L. I. Sunoco Ads., June 13, 1939.

CHINA

There's a fine bit of Japanese-British confusion tonight, one side saying "No", the other side saying "Yes". This afternoon the Mikado's Ambassador at London announced the British Foreign Office had yielded to Japan in the dispute at Tientsin. At that great north China port, the Japanese demand that the authorities of the British concession turn over to them four Chinese whom the Japanese accuse of being assassins - terrorists acting against Japan. To enforce the demand, Japan has threatened to blockade the British concession of Tientsin, and that would mean the blockade of the French concession also. And likewise large American interests would be seriously jeopardized. Any such blockade would bring about a threatening situation.

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Britain yields - says the Japanese Ambassador at London. And he adds that His Majesty's Foreign Office received what is ~~ENOUGH EVIDENCE~~ supposed to be enough evidence against the assassins to turn them over to Japanese justice.

However, it's just the opposite, according to the British. A government spokesman in London denies the announcement made by the Japanese Ambassador, says he doesn't know of any decision by the Foreign Office to yield. Moreover, he expresses

the opinion that the Mikado's emissary is the victim of a hoax, some practical joke. It sounds like a dangerous kind of hoaxing for practical joking.

SPAIN

From Spain come continued reports of Franco vengeance, court martials and executions. Today's dispatch gives us a weird story of a Jugoslav architect on trial for his life at Barcelona. It is charged that he designed torture chambers for the secret police of the defunct Spanish Republic. A whole stream of witnesses testified how this artist had decorated prison cells in ultra-modern cubist fashion - cunningly drawn for the purpose of inflicting mental torture and driving the Nationalist prisoners mad. Weird surrealist forms and figures to work psychologic destruction - these along with other ways of subtle torture.

The Barcelona report says that the Jugoslav artist admits all this, but contends that he was compelled to construct those chambers of horror, had to do it or the Anarchists would have tortured him to death.

A later dispatch from Madrid tells still another tale of terror. It relates that five women have been arrested, these charged with having been members of a Red secret service made up of women. This feminine secret police is said to have spied out people whose

sympathies were against the Reds; and so the story relates ~~states and~~ that they had at their disposal a detachment of armed militia and automobiles - the militia detachment carrying out the executions decreed by the Red secret service of women.- They are ~~which is~~ held to have been responsible for the assassination of five thousand victims.

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FRENCH FISHERMEN

Another international row is reported today - and Great Britain is in it. This time it isn't Hitler or Mussolini who is menacing Britain, ~~and~~ threatening to seize something - it's the French. And that's something of a surprise. However, not a clash in imperial rivalry - just a row between fishermen.

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Off the channel island of Jersey, there's a reef, where crabs and lobsters abound. It's a bountiful fishing reef for the catching of crustaceans. The crab and lobster catchers from the opposide sides of the English Channel have been claiming that reef, and recently the British fishermen posted signs claiming fishing rights there - ~~and~~ warning the French fishermen off. The ~~French fishermen~~ Breton crab and lobster men retaliated by capturing the reef - fifty of them seized it and planted the French flag. Which makes it look as if a minor war might break out between the rival fishermen - some small kind of naval battle between the fleets of trawlers. ~~It is~~ It became so serious, that the French government took decisive action - Paris doesn't want anything that might turn into a dangerous dispute with London, not with Hitler and Mussolini looking on. Today a French navy plane went winging

to the disputed reef, and there gave orders to the French fishermen who had captured it - clear out, vacate the reef.

The French government told the French crab sters and lobster ers ~~fishermen~~ to give up possession - and promised the matter would be settled by direct negotiation between Paris and London.

CZECH

More reports today about the troubled state of affairs in what once was Czechoslovakia. Czechs and Slovaks are reported to be fleeing to Poland, forming a Czechoslovak legion - to fight for the freedom of the little country now under Hitler's heel. Four thousand members of the former Czechoslovak army are said to have ~~got~~ across^ed the border, with weapons, munitions, and even ~~some~~ airplanes. And the new Czechoslovak legion is reported to be commanded by a one-time general of the Czechoslovak army.

We are told that the brother of former President Benes has succeeded in escaping to Poland, and there's an adventurous story of how he and several companions concealed themselves in a box car of a freight train, ~~on its way to Poland,~~ and in that way escaped the vigilance of the German secret police.

If Poland is thus harboring fugitives from the German Nazis and permitting ~~the~~ a Czechoslovak legion to be formed ~~at its~~ within its borders, ~~there is grave peril of trouble~~ that will not help relations between Poland and Germany.

