

P.J. - Sunoco. Friday, April 5, 1940.

MAP

The height of goofiness in this whole present ^{day} world of crisis and war was reached today in the big international argument about ^{that} a map. ~~and~~ The European dispatches are accurately describing it as - a cockeyed map. Cockeyed, in fact seems a little mild.

^{TP} The story reads like a huge joke, with fantastic blunders and howling nonsense.

When Sumner Welles was on his peace mission in Europe as President Roosevelt's emissary, he was photographed in the office of the present French Premier, Reynaud. In the picture was a map - rather prominent. To begin the odd nonsense ^{TP}, the French censor blacked out the map for American consumption. The photograph that was pictured far and wide over here, showed the map a blank. This at the time was mildly beguiling. ^{TP} The picture was printed in the French periodical, "l'Illustration", but in this publication the map was shown.

Nothing much ~~happened~~ happened until a copy of ^{that} famous French illustrated weekly ~~"l'illustration"~~ got to Germany and then there was a tremendous Nazi hullabaloo. The Hitler people roared that the map showed how the Allies intended to carve up Germany in the event ⁺ of victory -

frontier lines redrawn, great sections of Germany sliced off. The Nazis denounced the map, and also Sumner Welles. Apparently, the Germans argued, President Roosevelt's emissary was being shown what the Allies intend to do with Germany - and was photographed in the process.

Today one Hitler spokesman expressed it this way:-

"If Welles," said he, "allowed himself to be photographed with Reynaud's map - it was a shameless action. If the photograph was taken without his permission, then the French are playing an infamous game."

There's so much row about it, that today a party of newspaper correspondents were taken to Premier Reynaud's office and there were shown the map in question. The newspaper men studied it, and found it to be nothing extraordinary - most commonplace in fact. ~~It was~~ merely an old map of Europe, with a few markings to show territories taken by Hitler during the past several years, Austria, Czechoslovakia. There was nothing to indicate any carving up of Germany, no redrawing of frontier lines, to show what the Allies intend to do.

~~of the contradiction?~~

~~What's the explanation? It lies in the fact that the map,~~

~~in the office is not the same as the map in the Sumner Welles,~~

~~picture published in the periodical, ^{French} "l'illustration." Was there~~

~~another map, a different map, in the Premier's office? Not at~~

~~all. The mystery is something else again. And~~ Today the French

Government undertook to elucidate the strange dilemma. # A member

of the staff of Premier Reynaud gave out the statement. He said

that in printing the Sumner Welles picture, the journal

"l'illustration" had retouched the map. That's common publication

practice, retouching a photograph to make it clearer. But the

retouching had been clumsy. The artist had bungled the job.

He had got the geography all haywire, ~~got the~~ frontier lines all

tangled up. It was the blundering ~~retoucher~~ retoucher who

had redrawn the map of Europe, in such a way as to throw Nazi

Germany into a frenzy.

Along with this came a description of how the map

had been retouched, and it sounds like a nightmare. The Adriatic

Sea extends inland almost as far as Brenner Pass, cutting the Alps

in two. The Aegean Sea is mostly all land. Of all the historic

isles of Greece, only one is left, only Cyprus. What will the poets have to say about that! The Sea of Marmora doesn't exist at all. The southwestern tip of England is missing - no Cornwall, no Land's End.

~~The retoucher got the coast lines all tangled. But~~ ^{And} what did ~~he~~ ^{the retoucher} do to the frontiers? He garbled fifteen separate and individual frontier lines. ~~There's~~ ^{He has} no frontier between Belgium

and the Netherlands. Only two of the three Baltic states are shown. ^{The Germans claim that an enlargement of the map shows France getting} ~~France gets not only~~ the German territory west of the ~~Rhine~~ ^{Rhine - also} ~~but a~~

section east of the Rhine running north from Coblenz to the Netherlands. This includes Baden, the Palatinate and the Ruhr. Denmark gets German territory as far south as Hamburg. Poland gets East Prussia and Pomerania. Czechoslovakia gets parts of Saxony, Silesia and Bavaria. Austria is reestablished with a part of Bavaria and a corridor running through Italy to the Adriatic. Turkey gets part of Russia.

Such is the nightmare of geography which is solemnly attributed to the clumsiness of ^a ~~the~~ magazine artist who retouched the map and the Sumner Welles photograph and got the job all balled up.

