

P. 1 - Sunoco Tuesday, April 26, 1938.

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Today in London Sir John Simon, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, swallowed a large dose of cough medicine - just before he presented this year's budget to the House of Commons. Maybe Sir John was afraid he might start coughing as he recited the huge figures of the biggest British ~~xxxx~~ peace time budget. It was observed that as he read the budget to the Commons, he frequently picked up a glass of water and took a sip. His throat seemed a bit dry as he told how much the British taxpayer will have to pay. The veteran M.P.s recalled that when Winston Churchill was Chancellor of the Exchequer, he too frequently resorted to a glass while making a speech. But he sipped not only water but also brandy. Maybe Sir John Simon today might have felt the need of a bit of brandy-fortification as he announced the increase of the already huge and heavy British income tax.

(The budget for the coming year, figured in terms of dollars, comes to a total of five billion. That's how much the British government will spend for the twelve-month period,) the largest yearly sum since World War days - when the British Empire poured forth its gold, defending its life. What's all that money

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to be spent for? There are two things you can guess.

Number One - rearmament. (More than a billion seven hundred million dollars go into the British arms program.) ~~That's a thing of dominant importance in world affairs today. It certainly costs money.~~ And the Chancellor of the Exchequer at that declared that the peak of rearmament would not be reached until next year or the year following. Yes, Sir John may have needed a bit of cough medicine as he recited the expense.

Number Two (payment on the War Debt to America. Not a Shilling, not even mentioned in the budget.) Sir John may have coughed discreetly as he made the omission.

The British income tax right now is five Shillings to the Pound, twenty-five per cent. Every Britisher who has any income at all must pay one-fourth of it to the government. That's basic ^{-- with} surplus tax ^{or} piled up on top of it. In the budget today, that basic rate is increased. It's raised to five Shillings and six Pence to the Pound - or twenty-seven and a half per cent. That's higher than the British income tax rate during the staggering days of the World War. Though it's not so high as ^a ~~during the~~ couple of years after the ~~Though it's not so high as during the~~

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War - when Britain was paying off. ~~However, the new increase does not apply to the lowest of incomes - some two million of the poorest taxpayers stick along at the old rate. In addition, there are higher taxes on various sorts of commodities.~~ So no wonder Sir John Simon took occasional sips of water as he told about it. He may have thought enviously of the former Chancellor ^{of the Exchequer}, Winston Churchill, and his sips of brandy.

How did the House of Commons take the bad news? With British stoicism. The M.P.'s cheered as the Chancellor ~~of the Exchequer~~ concluded with this peroration: "The load one has to bear," he declaimed, "will assuredly be carried with the dogged determination and dauntless courage of the British race."

The London Stock Market displayed none of that dogged determination and dauntless courage. The news of the income tax increase caused a wave of selling - with slumping prices.

WINDSOR

Here's an official announcement made at Windsor Castle, the royal residence of His Majesty, King George the Sixth. It concerns his Ex-Majesty, the former Edward the Eighth. The announcement is a denial of rumors about the Duke and Duchess of Windsor in their chateau on the Riviera - no truth in the reports that they are living in astonishing luxury and splendor.

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The Windsor Castle announcement denies with specific emphasis - that the Duke and Wally his Duchess, have a gold bathtub. No! No glittering bath tub of gold.

VIOLATORS

At last we know who the treaty violators are. Definitely, formally - on the official word of the State Department. And it's something of a surprise - not who the treaty violators are, but who they aren't. Not what's on the list, but what's off it. The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House ~~was considering a resolution propounded by Representative Byron Scott, a resolution against treaty violators.~~ ^{asked} the question ~~was asked~~ of the State Department - who are the nations that broke pacts?

Today the answer was made public, and it lists - Italy and Japan. The State Department points out that by conquering Ethiopia, Italy broke the Kellogg-Briand Pact - which pledged all the signatories not to use war as an international policy. The Japanese invasion of China broke not only the Kellogg Pact but also the Nine Power Treaty, which guaranteed the integrity of China. ~~In each case the United States government reminded Italy and Japan of their treaty obligations, but it didn't do any good.~~

The surprise is - that Germany is left out, not mentioned as a treaty violator. German rearmament, military occupation of the

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Rhineland, the seizure of Austria, treatment of minorities - none of these actions are cited by the State Department as in violation of any pact. Yet Germany has been treaty-breaking all over the place and saying so loudly. But, it's the ~~PRIME~~ Peace Treaty of Versailles that Hitler is busting, and nobody thinks so much of that famous document nowadays. Anyway, the United States ^{didn't} ~~government did not~~ sign it, turned it down, left it out in the cold, League of Nations and all. So maybe it wouldn't be so logical for us to hold up and display ~~a~~ ~~treaty of~~ an international pact that we tossed into the discard.

