

FORESTS

L. J. - Sunoco. New, Oct. 17, 1938.

Over the weekend, forest fires ^{raged in upper} ~~broke out in~~ New York.

Game wardens and volunteers managed to get them under control but today they broke out again. And now it turns out that fourteen counties of the Empire State are menaced with ^{forest fire} ~~the conflagration~~ on a huge scale. Not a drop of rain has fallen since the heavy storms late in September. The beautiful Indian summer that people have been enjoying in the eastern states has resulted in woods that are dry as tinder. And the grounds are covered with a blanket of dry leaves.

At seven o'clock Saturday morning the deer hunting season opened in the Adirondack ^{S.} ~~Mountains~~. The consequence was that twenty-five small fires were reported in different spots. Game wardens reported that they had been caused by the carelessness of hunters. Officials of ^{the} New York Conservation Department took a quick survey of the forests and telephoned Governor Lehman at Albany. The New York Governor thereupon immediately closed almost all the forest region in the Adirondacks. ~~to the public~~. No hunting, not even any hiking, camping or picnicing. Hundreds of ~~so-called~~ sportsmen were on their way to the woods this morning as the season

for shooting pheasants, squirrel and rabbits opened at noon today.

But the ~~sportsmen~~ sportsmen were all turned back by game wardens,

^{# Also —} fire wardens, and state troopers. This afternoon woods were ablaze

in the Catskills, ^{And} ~~but~~ that region has not ^{yet} been closed to hunters.

U In Vermont, a thousand men are fighting a fierce fire in the forests of Glastonbury mountain near Arlington. In the nearby towns, factories and business houses are closed so that the men working there could join the fire fighters.

So the word tonight to all hunters is:— don't smoke in the woods during this drought. Look out for camp fires.

BUSINESS

There's a big business boom coming all over the world.

How do we know that? Roger Babson says so. It isn't the first time he has made this prophecy, only hirtherto he confined his predictions to the United States. This time he includes the entire globe. This he conveyed in a message to the Annual Business Conference at Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts. And says Economist-Prophet Babson: "Six months from now we may see the beginning of an entire era of peace and great prosperity."

Such was the most optimistic utterance at the National Business Conference today. Other spokesman weren't so cheery. P.W. Litchfield, President of Goodyear, sang a song of woe about the National Labor Relations Board.

SPENDING

Today comes another of those ~~charming little~~^{cheerful} bits of
information from ~~Uncle Sam's~~^{our} treasury. In three months and a half,
our government has spent nine hundred million dollars more than it
took in.

DOCTORS

In Washington, D.C., the Department of Justice has started one of the oddest cases in the history of American law. It's the charge of Uncle Sam's attorneys against the American Medical Association, the charge that the doctor's association is conducting a criminal monopoly. The suit began today with the impanelling of a special grand jury, twenty-three picked men selected ~~with the utmost~~ ~~care~~ by a federal judge. And the court warned those grand jurors: "Do not vote an indictment unless in your conscientious judgment there is a probable cause to believe the criminal statute of the United States has been violated."

The accusation arises out of the objection of the *what is termed* doctors to "group medicine." A lot of the men and women who work for Uncle Sam in Washington got together and organized a group health organization. The purpose, ~~was~~ to obtain medical care for themselves and ~~their~~ wives and children at a low cost. The Department of Justice declares that the District of Columbia Medical Society thereupon threatened to expel all doctors who worked for the group health organization, ~~or who would even consult with the~~ ~~Associate's~~ physician.

This is ~~going~~ to be a test case. If the Department of Justice succeeds in putting this one over, there will be similar prosecutions in other parts of the United States.

COMMUNIST

The Supreme Court ~~of the United States~~ will soon settle a question that has been raging all over the country for years.

That question is: "Should Communists be deported from the United States?"

^{at}
~~In~~ Hot Springs, Arkansas, a man named Strecker, an alien, was to be kicked out of the country because he was a member of the party. He appealed to the courts and the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in his favor, said he should not be deported. Uncle Sam's lawyers refused to let it go at that and today the Supreme Court has consented to review the case. If the ~~nine~~ justices should reverse the Circuit Court and decide against Strecker, it will be a matter of huge importance to the many people who are interested in Harry Bridges, the C.I.O. labor organizer who has raised so much cain on the Pacific coast.