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REFUGEES

The nine hundred and seven Jewish refugees aboard the German steamship were saved just in time. The Hamburg-American liner, with the German Jews whom Cuba refused to receive, was steaming back to Hamburg and was nearing European waters. But the ship was steaming slowly, the captain delaying as much as he could, hoping that in the nick of time something might be accomplished to save the nine hundred and seven Jewish refugees from the sinister fate of returning to Nazi Germany. And the hope entertained turned out to be true. Word by wireless flashed suddenly to the liner - the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees has succeeded in finding places for those Jewish exiles to land. They will be allowed to enter Belgium, Holland, France and Great Britain. Belgium - taking two hundred and fifty; Holland - a hundred and ninety-four; France - about two hundred; Great Britain the remainder, more than two hundred and fifty.

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Money for the maintenance of the refugees is to be put up by ~~the~~ a United States Committee. They're granted only temporary hospitality, but will be allowed to stay for a while. Their final destination still remains to be decided.

SCHOOL FIGHT

Baltimore's high school outbreak of anti-Semitism is serious enough to cause the suspension of eighteen students. They were sent home today from the Gwynne Falls Junior High School after an inquiry into anti-Jewish activities ~~among the students.~~ The state of affairs came to vivid light with what they called the "branding" of a fifteen year old Jewish pupil. A gang of other boys threw him down and with a knife or something of the sort, they ~~laid~~ cut scratches in his neck to form the letter "H", presumably for "Hebrew."

A nineteen year old Jewish boy, a friend of the branded lad, accompanied him to school yesterday, and undertook to defend him. This led to a fight, and the older Jewish boy beat up two other pupils, and was arrested. He's being held on assault charges.

The school authorities proceeded to make an investigation, and the report is that there have been anti-Semitic demonstrations from time to time among the high school students - though nothing so violent as the branding and the fight. Eighteen students suspended from school - such was today's verdict.

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NEUTRALITY

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives today put its okay on the Nautrality Bill the administration wants. The Committee voted its approval of a new Neutrality statute along the lines proposed by Secretary of State Cordell Hull. It provides for various restrictions to keep this nation out of war, restrictions a good deal like those of the present Neutrality Law - but it does not forbid the sale of American weapons and munitions to nations at war. This prohibition of armament sales ~~in wartime~~ to warring countries is the principal thing the administration does not like in the present law.

Opponents of the bill say it will favor maritime nations like Great Britain and France, which control the sea, and will act against totalitarian Germany and Italy. And it therefore is not neutral at all. The bill has plenty of opponents, especially in the Senate, where there's a threat to stage a filibuster to keep this administration bill from going through.

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Right along with this we hear from London about an official report on the royal visit to the United States - an elaborate report sent to the London government by Sir Ronald

Lindsay, British Ambassador to Washington. He tells of the immense success of the King and Queen's appearance in the United States, and the immediate London response is to hope the royal visit will have an effect on American neutrality legislation. The optimistic ~~hope~~ expectations is that the favorable impression made by the British sovereigns on the American people will cause the enactment of a neutrality law favorable to Great Britain and the other democracies. And also - weaken the isolationist opinion in Congress, diminish the American tendency to stay over here in isolation. It's simply a coincidence that the London report comes out the day of neutrality action over here.

That royal visit, by the way, led to a noisy scene in the New Brunswick Legislature today. Fifteen thousand children were gathered in the assembly room, and they yelled their heads off with cheers. The New Brunswick, ~~the~~ Premier read an address of welcome to His Majesty, but not a word could be heard. The King and Queen strained their ears, ~~xxxxxxx~~ but couldn't catch a syllable - in the uproar. The Premier bravely read his address right through but he might as well have saved his breath, with fifteen thousand kids yelling!

TEACHER

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At Trenton, New Jersey, School Teacher Olive Jordan is being restored to her job of teaching first grade pupils - but she isn't to tell the children any more horror tales, no more scary stories to frighten them out of their wits. Last fall, teacher was dismissed, because of complaints that she was in the habit of telling her first-year pupils weird and fantastic tales of terror, ~~hair-raisers~~ that just about scared ~~them~~ them to death. O-oo oo!
Hair raisers.
In her defense, she admitted she had told the children horror tales, but for the purpose of inculcating a moral. For example, she wanted to impress on the little ones the importance of restraining their tempers, so she told them a weird and scary one about how anger caused a boy to commit a terrible murder - killing his mother. She made it realistic and convincing with the full gory details.

The State Education Commissioner has been considering the case, and today gave a verdict. The Commissioner admits that the teacher may have used what he calls "ill chosen illustrative material." But today she got her job back - hereafter her illustrative material will be better chosen, stories about angels

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in Heaven or Mary's Little Lamb, or Little Bo Peep, or something of the sort.

~~This reminds me of~~ Which recalls a story Nelson Rockefeller tells - about two small daughters of a friend of his, seven and ten perhaps, ~~who~~ They were put to sleep in the same bed, and in a few minutes there was a loud uproar, with the smaller girl dashing to her mother and ~~complaining the other one~~ wailing that the elder had been ~~scolding her and~~ saying unkind things to her. The mother took the younger one back into the room, talked sternly ~~to the older one,~~ and said:- "Now you tell her a story and put her to sleep." Quiet for a few minutes, and then an uproar louder than ever. The smaller girl came to her mother, sobbing loudly. Yes, her sister had told her a story - but it was a murder story told in the dark room, a story about somebody being killed in the closet next to the bed. Back went the mother with some more admonition, and this time she made the instructions precise. Tell her a story about angels to put her to sleep. Apparently the next story was about angels, because all was quiet for the rest of the night.

