

L.J. - Sunoco. Thursday, Nov. 21, 1940.

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In London today the opening of Parliament was staged with the customary British formalities. Much of the pomp and pageant was missing, but in all essentials the new Parliament went into session in the traditional way -- though London is under the bomb^s. The King made an address from the throne, and spoke his confidence of a British victory. Using the customary form of speech of Royalty, he said: "My peoples and my Allies are united in their resolve to continue the fight against aggressor nations until Freedom is made secure." And George VI spoke of British-American cooperation:- "The relations of my government with that of the United States of America," said he, "could not be more cordial. And I learn, with the utmost satisfaction," he added, "of the ever-increasing ammunitions of war which are arriving from that country."

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The King's address was followed by a statement from Winston Churchill the Prime Minister. He referred to the war ~~thus far~~ as having been fought^{ed} ^{thus far} between what he call^{ed} -- "a fully armed Germany and a half-armed or quarter-armed British Empire." "We have not done so badly," he told the House of Commons." And added, "I look forward with confidence to the time when we ourselves shall be as

well-armed as our antagonists."

Both the King and the Prime Minister denounced the Italian attack on Greece. Churchill called it "pure unmitigated brigandage."

The Italian angle was amplified in the House of Lords by Foreign Secretary Viscount Halifax, who said he thought the Italian people were not too happy about the whole thing.

BOMBING

The bombing of Britain continues tonight, but there's not much precise news -- little indication that the Nazi air force is continuing the terrific violence of the past few days. The Berlin report mentions various sections of the industrial Midlands as being blasted, also London.

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Last night the bombing of the ~~Industrial~~ midlands was concentrated on three cities. The British don't tell us what cities they were, and today's Berlin reports were not much more informative -- ^{save} ~~say~~ that the Germans mention Birmingham. Last night we had the supposition that the steel center of Sheffield was being bombed. Sheffield is in the Eastern section of the Midlands, and today's London story states that an East Midlands industrial center was attacked -- ^b ~~but~~ the bombers were met with such heavy anti-aircraft fire that they were not able to inflict any large amount of damage.

Today's report of the British counter-attack tells how R.A.F. planes blasted the big German industrial center of Duisburg. Warehouse^s and shipping devastated, explosions and fires. There were also R/A.F. attacks on German air fields in French territory -- ~~with~~ ^{incident.} ~~There was~~ one dramatic ~~instant.~~ A Blenheim bomber speeding to blast an airport ~~near Amiens~~ spotted a German bomber -- at low altitude. Apparently the Nazi plane had just taken off, and was on its way to bomb Britain. The R.A.F. war plane instantly attacked, and shot down the bomber bound for Britain.

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PRISONER

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The British Air Ministry announced today that one of its highest-ranking officers has been taken prisoner -- in Italy. He is Air Marshal Owen Tudor Boyd, recently named to serve as Deputy to Air Marshal Sir Arthur Longmore, British Aviation Commander in the Near East. Air Marshal Boyd was flying to Cairo, to take over his new post. He left Gibraltar in a big Wellington bomber, and the plane was forced down in Sicily. Rome reports that the bomber carrying the Air Marshal was damaged by Italian fighter planes, and was disabled. It burst into flames when it landed, but the Air Marshal and six companions ^{are safe.} ~~were saved.~~ Apparently they had set fire to the plane to keep it from falling into enemy hands. London first reported that Air Marshal Boyd was missing; then later today that he was a prisoner of the Fascists.

This bit of news has a companion piece tonight.

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The scene, ~~is~~ a fashionable London club. Bombing or no bombing, the aristocratic Englishman must have his club. Into such a ~~semi~~ sedate and ~~xxx~~ aloof place sauntered a figure that drew startled glances. A man most outrageously dressed -- dash it all. He had on a plum-colored jacket of the most singular cut and fit.

So that's the story of Captain the Earl of Cardigan, heir of the
Marquess of Ailesbury, whose seat is at Savernake ~~Forest~~ Forest,
Marlborough, Wilts^{hire}.