SPIES

A weird E. Phillips Oppenheim story of spies and Nazi conspiracy was told in the New York Federal Court today. And the central figure was Rumerich, the deserter from Uncle Sam's Army who pleaded guilty last week to the charge that he sold our military secrets to the Nazis. And the plot which the United States Attorney outlined to was as weird as any fiction. Rumerich, he said, and subsequently Rumerich so testified, was hard up after he deserted from the Army. So he wrote to A Hitler newspaper. By that means he got a job with the Nazi Secret Service.

The prosecutor said further that the Nazi spy ring in the United States was being deliberately organized by German officers from persons of either German birth or German origin. German government agencies are paying not only for military mobilization and defense plans, but for passport blanks. Some of the blanks are used to send Nazi agents to Russia. It was this part of the deal that trapped deserter Rumerich. And the plan that involved no less than forging the name of President Roosevelt on letterheads printed to imitate White House stationery.

Rumerich himself was the first witness. Some of the things he told illustrate the ease with which military secrets have been

obtained in this country. On one occasion for instance, Rumerich telephoned Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, said he was a major and asked for a certain report. A corporal answered the telephone, made no attempt to investigate and sent the report by messenger to Rumerich. Another spy got a job at the Curtiss-Wright Company in Buffalo, and there secured photographs of important parts of naval bombing machines.

Judging from the proceedings in court today these United States are a paradise for foreign spies.

PANAMA

Four Germans arrested in Panama to be tried as spies.

Caught photographing one of the most important districts in the

Canal Zone, some of the heavy fortifications. First the Army

officers wouldn't say whether their captives were spies or not.

Today it was announced that they have been turned over to the

Canal Zone police, charged under the Espionage Act and held in

fifteen thousand dollars bail each

CHURCHILL

The Nazis today made their answer to Winston Churchill's broadcast of yesterday. Said the Hitler press:- Churchill is a humbug and works behind a Chinese wall of ignorance. Alfred Duff Cooper, the First Lord of the Admiralty, who resigned, was coupled with Churchill in the abuse. The paper also took occasion to have the usual fling at democracy with the words: "England and other democracies always cross the finish line one horse-length behind realities."

NAZIS

^{An}
~~A grave and~~ ominous report was published in Paris today. ~~The~~
Nazi terror ~~has begun~~ in Czechoslovakia. Hitler demands that all
leaders of the anti-Nazi parties in Czechoslovakia ~~should~~ be arrested
and handed over to him. He wants ~~the bodies of~~ all those Sudeten
senators and deputies in the Czech Parliament who did not take the
Nazi side. He also demands the presence of all those who were
leaders of the Social-Democrats, Communists and Catholics. ^T There's
no official confirmation of this ~~report~~. However, it is ~~curious~~
~~that it is~~ published in three different Parisian newspapers today.

The agreement between Chamberlain and Hitler made no
stipulation for the safety of any such people. In fact, it is
expected that at almost any time Hitler will ^{even} demand the arrest and
extradition of Ex-President Benes. An embarrassing question was
asked in the House of Commons on this subject. A Conservative member
demanded to know whether any guarantee had been made for the safety
of ~~Ben~~ Benes. ^{And} ~~The~~ government declined to answer.

BENES

A friendly American gesture has been made to Ex-President Benes of Czechoslovakia. It came from the University of Chicago. President Hutchins invited him to lecture at the university. And Hutchins announced today he had learned indirectly that Dr. Benes would accept. If he does, he will be the second president of that hapless republic to lecture at Chicago. For two years ~~former~~ President ^{Masaryk} ~~Masaryk~~ occupied a chair as guest lecturer.

CATHOLICS FOLLOW CONGRESS

Ominous news from Vienna:- another drastic action by the Nazi authorities against the Catholics! They have taken control of all schools away from the Archbishop of Salzburg. That is, they forbid the Archbishop to have anything to say about the religious education of the youngsters.

An archbishop who had signed the manifesto expressing loyalty to Hitler.

CONGRESS

The gay city of New Orleans today was filled with Catholics, pilgrims from all over the world, a hundred thousand of them. They had come for the Eucharistic Congress, ^{which} ~~it~~ was opened today by Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago, ^{who} representing ^{ed} the Pope. ~~As might be expected,~~ ^H the plight of Catholics living under the Nazi terror was one of the foremost topics ^{of the opening session,} Said Bishop Donohue of New York: "The Catholic Church has withstood persecution before, just as now, in Vienna." And he added: "But it has always stood firm, eventually the persecution ended, ^{and} the Church was still there."

