

L.J. - Sunoco. Thursday, August 21, 1941.

FOREIGN

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Tonight there's a focus of news on ^{that} a monster dam -
the one across the Dnieper River, ^{one of the} engineering wonder ^{of the world,}
^{and the pride} ^{pride}
of the Soviet union, built by an American. London reported
that Marshal Budenny ~~x~~ had got ~~per~~ permission from Dictator
Stalin to blow up the mighty Dnieper Dam - so as to flood the river
and block the progress of the Blitzkrieg. Then Berlin later came
out with the word that the Red Army had indeed tried to destroy
the dam with dynamite - but had failed. Red Army engineers
exploded dynamite charges, but not enough of them. They didn't
have sufficient time to shatter the mighty span across the river.-
so massive that it resisted destruction. The Blitzkrieg attack
intervened, and Berlin states that Nazi artillery fire stopped the
attempt to dynamite the dam. Berlin adds that the Soviet forces blew
up ~~several~~ several smaller dams, subordinate to the big one. And
this caused the river to flood - impeding German attempts to get
across.

The critical area of fighting is at the northern end
of the line. There Both Berlin and Moscow ~~are~~ agreed that the
Panzer drives are gravely threatening Leningrad. Berlin announces

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the capture of three key places, Narva, Kingisepp and ~~the~~
Novgorod. This latter place is famous in Russian History - the
ancient city state of Novgorod, a republic which was the first
focus of Russian History . In the present war, Novgorod has
figured as an important stronghold in the Leningrad defense
system.

~~M~~ Moscow admits fully the peril of the second city
of Soviet Russia, and General ~~Voroshilov~~ Voroshilov, Red Army
commander in the northern sector, today gave orders to defend
Leningrad to the last. He told the people they must fight to the
end - civilians battling; everybody. Berlin denounces this ^{as} ~~an~~ an
inhuman order, and says that if Leningrad is defended to the
bitter end - the city will be utterly destroyed. As in the case
of Warsaw, which was defended - and destroyed.

There's a wave of rumor from the Balkans tonight.
Travelers reaching Turkey tell of havoc in the Rumanian oil
well area - devastation wrought by Red Air force Bombings. Huge
quantities of ~~oil~~ oil going up in flames. However, at one
Rumanian oil field, the Nazis are said to have restored to a clever
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trick. They built a duplicate of the plade some miles away - a dummy. And day after day the Red air force was busy dropping bombs on the Fraudulent Replica - the fake oil field.

Other Balkan war rumors are that ^{the} Nazis are massing heavy forces in Bulgaria, evident^{ce} that they are preparing for a blow^w via Turkey. A drive through Turkey to the Caucasus - the back door to ^{the} British in ^{the} near East, Iraq, the Mosul oil wells, the route to the Suez Canal. Some Balkan ovservers suppose that, though the Blitzkrieg in Russia is behind^d schedule, the Nazis intend to go ahead with plans for pushing through Turkey for a blow at the British in Asia. They say that if Turkey resists, an outbreak of war in that area would cause general disturbances in the Balkans. Both Rumania and Bulgaria are said to be discontented with the Nazi war against Soviet Russia.

In France, wholesale arrests are reported, ten thousand persons ~~have been~~ seized in Paris. They ^{are} described as Communists and Jews, and ^{are} ~~they're~~ accused of precipitating anti-Nazi ourbreaks. The Germans are carrying out their threat to inflict the death penalty. Two executions were announced today, one

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victim a Frenchman, the other a German-Jewish refugee. Both were tried by court-martial on charges of taking part in an anti-Nazi demonstration.

ROOSEVELT

The Presidential message to Congress today concentrated on the eight points - that peace program formulated at the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting. The President tells Congress that to oppose the eight points is virtually to invite Hitler to conquer this hemisphere. To quarrel with even a detail of any importance in the peace program is equivalent to giving ~~encouragement~~ encouragement to the Nazis. Speaking of the program, he says: "It is so clear that it is difficult to oppose, in any major particular, without automatically admitting a willingness to accept a compromise with Nazism.

