

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It appears to have been a fan shaped operation over Western Germany and the low countries, but on a scale larger than ever before.

The allied crews did so well that some officers believed that in this way an actual Second Front might be created in the air provided the necessary planes are to be had. The attack on Duisburg was the fifty-fifth since the war began.

EGYPT

Concerning the Egyptian campaign, ^{Here} a note of warning has been ~~sounded in~~ London. There has been ^{some cheering} ~~loud jubilation~~ over the retreat of ~~Nazi Field Marshal~~ Rommel and his Afrika Korps. Do not interpret that as a decisive victory, says the military observers in England. It may mean that Rommel is merely withdrawing in order to hit all the harder the ~~next~~ next time. ~~Of course the eighth army has dealt him a severe ~~blow~~ setback. But his is no time to chortle, Rommel still is there, very much there.~~ ^{TP} Mobile units of the ^{British} eighth army were following close on Rommel's heels today, slashing at his rear guard which has been carrying on a running fight to cover the retreat. One incident of the recent battle there, was the death of a German general with an historic name, Major General George Von Bismark, ~~was~~ killed in action. So said ^{TP} Nazi prisoners captured by the British. He ^{was} ~~was~~ a cousin of old Prince Bismarck, a cousin ~~in the first line,~~ ^{who} though ~~coming much later than~~ the man of blood and iron who created the modern German empire. ^{TP} The Bismarck recently killed had an ^{important} ~~important~~ command. He was leader of the twenty-first German armored division, one of the crack Nazi Panzer units.

ESCAPES

A detachment of French customs guards -- comparable to our coast guardsmen -- were patrolling the Mediterranean Coast near the Spanish Frontier. They ^{saw} ~~XXXX~~ six men land from a small boat who refused to answer to the command to halt. The guards opened fire. ~~The~~ men from the boat returned the fire and five of the landing party escaped. The sixth man was captured and he turned out to be a British Army Lieutenant. ^{TP} ~~So~~ The Nazi and ~~at~~ Vichy authorities are worried because the five who did escape into unoccupied France are evidently British Army and Navy men on a desperate venture. They had ~~a~~ with them a radio transmitter and several ~~xxxx~~ bags filled with ~~xxxxxxxx~~ documents and French currency. One of those bags was captured and that is how the French authorities learned that it was a party of British officers. The Vichy Government declares that the mission of those five British officers is like that of parachutists. In other words, sabotage and intelligence --. It is proper to call it intelligence when your own men are doing it, espionage when they're enemy agents. But that isn't all. ^{TP} Fifty-two British and Canadian soldiers who had been interned near Nice, not far from the Italian frontier made a clean getaway from their jails. Many of them are still at

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large in unoccupied France. They got out by tunneling under a
large wall. Some of them were recaptured in Nice walking the sea-
front promenade with the Sunday crowds.

I wish I had time to briefly sketch the story of Jimmy Angel and the flying he did over regions where there were no *maps* except a few made by the conquistadores of the ~~18th~~ Sixteenth Century when they were searching for El Dorado. The story ~~about Jimmy~~ that Jim Durlacher sends me, written by Stanley Ross, in a Venezuela paper, called Panorama, says that in Venezuela it is whispered that any time Jimmy Angel needs money, he flys deep into the interior lands in a spot never seen by a white man, and gathers up a bucket of gold".

But I'll skip all that and just give you the latest news. Jimmy Angel ~~xxx~~ met Marie Saunders at the Brown Derby Restaurant in Los Angeles some yeárs ago and they settled down to the most unsettled life of any two people in the world.

One of the big jobs in the jungles of South America is getting rubber out of the wilderness. At present it takes twenty days by Indian canoe to ~~xxx~~ haul a quarter ton of rubber from one section and Jimmy Angel has taken on the job of flying it out, in his plane he'll carry up to ten tons and bring it out of the Brazilian forest in three hours.

That's the latest on the incredible young American flyer
who found the highest falls in the world.

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And now Hugh lets'
hear from you.