DIES

The Dies Committee today handed out an order for the seizure of records of various organizations — pro-Nazi, pro-Fascist, pro-Communist, and pro-Japanese. ^{the} Records are to be seized in eight American cities. This followed the publication today of Dies Committee evidence revealing wide-spread German propaganda activities in the United States.

It shows that the Nazis have cooked up an elaborate scheme for relations between German business and sections of American business after the war is over. It isn't any too clear from the evidence released just what sort of commercial tie-up they expected to achieve, but it is some way of gearing part of American business to work along the lines of Nazi economy. One feature in the plan is a big bank, which the Germans plan to establish over here -- ~~was~~ to finance commercial arrangements.

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Furthermore, the ~~six~~ evidence tends to show that German diplomatic officials in this country ^{have been} ~~helped to~~ disseminate ^{ing} ~~ix~~ Nazi propaganda. Some German agents reported that the best way to keep the United States out of the European war was to promote bad relations between the United States and Japan. And there are intimations of espionage -- in ^a ~~the~~ whole lot of complicated evidence.

STRIKE

The strike ^{at} of the Vultee plant is almost settled -- the first walk-out to effect a plant manufacturing armament for national defense. Today an agreement was reached concerning wages -- and, it was essentially a wage dispute. The ^{aviation} company agrees to raise the minimum to sixty-two and a half cents an hour. That's a fifty-fifty compromise. The old minimum at the Vultee Plant was fifty cents an hour. The union demanded seventy-five cents. ~~Such is the report we have tonight.~~ ^{TP} Only one thing remains -- ^{-- the discussion of} a guarantee that there shall be no further strikes for the period of a year. ~~This~~ This no-strike proviso is demanded by the company and is also requested, they say, by the War Department, ^{representative} who has been ~~t~~ taking part in the negotiations. ~~They are now discussing the no-strike agreement to end the walk-out.~~

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LABOR

From each of the two Labor Conventions today's news tells of -- a Resolution. In each case the Resolution has to do with charges that have been made against the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O. There has been much accusation of Labor racketeering in A.F. of L. Unions -- *made mostly by* ~~page~~ Westbrook Pegler! On the C.I.O. side the charges have concerned Communism.

At New Orleans the A.F. of L. convention has before it a Resolution against Labor racketeers. Oust all Union leaders who have been convicted of crimes. This Resolution is sponsored by David Dubinsky, head of the International Ladies Garment Workers. It has led to some bitter argument, and today there were a couple of fights. The Dubinsky Resolution to purge the racketeers provoked the hot disapproval of Joseph Fay, Vice President of the International Union of Operating Engineers. Dubinsky and Fay were at a table. Words grew loud, and Fay took a punch at Dubinsky. There was a fracas and tables were ^{over-} turned, before other Labor leaders were able to stop the rumpus. Later on the fight was renewed in the ~~hotel~~ ^{of the hotel} lobby where the Convention is being held. This time a couple of Labor men were knocked down. Dubinsky went to his room and later telephoned -- asking police protection

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for his wife and daughter.

At Atlantic City today the C.I.O. passed a Resolution denouncing the Communists, Nazis, and Fascists. This is rather notable because it's the first time the C.I.O. has taken an official stand against the Red elements. (~~The Resolution mentions~~

~~"The Dictatorships and Totalitarianism of Nazism, Communism, and Fascism." And these it calls "Inimical to the welfare of labor and destructive to our form of Government."~~

This is regarded as a mandate to purge the leadership of the C.I.O. Unions of all Communist elements -- a mandate given ~~to~~ to the next C.I.O. President. ~~He is confidentially~~ ^{And he confidentially is} expected to be Phillip Murray ^{of the United Mine Workers.} Murray still says he doesn't want the job ^{as} successor to John L. Lewis, but it is believed the convention will draft him by acclamation.

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President Roosevelt celebrated Thanksgiving today with all appropriate ceremony. He could hardly do otherwise. For not only is the President a great celebrant of the day of gratitude, but this is his own particular Thanksgiving Day -- the date that he appointed a week in ~~and~~ advance. The States are still split on the subject, some are observing today -- while others are waiting for the ~~xxxx~~ traditional date a week hence.