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The President adds that such a compromise would mean a settlement of the war that would leave a number of nations under Hitler control. Then he adds the following: "Inevitably, such a peace would be a gift to Nazism to take breath - armed breath for a second war to extend the control over Europe and Asia to the American Hemisphere itself."

That's how important the President thinks the eight points are. Yet I wonder how many of us remember them, point by point - although they were the headline news just the other day.

Some of us have trouble in recalling even the Ten Commandments.

The message the White House sent to Congress today goes on with another striking statement.

In the eight points, the first two of the President's famous four freedoms are stated - the political and economic angles. But the other two are not there -- freedom of the press and religious freedom. And malicious tongues have been saying that these two freedoms would hardly fit in with the Soviets and Stalin. There is, of course, no freedom of the press in Soviet Russia, and Communism is militantly atheistic. It's the philosophy of the Godless. So it was hinted by those malicious tongues - that the freedom of press and religion had been left out of the eight points, so as to make the Roosevelt-Churchill peace program more acceptable to Stalin.

Today the President remedied the omission. The two missing freedoms are implied in the eight points, he says. One paragraph of his message to Congress reads as follows:- "It will also be unnecessary for me to point out that the declaration of principles includes, of necessity, the world need of freedom of religion and freedom of information. No society of the world organized under ^{the} ~~the~~ announced principles," the message goes on, "could survive without these freedoms which are a part of the whole freedom for which we strive."

The major part of the statement to Congress concerns the ~~x~~ eight points. The president refers only briefly to discussions he had with Churchill on practical measures to be pursued - aid to Britain and aid to the Soviets. The principal declaration on that score is the following:- "The Prime Minister and I," says the President, "are arranging for conferences with the Soviet Union, to aid it in its defense against the attack made by the principal aggressor of the modern world - Germany."

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The reaction to the message varied, as usual.

Administration supporters said it was highly proper for the President to report to Congress on his conferences with Churchill. The Anti-Interventionists made jeering remarks, concentrating on the matter of religion. Hiram Johnson of California mocked in these words:- "It's a pretty bold man who will guarantee the freedom of religion practiced by Stalin," said he.

LEND*LEASE

There has been talk that the British have been re-exporting aid-to-Britain material that we've been giving them - using this material to compete with American firms in foreign markets. The British Embassy states today in a long memo to our State Department that no Lend-Lease goods have been re-exported, that none will be in the future.

The British Embassy admits, however, that some Lend-Lease commodities have been used in the manufacture of British industrial products, which have been exported and sold. In other words, stuff that we sent over gratis has not been re-exported directly but has been made up along with British materials into merchandise, and this has been sold in the world market. The British Embassy mentions - machinery. And that probably means American steel sent across under the Lend-Lease Act. Aid-To-Britain steel becoming an ingredient in machinery which the British have sold abroad.

The British have been using Lend-Lease materials in this fashion because they want to keep their foreign trade going. They don't want to lose their overseas markets. So says the British Embassy, and points out that the United States government agrees with

this. Both London and Washington are of the same opinion - that it's to the advantage of both for the British Empire to continue as a going concern commercially. In other words - they don't want the British Empire at war to go broke.

There has been talk about Lend-Lease oil tankers, and today's Embassy memorandum admits that some of these American tankers

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have been used to carry oil from Latin-American tankers to Britain. That's because ~~x~~ of the factor of distance- bring the oil from the nearest place.

Another declaration on the subject of Lend-Lease tankers comes from acting Oil Coordinator Davies. Today he denied stories that Great Britain has plenty of oil ships and that the supposed shortage is phoney. A Congressional investigation is threatening, with Senators from the Eastern states demanding an inquiry into the oil crisis - the petroleum famine along our Atlantic coast. They want to look into accusations that ~~it's~~ there's no real reason for our Eastern oil famine, that it's an artificial affair. There are charges that the British have enough tankers, not only for war - but also for commercial use. That they're using their own tankers for profitable business, and acquiring ours for war purposes.