JEWS

Mussolini has replied to our protest concerning the treatment of American Jews in Italy. The answer was sent today by Foreign Minister Count Ciano to Secretary Hull. The details have not been made public, but the Fascist big shots believe the word will be satisfactory to Washington. However, it's understood that Ciano is saying to Hull that altho American Jews cannot be exempted as a whole from the récent decrees issued by the Italian Government special consideration will be given to special cases.

ATATURK

A piece of medical news from Turkey may have grave political consequence. Dictator Kemal Ataturk, seriously ill. Stricken yesterday. His condition was reported as improving slightly during the night; but today still serious.

The strong man of Istanbul -- successor of Sultans; Kemal, who abolished ~~the~~ the Caliphs!

LONDON

The trade treaty between John Bull and Uncle Sam will soon be an accomplished fact. The latest word from London is that Prime Minister Chamberlain expects to announce it when Parliament reassembles on November First. At the same time, he will proclaim the long expected agreement with Mussolini. It is reported that when the Anglo-American treaty goes into effect, the U.S.A. will have the same privileges in the British market that Australia and Canada now have, lower tarrif rates on many things. On the other hand , we are to lower our tarriff on a considerable list of goods. The treaty with Mussolini principally concerns affairs in the Mediterranean, that troublesome Spanish question, and Ethiopia.

CANADA

Here's interesting news from Canada:— ~~It's~~ about that deep sea waterway in the St. Lawrence River which it was hoped would do so much to help relations between us and our neighbors on the north. Some people have had the idea that the principal opposition to it came from this side of the frontier. But it develops now that *some* Canadians do not want it. *In fact* ~~at least a couple of their big shots say they don't.~~ [^] The other day, Premier Hepburn of Ontario issued a statement against it. *and* [^] Today he was joined by Prime Minister Duplessis [^] of the Province of Quebec, who said: "I have opposed the plan ever since it was first broached by President Hoover in Nineteen Thirty-One."

Maybe Mr. H. will mention this tonight on the air at 9! 00

It looks as if the speed record on wheels will stay in England -- at least until next summer. There was an American threat to take it away -- Ab Jenkins and his racing giant, the "Mormon Meteor, Second". Ab's an old friend of ours, a Blue Sunoco user in many a daring test of speed. I have a wire from him saying that the condition on the Bonneville Salt flats is bad right now, unsafe for driving three hundred and fifty miles an hour and up. So his whirl at the record held by Captain Eyston of England will have to wait until next summer.

The distinguished Miss Sally Rand, the lady who made fans famous passed a few hours this afternoon in what is vulgarly called "the sneezer." Yes, indeed, Sally Rand, bubbles and all, ~~was~~

behind ^{the} ~~xx~~ bars in the bullpen at the County Court House ~~in~~ — in ^{of} all places.

Hollywood, It wasn't her bubbles that landed her there, nor

even the absence of them. Sofaras I can judge it was the

lady's excessive modesty. She was doing her bubble dance when

a couple of candid camera experts tried to snap her. Miss Rand

went into action with all the weapons at ^{her} ~~the~~ command. ~~of a perfect~~

~~lady~~ Anyhow the vulgar charge against her was assault and

battery. *Maybe she hit 'em with her bubble.*

But even that wasn't the reason she was thrust into the

bullpen. ^{When} she was at the Court House arranging for bail in the

custody of a policewoman, Newspaper cameramen asked her to step

into the corridor and let them shoot a picture of her standing

with the police lady. And that got the goat of ~~the~~ Sally Rand

who said: "I'll jump out of a window or I'll pose standing on my

head, but I won't have my picture taken with a polikewoman!" That

58

in turn got the goat of the policewoman who said; "Come on
young lady, you're going to the bullpen." ^{So} It wasn't for long
however. Just to keep the record straight, ^{Sally} ~~Miss~~ Rand is ~~now~~ no
longer in the ~~"snicker"~~ ^{lockup.}

BUDGE

A hundred thousand dollars is a nice sum to earn in a year. It must be particularly nice to earn it playing tennis and having fun. Box fighters, to be sure, have earned twice and three times that much for a mere few minutes' in the ring. Still -- tennis players don't have to stand up to a barrage of in the face such as Jack Dempsey received from Gene Tunney, or as Max Schmeling got from Joe Louis. Tennis players don't get cauliflower ears. One hundred thousand dollars! That's what Don Budge of California, the sensational amateur Tennis Champ, is asking if he turns pro. And a sports promoter says he offered him a guarantee of seventy-five thousand for one tour, with a percentage easily that ought to raise the ante to a hundred thousand. The red headed Budge says:- a hundred thousand or nothing. And I say SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.