*Or was it some kind of Parisian prank,
by a playful artist? anyhow*
It has Nazi Germany screaming and Fascist Italy expresses

indignation. I suppose we'll hear next from the Soviets.

What has Sumner Welles himself got to say about it?

In Washington he called the whole thing - fantastic nonsense.

~~He said he had~~ never noticed any map in Reynaud's office. ~~His~~

~~formal statement is as follows: "Various allegations concerning
a map which is shown in a photograph of Mr. Reynaud and myself
are fantastic nonsense," says he. "At no time during the course
of my interview in Paris or in any other capital I visited, was any
reference made to any maps." And he concludes:- "I never even
looked at any map which may have been in Mr. Reynaud's office."~~

"Fantastic nonsense" is right: The whole international
uproar about the map ~~and the bungling~~ seems to be nonsense too
fantastic for even this fantastic and nonsensical world.

IRONSIDE

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Today there was some plain speaking by the British Chief of the Imperial General Staff. General Sir Edward Ironside had a press conference ^{at which} ~~and~~ he unburdened himself with surprising frankness - surprising in so high a military commander. The gist of what he said is contained in this phrase, "Thank goodness," he exclaimed, "that Germany did not attack us during the first seven months." Then he amplified that in these words:- "I tremble to think what would have happened if Germany had attacked at the start, because we did not have much of an army then. But," he added, "in seven months Britain has built a fine army."

The Imperial Chief-of-Staff, General, Sir Edward Ironside, had a few things to say about the Germany army. He described it in these words:- "A wonderful machine, but it lacks ~~a~~ commanding officers." He pointed out that Hitler's army is a new creation, and its officer corps lacks experience. He put it this way:- "No German commander now was above the rank of a captain in the World War." Then he added:- "Britain and France have many more experienced commanders - colonels and generals galore."

General Ironside gave his explanation why the Nazis

are keeping such an enormous army at the Western Front. "An army kept at the front," said he, "is much easier to control than one in the rear areas." He indicated that he thought Hitler would eventually have to make an attack. "Germany," said he, "cannot continue to keep her armies at the front inactive. The army must do something or its morale will crack."

British Chief of Imperial Staff
The ~~General~~ did not say whether or not that same philosophy of

inaction applied to the British and the French!

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STEEPLECHASE

There was plenty of horse race irony in the running of the classic British Grand National today. The horse that came in first didn't win. ^{But} That same horse caused the winner to win. ~~It~~ Sounds like a paradox, but here's the story.

One of the hot favorites to win the great steeplechase was Royal Danieli, who was in the lead most of the way. The course has thirty-two jumps, and at the thirty-first, the next to the last - Royal Danieli was fighting to win. But right there occurred a fantastic break of the game.

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One entry in the race was the American thoroughbred, National Night, but that horse came to grief earlier in the race. National Night stumbled and threw his rider. Then the American horse recovered his stride, and kept going - without a jockey. The riderless thoroughbred ran a magnificent race, taking the jumps in splendid form. At the thirty-first ~~jump~~, National Night was out in front with the ^{and there he} leaders. ~~He~~ [^] crossed the field, and bumped Royal Danieli - causing that probable winner to stumble and fall. ~~That~~ ^{Giving} ~~gave~~ [^] the winning chance to Bogskar, who swept on to the finishing line - for a grand national triumph! But actually, out in front

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of Bogskar, was National Night, the horse without a rider.

After bumping down the favorite, the American thoroughbred kept

on going, and came in first. Being without a rider, he was of

course disqualified - and Bogskar was named the winner. — *though*

National Night had taken all the jumps.

MEXICO

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The United States has ^{just} made ~~to~~ Mexico a proposal for arbitration in the oil controversy. This was stated today by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, who refuses to give any further details. The foreign oil companies ^{all} ~~claim~~ that the property seized from them by the Mexico ^{an} ~~Government~~ has a value of four hundred and fifty million dollars. Of this, the American interest is between two hundred and two hundred and fifty million. The Mexicans don't admit any such value, and have failed to offer any sort of acceptable compensation. The controversy has been dragging on with all sorts of negotiations. These have been getting nowhere. And now the Washington Government makes a formal offer of arbitration.

ROOSEVELT

This afternoon the United States Senate passed the Trade Treaty Resolution. This occurred after a fight in which the issue of battle was joined between the President and the Vice-President. Vice-President Garner was behind a drive to prolong the administration program for only one year. That limit was strongly opposed by the White House. Today President Roosevelt at his press conference vigorously denounced the one-year idea. He said three years would be about right.