~~There has been some talk about the wisdom or unwisdom of our government coming out publicly and branding Italy and Germany~~
~~as treaty violators, and~~ Today some awkward words were spoken by Senator Wheeler from Montana. He said that if we go into the business of ^{denouncing pact-busting} ~~announcing treaty violations~~ in a big way, some nations might point a finger at us. "We might," said the Senator, "be placed in the position of having other countries point out to us the treaties we have violated or may be violating. It would be very embarrassing."

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I wonder what solemn pacts and agreements the Senator might be referring to. He couldn't mean our numerous treaties with the Indians, could he?

MUSSOLINI

meanwhile wants the United States
to recognize the ~~conquest of Ethiopia, recognized~~ *He says so in* ~~legalized. The latest signs are~~

~~some things he said at~~ an interview with Fulton Oursler of LIBERTY.

~~The Duce is pictured as saying earnestly that the United States should give its recognition to the Ethiopian state of affairs.~~

And he gives a reason why, as quoted in the forthcoming issue of LIBERTY. He says he took Ethiopia as a mission ^{of} civilization - like the American conquest of the Indians. Haile Selassie and Sitting Bull;- an odd combination!

I won't presume to make ² ~~the~~ suggestion to the Duce, but I could propose a better reason than that. I'd say that the United States should recognize the Ethiopian conquest, because as long as we don't we can't appoint an American ambassador to Rome - ~~not with the Fascist government insisting~~ that the ambassador should be accredited to Victor Emanuel as Emperor of Ethiopia. Too bad, because the Rome embassy is one of the ripest plums for some millionaire who has contributed generously to campaign funds. The Eternal City, fashionable diplomatic life, moonlight on the Coliseum and smart restaurants in Roman gardens -

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those are attractions well calculated to ^{draw}~~attract~~ an election time contribution from a would-be ambassador to Rome. But apparently it's all off until we recognize the conquest of Ethiopia.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Czechoslovakia refuses to yield to Nazi demands - that was part of the early news today. Later word was the Czech Cabinet held a secret session to consider the situation further. What decision did they arrive at? The same as before? ~~The result of the secret session was a reaffirmation of the decision~~ - Czechoslovakia will not yield to Nazi demands.

The Cabinet did, however, declare that it was willing to negotiate with the Sudeten Germans and their leader, Konrad Henlein, the Czechoslovak Hitler. But they won't consider the Sudeten Nazi program as the basis for the discussion.

~~Meanwhile, the German Nazis continue to take a threatening attitude.~~ A Hitler spokesman declares today that the Sudeten demands of Henlein should not be considered - a bluff.

GERMANY

Germany won't take part in the New York World's Fair.

Hitler's ambassador informed the State Department to that effect today. The reason given is - financial difficulties, a question of money. ~~Some suppose it may be because of our refusal to sell helium for the German dirigibles, but that's denied.~~ One good supposition is that ~~the German decision not to be represented at the New York World's Fair may have something to do with the prevalence of anti-Nazi feeling around New York,~~ hatred of Hitler that might make a German exhibit not so popular with some of the World's Fair crowd.

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FIGHT

The big fight will be held in New York - the June Twenty-Second brawl between Champion Joe Louis and Challenger Max Schmeling. Other cities have been named - especially Chicago. One Louis-Schmeling fight was called off, because of anti-Nazi opposition in New York. That cost ~~them~~ the German battler a crack at Jim Braddock for the championship. Louis got the chance and today is champion. So no wonder they were talking about other cities, some place else than New York and the anti-Nazi boycott. However, New York it is, such is the announcement of Madison Square Garden Promoter Max Jacobs today.

AUTOMOBILES

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It's inevitable that there should be mention today of those three old and almost forgotten letters - N.R.A. Representatives of the automobile trade in session at Detroit voted in favor of a fair play code - and codes were the essence of the ^{Today's} ~~the~~ program, as adopted by four hundred representatives of manufacturers and dealers, calls for a series of fair play regulations - these to be enforced by the industry in conjunction with the ~~Executive~~ Federal Trade Commission.

Twenty-four rules were approved, such as - no ~~misrepresentation~~ misrepresentation in advertising and in making sales, no defamation of competitors, no misleading price quotations, no offer of used cars as new ones, no tampering with speedometers on used cars, prevention of car bootlegging. A whole series of regulations deals with unfair tricks played on competitors; no sales of new cars below cost; Prohibition ~~in~~ concerning such things as rebates, commissions, allowances. Items specially referring to dealers are - manufacturers not permitted to compel dealers to do business with certain finance companies, manufacturers forbidden to coerce dealers in making purchases they don't want to make. *et cetera.*

A.P.