The President and his family went to Church and there heard a suitable sermon ~~xxxx~~ ^{Hyde Park} preached by their pastor, the Reverend Frank Wilson, ^{who} ~~He~~ gave thanks for various things, culminating with the following: "The grandest thing of all," said he, "is that this great country enjoys peace and enjoys a great amount of security." And to this sentiment we can all respond -- Amen.

CRIME

There were new and glamorous Hollywood revelations today about "Bugsie" Siegel who is being held for trial as a big-shot of Murder, Inc. ~~Specifically, he is accused in the killing of another Murder, Inc. mobster, who they were afraid would squeal.~~ A halo of Hollywood glamour was thrown about

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"Bugsie" ~~and it~~ ^{when it was} recently ~~was~~ revealed that in jail he'd been having roast pheasant for dinner, wore a prison uniform especially tailored for him, and had another prisoner to act as his valet.

In the past forty-nine days he's had ~~xx~~ eighteen leaves of absence from jail -- time out. On one of these occasions, as I mentioned last night, Bugsie at a night club entertained a motion picture actress, the star, Wendie Barrie. Today -- another big-time Hollywood name is connected with Bugsie. ~~of Murder, Inc.~~

The District Attorney's office announces that in ^{the} ~~his~~ ^{gangster's} belongings, when ~~they~~ they were seized, was a cancelled check for thirty-two hundred dollars -- a check which Bugsie had given to film star George Raft. What does George Raft say about it? He readily admits that Bugsie gave him the check, and explains it as follows: "We went to school together," said the film star.

"A few years ago Seigel was hard up and asked me to lend him thirty-two hundred dollars -- and I never did turn a pal down."

Later on Bugsie paid back the loan, with the check that the District Attorney reveals today.

As if all that Hollywood glamour were not enough, the ~~Hollywood~~ District Attorney adds another detail -- and high finance it is. It concerns a former convict who is now said to be a millionaire in Minneapolis. This millionaire ex-convict gave Bugsie of Murder, Inc. the sum of a hundred and five thousand dollars.

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STUDENTS

Colleges nowadays have all sorts of entrance exams.

And they're a headache to many a seeker of higher education. *And*

now
~~But~~ along comes Professor Sorokin, head of the Sociology

Department at Harvard. The Professor proposes a new kind of test, something startling and spectacular -- a kind of exam that any fellow would love to flunk. Making a mark of something less than zero would be ideal. Wait until you hear the glamorous details.

The Professor suggests a new kind of college to train lofty leaders for this nation. "Intellectually," he says, "our political leaders are all right, but ~~ix~~ they are not so good in their moral character. A small proportion of these corrupt leaders," he says, "land in jail. But," he elucidates, "the proportion that should be behind bars is larger." The Professor seems to think we should elect them to jail.

So he wants a university in which national leaders would be trained to stern ideas of moral character. *And* ~~so~~ the entrance exams would be along that line -- the kind ~~of~~ a fellow ^{would} ~~would~~ love to flunk. Zero being too high a mark.

It would work this way: Young men seeking to qualify for the

University of National Leadership would be required to pass repeatedly through a beautiful room, furnished with every luxury.

There ^a sumptuous tables [^] would be set with the richest and most delicious of foods, and the most perfect wines. Not only that --

but beautiful girls, ~~also~~ Ravishing damsels ^{on divans draped} ~~at the tables~~ around the table.

They'd be imported from Hollywood, says the Professor, the

(I'd prefer those girls Ed Wynn's show.)
loveliest of the Queens of motion picture glamour. ~~As the students~~ *has around him in his new show.* As the [^] passed through, the food and wine would beckon to them --

figuratively speaking. And the girls would beckon -- and not figuratively at all.

Any student who might fall out of line and sit down to dine and wine with the girls -- he'd flunk the exam. The ones who

could survive the repeated test for three days, would pass the exam cum laude. Well, it's too bad that I'm not back in my under-graduate years. As for cum laude I'd merely be loud -- saying,

"Why hello girls, how long has this been going on? And my mother would croon softly to herself. 'I didn't raise my boy to be a national leader.'" *And s-l-u-t-m.*

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at the table