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Acting Oil Coordinator Davies replies that his department has complete evidence. ^{And that} The British tanker shortage is as grave as they say it is. Speaking of the rumors that Britain has enough tankers not only for war but also for other purposes, he uses the words, "totally and completely false."

Along with this comes the word that the sixty tankers that we've ~~xxxx~~ already given the British are not enough. It was *these that caused* the oil shortage ^{here} in the East. Now we hear we'll be ^s asked for more.

We are told that the British are calling for from fifty to a hundred additional oil ships.

Here's something about the oil ~~xxx~~ blackout[†] a rather extreme case of non-compliance. At Erie, Pennsylvania, Herbert Blickle, a gas station operator, has stopped selling gas during the day. He's keeping his filling station open only at night. Blickle all along has refused to obey the order or request, or whatever it was, by Oil Coordinator Ickes. He ~~xxxxx~~ has been keeping his gas station open as usual all along, and that has caused him a good deal of trouble. People have protested against the violation of the blackout, and his place has been picketed. Blickle turned a hose on the pickets, and there was a near riot. And today Blickle took the last step in the way of defiance. He announced that hereafter his gas station will be open only at night. He says he has ~~xxxxx~~ never received any order from the Government about closing.

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AUTOMOBILES

pretty definite now that
It looks ~~as if~~ [^] automobile production will be cut
[^] during
down by fifty per cent ~~for~~ [^] the coming year. In Washington
it's announced that manufacture will be curtailed twenty
six and one-half percent during several months, and then
the reduction will be greater, probably as much as fifty
percent. In other words, we'll make half as many automobiles
as we do now - this because of the needs of national defense.

STRIKE

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In the Detroit Transportation Strike, the word is that federal and state mediators have drafted peace proposals. They've formulated a suggested compromise between the two unions - the A.F. of L and the C.I. O. The strike that has tied up the Detroit street railways is a ~~juridical~~ jurisdictional affair, the A. F. of L. demanding that it be granted full bargaining powers. The mediators hope they can get the two sides to agree on some middle-of-the-road policy.

Meanwhile, Mayor Jeffries of Detroit is threatening what he calls - "other action". If the unions can't make peace, the ~~they~~ city will have to find its own way to end the strike, which is ~~trying to~~ tying Detroit in a knot. The Governor of Michigan comes forward with the suggestion that the men go back right away - even before they work out a settlement. Start the street cars while the negotiations are going on.

In Washington, President Roosevelt is moving to end the big shipyard strike at Kearny, New Jersey. He had

STRIKE - 2

a conference with company officials today - talked with them for an hour. We are not told what transpired, but the word is that the President has made up his mind that the Kearny strike, so important in defense shipbuilding, must be ended quickly.

BEGGAR

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A New York policeman, Thomas Fitzpatrick, tried to arrest a beggar on the street today. He chased the mendicant, but couldn't catch him. Some while later the ~~pix~~ policeman was passing a swanky and expensive bar. He looked in rather longingly. It was a resplendent place, the kind that's a bit high priced for a partolman's pocketbook. He saw a man at a table, a gentleman drinking a bottle of fine wine. His face was familiar. The police recognized him as the beggar he had ~~recognized~~ recently chased and failed to catch.

A little while later the judge gave the luxurious mendicant thirty days in a not so sumptuous jaul.

58 1/2 I'll bet there's an O'Henry story hidden in that item.

DIVORCE

Here's an odd question - would a lady buy a set of false teeth for a phantom lover? This romantic ~~po~~ problem is raised in a divorce suit entered by Mrs. Ruth Brazell. She's the former Princess Pignatelli D'Aragon. The case is being tried in Los Angeles, and in court today the former Princess was asked about a certain gentleman. Hadn't she said that he was her phantom lover? And hadn't she paid a dentist bill for him - providing him with a set of false teeth? The former Princess denied everything. How could a ~~xxx~~ phantom be a lover, and how could you put bridgework in the mouth of a ghost?

Now Hugh, how could you?

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