Philadelphia is the home not only of the Sun Oil Company, for whom I broadcast, but also of the new President of the Associated Press. He was elected in New York today - Robert McLean, publisher of the PHILADELPHIA BULLETIN.

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A new President of the Associated Press is real news - because Frank Noyes who now retires was the A.P. President for thirty-eight years.

There are big newspaper doings in New York, gatherings of press men. The American Newspapers Publishers Association opened its fifty-second annual convention at the Waldorf today, with an address by its President, James G. Stahlman. His theme was - the freedom of the press, so much in mind nowadays. (Or rather, not enough in mind, declared A.N.P.A. President, Stahlman. "I've been astounded at the unconcern of the publishers of small newspapers toward encroachments which are gradually being made on a free press," *said the Nashville Banner publisher.*)

~~The newspaper publisher~~ ^{The} editors and publishers will be deeply interested in one ^{Washington} bit of news today. It tells about

Congressman, Dondero of Michigan. The Congressman is part owner of a

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newspaper back in his home town. Today, he wrote a letter to the editor of his paper, and here's what he said: "I can get on the front pages of the Baltimore and New York papers, ~~what~~ ^{but} I can't even get on the back page of my own."

Maybe there's more than one of the publishers assembled in New York who feels the same way about it. — who can't get a mention in his own paper.

The first radio telephone broadcast occurred just eighteen years ago tonight. It was sent out from Grove City College, just north of Pittsburgh in Western Pennsylvania. And, tonight Grove City College is celebrating the event and paying tribute to one of its faculty members, Dr. H. W. Harmon, radio pioneer.

CAGE

Here's something I don't believe, not that I would dream of doubting the word of the Mayor of Woburn, Massachusetts, Mayor William Kane whom they've surnamed - ^{"Cage"} ~~called~~ 'Em Kane." Because

he wants to ^{cage} ~~catch~~ 'em, the town drunks, put ~~them~~ in a cage and parade ~~them~~ around in public as a horrible example. Mayor

"Cage 'Em" announces that he has an offer for the cage, in which he wants to display drunks. Somebody wants it. Who? The Mayor declares that he received the offer by telephone from the HARVARD CRIMSON.

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"I asked them what they wanted it for," relates ~~itself~~ ^{"Cage"} ~~catch~~ 'Em." "And they told me there were plenty of drunks in Harvard who would be suitable candidates for a ride in the cage."

The Mayor says he's thinking it over. - And I'm thinking it over. ^{but} I don't believe it really was the HARVARD CRIMSON on the other end of the wire. I'll bet it was the YALE LIT, casting aspersions at fair Harvard. Fancy - a cage full of Harvard drunks, especially on the evening after the Yale-Harvard game! *inconceivable*

SIMON

Some new Hollywood revelations are threatened, all because Simone Simon, the French actress, had her lady secretary locked up on a charge of theft - twenty-three thousand dollars worth of theft. That seems to be quite a revelation, but the secretary declared she's going to make a few revelations of her own about Simone. She says she'll just tell and tell. — *to the press.*

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Today the San Francisco police come forward with their own kind of revelation, their own way of telling. They declare that the movie star's former secretary has fingerprints which tally with those of a lady wanted for forgery. They identify her as the daughter of a Russian ecclesiastic, of Seattle, Washington, and go into details about the forgery charge - fifteen checks signed with a false name^s - a prominent society name^s.

UNDERTAKER

In the old city of Arras in France, there were not enough funerals. So the undertaker committed suicide today.

He explained with that famous French logic: "I can't kill people to make funerals. So I'll kill myself, ~~as~~ ^{there} there will be at least one funeral."

58 1/2 But now Arras is without an undertaker, and it will take

a little more French logic to solve that!

ERROR

As a veteran maker of errors, I'm always interested in a first class bull, a Grade-A boner. ^{And} ~~So~~ here's one. At the University of Chicago they staged a contest, to pick the most beautiful co-ed. The final selection was made by three judges, who did their choosing from photographs. So pictures of the Chicago U. beauties were sent to them - sent by the photographers who did the photographing. These ~~photographers likewise~~ photographers likewise did the photographing for Northwestern University, a rival educational institution. ^{And that's how} ~~So~~ they pulled the boner. Among the pictures of the Chicago U. beauties, they sent a Northwestern ^{charmer.} ~~beauty~~. Yes, you guessed it, the judges selected the wrong picture. So the Chicago U. ^{mid.} beauty prize was awarded to a Northwestern ~~girl~~ gal!

And now, Hugh, what from you?

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