

L.J. - Sunoco. Thursday, Oct. 24, 1940.

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Today an eighty year old soldier clad in an old uniform of horizon blue journeyed by automobile in France. He was Marshal Petain the hero of Verdun and he wore the same uniform that he wore ~~when~~ ^{when} a quarter of a century ago he commanded the tremendous defenses of Verdun and stopped the legions of the Kaiser. Today ~~he~~ ^{Marshal Petain} went by car to meet Adolf Hitler -- somewhere near Paris. The Nazi ^S received the aged Marshal with military honors. And the meeting was held in Hitler's private railroad car. With Premier Petain was Vice-Premier Laval, who two days ago conferred with Hitler. With ~~Hitler~~ ^{the Nazi Dictator} was his Foreign Minister Von Ribbentrop and General Von Keitel, German Chief of Staff. The conference is said to have begun at about three ~~expm~~ P.M. and lasted until five.

This event is surrounded with the deepest secrecy.

From neither the German or the French sides do the official bulletins announce anything more than the mere fact of the

meeting. ~~But~~ ^{But} the impression given is portentous -- especially after Hitler's conference yesterday with ~~the~~ the Spanish

Dictator, Franco. ^H From the Axis side the rumor is that

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France and Spain ~~will~~ are joining Germany in a vast lineup
against Great Britain. Berlin reports state the purpose as

"the destruction of Britain". London is saying that Hitler's
meeting with Franco and Petain are simple evidence ~~of the fact~~
that the Nazi ~~war~~ warfare against Great Britain has failed,

~~that~~ and Hitler needs allies. This evokes an angry denial

in Nazi Germany. ^H On the French side one surmise is that the

Petaim regime is merely trying to straighten things out with

the conquering nation -- one ^{purpose} ~~reason perhaps~~ being to re-establish

the French government in Paris. But there is another French

report of a more sweeping sort. This rumor holds that Hitler

and Mussolini are trying to draw Franco and Petain into a

combination for peace. One immediate aim would be for the

group to try and break the British blockade, which is stopping

food supplies to Western Europe. Beyond that, says the

French ^{story} ~~dispatch~~ there is a plan for a ~~lineup~~ continental

lineup to ~~face~~ face Great Britain with a demand that ~~force~~

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peace be negotiated.

And there are signs of diplomatic combinations farther to the East. Both Moscow and Tokyo intimate that a Soviet Japanese non-aggression pact is in the making.

If all these moves were to work out successfully it might mean a common front from Spain across Asia to Japan.

The war news ^{is} ~~is~~ about the same tonight. The ~~Nazis~~

Nazi Air Force continues to bomb Britain, and the Royal

Air Force has hit Berlin again.

DOCUMENT

Here's something that may be a sign that ideas of peace ^{are held} ~~are circulating~~ in certain British quarters. The Civil Service, in particular - which is not at all like our American Civil Service. In Great Britain it consists of permanent officials who constitute the basis of the London Government - ~~under-secretaries~~ under-secretaries, holders of bureaucratic posts - the civil servants.

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London reports that a document is being circulated in government offices. It's quite an American sort of document, entitled - "A New Gettysburg Address." It reads this way, in Lincolnian paraphrase:- "Four score and five years ago, our forefathers let loose upon this country a civil service conceived in obstructionism and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created idiots." Then it goes on to state what is to be expected - in these words:- "That this nation shall have a new dose of appeasement, and that government of civil service by civil service and for civil service shall give Hitler the earth."

All of which is a Lincolnian way of charging ^{the} ~~that~~ British Civil Service with ideas of peace. ~~the ideas of peace are circulating in London government offices~~
~~A peace~~

REFUGEES

The arrest of notable refugees continues in the news. In Spain it's indicated that the Franco Government will extradite a former Rumanian official who was chief of the household of ^{ex-}~~former~~ King Carol. This chief of the household is wanted by the present Rumanian Government on charges connected with the suppression of the Iron Guard ~~movementxxxxmovementxxxx~~ ^{some}~~movement~~ months ago. ~~That was the time when King Carol's government bore down savagely on the pro-Nazi organization with the killing of many Iron Guard leaders.~~

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Today's ^{in Spain} arrest of the former chief of the royal household ties in of course with the detention of King Carol and Madame Lupescu by the Spanish police. There's no definite ~~indirect~~ certainty that the Bucharest Government is seeking to extradite the former King and the woman with whom he fled. However, Franco newspapers are expressing the opinion that the much discussed couple should be sent back to Carol's former kingdom.