~~Immediately afterward the debate started in the Senate. Then a vote was taken, and the attempt of the Garner forces to put through the one year limit was defeated
lost out.~~

~~Then later another vote was taken - the final and~~
Later in the day the
~~decisive ballot.~~ [^] The Senate passed the resolution extending the Reciprocal Trade Treaty Law for three years, ^{*the limit*} requested by the President. The vote was forty-two to thirty-seven. And now the whole Trade Treaty controversy is over, with the bill going to the White House.

AVIATION

There may be a tremendous mechanical revolution in the world of aviation, According to the news from Montreal, There at the Curtiss-Reid aircraft plant, they are building a plane to be run by electricity - an electric motor instead of a gas motor. This new development is entirely experimental, we are told. The secret lies in the new type of battery, very light and very powerful. They say the new electric plane is designed to fly three hundred miles an hour. How long will the batteries keep it in the air? We are told ~~it is~~ its cruising range is three hours, nine hundred miles.

There's no need of saying what a vast change in aviation all this would mean - an electric airplane!

PLOT

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Today the defense began its case in the New York trial of the seventeen young men charged with a plot to overthrow the government. Their attorney declared that the witnesses who would appear against them are Communist agents, who had acted as provocateurs. One of these alleged communist agents is described as a most mysterious fellow. He is said to attend meetings of the Christian Front but would never give his name. He spoke five languages and his story was that he had been a secretary to General Franco in Spain. Also that he had fought with Lawrence of Arabia. Odd how that legendary name of Colonel Lawrence gets dragged into so many various things. Anyway, the Red mystery man is said to have acted as a provocateur in framing a supposed plot to overthrow ^{our} ~~the~~ government.
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CIRCUS

The circus season begins tonight. The big show is opening at New York's Madison Square Garden. That should make a fellow cheery, or even boyish, but it only makes me sad and pessimistic - all because of the singular behavior of a newspaper reporter on the HERALD-TRIBUNE.

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There was a bit of excitement, as the Ringling Brothers - Barnum and Bailey's Circus moved into the Garden. First of all, there was a tragedy of wild animal life - when the magnificent white Siberian snow leopard, the only one of its kind in captivity, was attacked and killed by a tawny Indian jungle leopard. The two spotted cats were performers in the great circus animal act, and had been quarreling recently, the feud culminated when the Indian jungle leopard made a sudden and fatal attack upon the proud snow leopard from Siberia. And here's an ironical angle of the wild animal tragedy. The jungle leopard was the understudy of the snow leopard. So, the understudy killed the star - and tonight takes the star's place.

That was only the beginning of the excitement. Later on, as the circus was getting set, still another leopard went on the

rampage. This one contrived to escape, and went dashing across the big empty arena. The great spotted cat went straight toward that HERALD-TRIBUNE reporter whom I mentioned. The newspaper man was busy scribbling notes for his story about the circus, and when he looked up he saw a couple of hundred pounds of leopard approaching! What did he do? I repeat the question - What did that HERALD-TRIBUNE reporter do?

First, I must tell you who he was - John O'Reilly.

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Son of the famous old soldier of fortune - Tex O'Reilly. In places where tales of danger and daring are related, you'll hear about Tex O'Reilly. I myself once wrote a book about his adventures in the deadly perils of war and wilderness - in Mexican revolutions, in battles against fanatical tribes in North Africa, *- a book entitled "Born to Raise Hell."* If it had been Tex O'Reilly standing there as the leopard came stalking, Tex would have seized the ferocious jungle creature by the throat and strangled it. But Tex's boy John didn't do that. When he saw the great spotted cat coming, John ~~O'Reilly~~ ducked behind some canvas and hid, *even as you did.*

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Fie there, John O'Reilly, do you know what your father,

Tex, would have done? He'd have walked up to that leopard and made the beast cower with the glare of those O'Reilly eyes. Or if Tex were really annoyed, he'd ^{have} reach^{ed} down and ^{picked} dig up a rattlesnake and hit the leopard with it. He'd ^{have} used the rattlesnake to whip the spotted hide off the ferocious jungle creature.

Well, it only goes to show how men nowadays are not the men their fathers were. It just shows how much the world is not improving. ^{For John hid. - even as you + J.} ~~Yes, he hid~~ ~~an~~

^{come out of hiding and} And now, Hugh, cheer us up with something ~~glad~~ about

Nu-Blue. ~~Sunoco.~~

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