HURRICANE

~~The~~ Hurricane ~~and storm~~ warnings are not up tonight. The regular federal weather bureau system for giving warning about a hurricane^s is not flashing its word of peril. But that's only because the hurricane warning system doesn't begin to go into operation until next Thursday - ~~that's~~ when the season for the big West Indian wind is ~~reckoned as~~ supposed to begin~~ning~~.

And a hurricane is blowing. The great twister today was moving through Yucatan^c channel. That's the space of water between the peninsula^of Yucatan and the western tip of Cuba. The blast of rotating wind is moving northward^in to the Gulf of Mexico, heading for our own Gulf coast. ~~It's~~ a pre-season hurricane, blowing too early in the summer - before hurricanes are supposed to blow. And so the regular warning was not in operation today.

SUN OIL

Some recent figures show that the average American owner of a light automobile today spends nearly thirty-four dollars less a year on tires than he did twelve years ago. Through research and production development we buy tires that are longer in mileage and lower in price. So the average light car owner today has nearly thirty-four dollars more a year to spend on clothes, or groceries, or entertainment. Such is the advancement of just one great American industry. Others are doing the same -- providing us with more and better products at less money.

PRISONERS

The Kansas State Penitentiary at Lansing has a mine, in which prisoners work to take out coal - but they weren't working that mine today. A sit-down strike was on. Four hundred convicts deep down in the pit, refusing to work or come out. One of the causes of this prison mine sit-down strike is fantastic - a convict demand that they be allowed to wear silk underwear.

Recently, a new regime has been installed at the prison farm, with severe restrictions clamped on. The restrictions followed the discovery ~~that the~~ of convicts getting drunk - ~~no~~ nobody seemed to know how they got the liquor. Then it was discovered that deep down in a mine, in remote galleries, they had a couple of ~~s~~ stills. For ~~fermenting~~ fermenting material they used brad, which they sneaked down the mine. They'd make a mash of it, let it ferment, and then distill it. The distillery business was smashed up, and stern regulations were put into effect. ~~These concerned a convict scheme, whereby prisoners speculated in the coal they dug. They were allowed to sell a certain proportion of it, and a complicated scheme of speculation grew out of it. Another new~~ one rule forbade the convicts to have

sandwiches and pie in their cells at night. And ~~still another~~ one was a ~~was that~~ cruel and heartless prohibition of silk underwear under the convict dungarees.

Yesterday, the prisoners threatened trouble unless the ban was revoked. The warden went so far as to compromise, proclaiming the convicts could wear what silk underwear they had but wouldn't be allowed to buy any new lingerie. ~~The convicts weren't satisfied with that, and~~ Today ~~when~~ four hundred convicts ~~of them~~ descended into the black pit for the day's work, they immediately declared a sit-down strike. The authorities responded by threatening to use drastic suppression - gunfire and tear gas. Not so much fun deep in a mine, with tear gas coming down. So the latest is that ~~after a lot of negotiations,~~ the sit-down strikers have surrendered. Rather than get tear gas, they will do without their silk underwear.

Silk undies or no coal - Percy.

ESCAPE

There was a daring escape today from the military prison on Governors Island. ~~Two~~ Three army prisoners were on fatigue detail - doing some work on ~~Governors Island~~ the island in N.Y. harbor. A sentry, with his rifle ready, was standing on guard. The three prisoners sneaked up ~~on~~ on him, grabbed him suddenly, tied him up and gagged him - so he couldn't make a sound. They took the ~~xxxxxx~~ sentry's revolver, and plunged into the water for a swim to the Brooklyn shore. It's narrow water there, Buttermilk Channel.

Another sentry saw the escape, Private Harold Watson - and he had his courage with him. He took a running dive into the water after the three escapers and seized one of the swimming prisoners. After a struggle, the escaper was dragged out of the water, ~~—~~ captured. The other two ~~apparently~~ made the swim across and got away.

~~Two men answering their descriptions are described as having come ashore in Brooklyn.~~ (One was serving six years for assault, robbery and desertion. The other - five years for larceny and desertion.)

~~And tonight there's an army manhunt on.~~

Late flash, big flash, big feat! - the two military fugitives have been caught. Policemen hunting along the Brooklyn

waterfront - were passing a shack. Beneath the door of the shack they saw a couple of toes protruding.

"Come out or we'll shoot," they yelled.

And out came the two escaped army prisoners. One of them exclaimed disgustedly, "Those doggone big feet of mine!" Yep, doggone those dogs! And s-l-u-t-m.