From Rumania itself, we have an announcement of the arrest of Marshal Smigley-Ridz. He was the Commander-in-Chief

of the Polish army, and the strong man of Poland at the outbreak of the war. His military forces were pulverized by the first blitzkrieg, and the Marshal fled to Rumania - where he has been ever since. His arrest today naturally recalls the seizure ~~as~~ *day before yesterday* of the former Polish Foreign Minister, Colonel Beck - who, they say, was trying to flee the country with a British passport. *Both are now almost certain to fall into the hands of the Germans.*

SABOTAGE

Secretary of War Stimson today warned the United States against sabotage. He said the situation was more dangerous than it was during the World War. The Secretary used these words:-

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"Attempts at sabotage, ~~he said he,~~ have already been shown by belligerent nations, Germany, for example, to be far more dangerous than twenty years ago," ^{said he.} He didn't expatiate on the meaning of the significant words - "shown to be more dangerous." He refrained from stating whether any actual cases of sabotage had been disclosed in this country.

The Secretary of War made this declaration in stating the need for the creation of Home Guards - citizen soldiers to take the place of the National Guard units that have been drawn into the regular army. The Secretary indicated that there was not much modern armament on hand with which to equip these Home Guards - but they could use World War rifles. He said the army had enough Lee-Enfield guns of the World War period to equip a hundred and twenty-five thousand Home Guards.

~~On Monday, President Roosevelt signed legislation authorizing the Home Guard units, leaving the creation of them up to the individual states.~~

POLITICS

Today we find ourselves with the realization that the political campaign has certainly become as tense and hard-hitting as we expected it would. The first of President Roosevelt's campaign speeches has brought the two candidates to grips. From now on it's to be - hammer and tongs, catch as catch can, or any simile you like.

Today in Ohio Wendell Willkie gave a reply to the presidential declarations of last night. Of course, Willkie did some replying in his address at the Herald-Tribune Forum - the in Philadelphia. In that speech speech he made shortly after the President spoke. Willkie did a neat job of picking up a cue. He had his talk all set, but at the same time it was up to him to give some reply to the President's remarks made so ~~briefly~~ ^{shortly} before. The Republican candidate was prepared to talk about excessive one-man power and a third term. He listened to the presidential declarations, then neatly picked out the fact that Mr. Roosevelt made no mention of the third term issue - or of the doctrine of indispensibility. Willkie seized upon this omission as a cue, and thereby gave as a reply the line of reasoning that he had already laid out - excessive power, perpetuation of power and ~~the~~ ^a third term.

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Today, on his campaign train in Ohio, he went ahead to answer other points contained in the first of the President's five speeches. He took up the statement that President Roosevelt has done everything to keep the nation away from war - following the road to peace. ~~He attacked the President's promise not to~~

~~take this nation into war, unless we're attacked.~~ The war issue

comes to the front with increasing importance. Last night the President gave a pledge against war more strongly and specifically than ever before. Hitherto, the promise mostly has been not to send the army, American boys, to fight in foreign wars. Last night the presidential pledge was all inclusive - the army, the navy,

and the air corps. *came back at that* Willkie ~~attacked~~ today, by declaring that the

President had broken his platform pledges of Nineteen Thirty-Two,

any better,"
and *"*If he doesn't keep his Nineteen-Forty pledges, said Willkie,

"our boys soon will be sailing in transports to take part in a foreign war." So the war issue is at the front.

~~Last night, President Roosevelt, in charging~~
~~misrepresentations of fact, pointed out a slip Willkie made in~~
~~a campaign speech when he said~~ *Mr.* ~~President~~ Roosevelt had telephoned

~~included. I don't recall ever having seen the text of these
cabled messages made public.~~

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Today Willkie issued a warning concerning the armament program. He repeated once again that he's all for building an overwhelming defense, but stated that defense expenditures were no road to permanent recovery. He warned that after the armament program was complete, we might have the worst depression ever - unless the internal economy of the nation were soundly constructed on a normal basis.

President Roosevelt spoke again today. This afternoon from Washington he made an address transmitted to the Herald-Tribune Forum in New York. The President spoke on the theme of democracy versus dictatorship, and at times one thought one heard an echo - a political echo. With this utterly tense election coming swiftly to a climax and close, I suppose we're inclined to hear political echoes in everything. The Democratic President spoke of Abraham Lincoln, just as the Republican candidate last night ^{uttered} ~~spoke in~~ praise of Thomas Jefferson - things are getting topsy-turvy these days. The President told how Lincoln warned against what F.D.R.

described as "fear mongers and calamity howlers" -- "the appeasers of that troubled time ", said he. Well, this recalls that the President's running mate, Henry Wallace, launched the charge that Willkie was an appeaser. Also -- last night the President charged the Republicans with -- fear propaganda. Today the President is talking against the totalitarian dictators, warned us against what he called "the foreign propagandists who seek to divide us with their strategy of terror." That reference to "foreign propagandists who seek to divide us" recalls rather reminiscently the Republican charge that the third term threatens to disunite us. Yes, everything these days seems to have a political echo.

COMMUNISTS

In New York State today the Communist ticket was knocked right out of the election. Supreme Court Justice Murray handed down the verdict and declared his belief that signatures on the Red election petition were fraudulent.

According to New York State law, any party to get into an election, has to present a ~~xx~~ petition signed by ^{at least} twelve thousand voters, with ~~sixty~~ fifty from each county. The Communists handed in their election document, with the right number of signatures - and it was ^{promptly} ~~properly~~ challenged. Members of the American Legion went to court about it and charged that many of the signatures were false.

In the proceedings that ensued, various people whose names were signed to the petition, testified and swore that they had never done the signing. The Communists retorted that these witnesses had been forced to deny their signatures by intimidation. "A campaign of terror," said the Reds - who should know something about terror. The signatures repudiated were of W.P.A. workers, and the Communists claimed that these persons had been threatened with being cut off ~~x~~ from relief - unless they testified that their

signatures were false. Of course, there's a federal law which prohibits the W.P.A. to have Communists on the relief rolls. All of which would seem to make a W.P.A. worker signing a Communist petition, something of a paradox. But then there are a lot of paradoxes around nowadays.

Communist Candidate Earl Browder testified that the attack on the Red petition had been instigated - by another political party. He didn't say which political party it was. He intimated that the idea was that if the Communists didn't have a ticket in the field, the Red voters would thereupon vote for that political party, which he refrained from naming.

Still another paradox. Browder is going to testify ~~before~~ before the Congressional Committee in Washington about what he describes as terrorism exercised against the Communists in New York. And in doing so he's supposed to name the mysterious political party.

Anyway, the court in Albany today tossed the Reds out of the election, and they say they're going to appeal.

DOG

In a hospital at Ontario, Oregon, today, Frank Pollen, a sheep herder, told his story briefly - after he had recovered from the ether. The sheep herder was out in the wild country far from anywhere, when he suddenly became desperately ill. Luckily, he had with him his dog - named Bud. You know, how intelligent and devoted those working sheep dogs are. So here's Frank Pollen's story:-

"I guess I would have died out there if it hadn't been for Bud," ^{he says,} "When the pain doubled me up so I couldn't walk," he relates, "I wrote a note telling friends where I was. I pinned it to Bud's collar and told him - 'Go home.' Bud trotted off," the sheep herder concludes, "and three hours later he reached the John Palmer ranch, eighteen miles away." *And so help came.*

And that's the kind of story to make one feel rather good - ~~yes a good~~ *yes a good* old dog story.

~~good - a dog story~~

FOOTBALL

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There was a Harvard-Cornell football clash today - not on the gridiron, no impact of powerful linesmen ^{or the} tackling ^{of} speedy backs with the ball. The field of combat is on paper - and in print. And the cause of the trouble is that old problem of amateur athletics, Simon pure, no subsidizing. The HARVARD CRIMSON today launches the charge that Cornell has violated an agreement made two years ago - a pledge to keep football as amateur as amateur can be. The CRIMSON blast is fired particularly at the head ~~of~~ Cornell Coach, Carl Snavely. He's accused of violating an agreement not to proselytize. ~~Meaning not to go out~~ ^{scouting} ~~for likely looking football prospects and persuade them to go to~~ ^{to} ~~Cornell for their higher education.~~ ^R The Harvard pronouncement contains these sprightly words:- "Carl Snavely, ~~ixtix~~ it says, "is the biggest traveling salesman that ever wore rubbers off the tires of an automobile. Last year," it continues, "he drove several thousand miles solely in an effort to corral grid talent for Cornell's future teams."

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Well, if that's true, Coach Snavely ought to be a good customer for Nu-Blue Sunoco. We'll have to look into that Hugh, ~~and SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.~~

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