

POLITICS

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There might have been a serious accident, or several of them, as President Roosevelt's motorcade crossed the border from Rhode Island into Massachusetts today. The crowds, both on foot and in cars, were so thick that the police were helpless. There ensued a wild road race on the three lane highway from Rhode Island into Massachusetts. Everybody who had a car was stepping on the gas, trying to get near the President. They drove out of line, over on the wrong side of the road. At times they were racing at sixty miles an hour, three and four abreast along that narrow highway. Some cars were forced into the ditch, including several of those carrying members of the President's party.

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A wild interlude in a hot political day. The President started his New England drive today with an indirect reply to the charges made by Governor Landon at Los Angeles last night. The Kansas governor, ~~he~~ declared that the New Deal threatens the personal liberty of every American. "If it is continued," said Alf Landon, "it would destroy freedom

of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion. The Roosevelt administration must be defeated," he proclaimed, "if we are to preserve the American government."

Well, the President picked up this gauntlet in the speech he made this morning from the steps of the State House at Providence, Rhode Island. He said:- "You have been told of regimentation. I am opposed to regimentation too, particularly the regimentation of bread lines. I am opposed," he added, "to the kind of regimentation under which you labored and suffered in the days of the false prosperity of Nineteen Twenty-Nine and the great depression that followed it."

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He also picked up the challenge about the amount of money his administration had spent. "Yes we did spend money," he replied. "We spent enough to get results. And," he continued, "as a result prosperity is coming back. Prosperity measured in dollars backed up by security which we did not have in Nineteen Twenty-Nine."

Then this afternoon the President spoke on Boston

Common. And- his biggest speech of the day will be at Worcester, Massachusetts, tonight.

One by one the prophecies about this presidential campaign are being fulfilled. We have today a situation which I believe is unique in American history. Two former Democratic candidates for the presidency opposing the present candidate of the Democratic Party. Now John W. Davis, whom the Democrats nominated in Nineteen Twenty-Four, ~~attacking the man they nominated in~~ attacks the man his own Democratic Party nominated in Nineteen Thirty-Six. He spoke as a Democrat and addressed his appeals specifically to fellow Democrats to vote against the President. Tomorrow night there will be another characteristic Al Smith speech, this time in Chicago. Today Al's friends are up in arms in protest against Chicago's Mayor Kelly for refusing to issue permits for an Al Smith parade.

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BROWDER

(Apparently the excitement is all over in Terre Haute, Indiana. Earl Browder, Communist candidate for president, has today given up his one man duel with the city.) When the Indiana courts refused to help him, he came to the conclusion that the fight was hopeless. And after all, Terre Haute hasn't done so badly by the chief Communist flag bearer. (The tomatoes and eggs in an advanced state of decomposition - with which the townsmen pelted Browder, didn't touch him.) When all is said and done, the episode has given him more publicity than the entire American Communist Party has received in the last ten years. (Until the Terre Haute chief of police threw him into the cooler, many people in this country^{had} never given any thought to Earl Browder. Now he's in news headlines) the world over.

The chief casualties of last night's riot outside the Terre Haute radio station, were one taxicab and one camera. As usual a news photographer got it in the neck. He escaped injuries himself, but his camera was a wreck. Evidently the members of that mob didn't want any photographic record of their pelting party.

And of course it was no picnic for the driver of the taxi

that was carrying Browder and his companions to the radio station. The minute the mob started its barrage of ancient eggs and vegetables, all the Communists had to do was close the windows of the cab. And that made it tough for the hapless hackman, sitting in the open with smelly Yokes streaming down his cheeks.

So far as the main actors in the battle are concerned, you might call it a Pyrrhic victory for Terre Haute; however, Terre Haute is chortling. Its authorities have succeeded in preventing the delivery of a Communist speech within their sacrosanct precincts. And the court today declined to issue an injunction forbidding the police to arrest Presidential Candidate Browder. This was somewhat unexpected since Judge Owens yesterday afternoon bestowed criticism freely on both sides. He told visitor Browder that a person running for president should not invite procedure of that kind. Then, turning to the chief of police, the court remarked: "I suppose they were defending the Constitution by taking away these peoples' constitutional rights!"

The last heard of Earl Browder had packed his copy of the United States Constitution in his bag and headed for New York.

STALIN FOLLOW BROWDER

An astounding item in today's news concerns a far more celebrated Communist than Mr. Browder. I mean the Number One Tovarish of all the Communists, the Red Dictator, Joseph Stalin. There was great excitement over the report that he proposed coming to the United States. And- it didn't emanate from Moscow, but from New York. The report was published in the "Russkoye Slovo", a newspaper published in the Russian language, in Gotham. However, late this afternoon it was emphatically denied by the Soviet Embassy in Washington:

It isn't difficult to imagine what a sensation Stalin's arrival in New York Harbor would create. The reason assigned for his visit was ill health. He has been suffering for weeks, suffering so severely that he has not been able to carry on at Kremlin. According to one version, he was going to the clinic of the famous Mayo Brothers of Rochester, Minnesota.

Another rumor had it that it was the highly skilled experts of Johns-Hopkins who would operate. ^{C. rule} Both versions of the report agreed that he would not leave Russia until after our Presidential election. *Now its all denied.*

People are now asking how that report originated. The Russian language newspaper in New York which published it declared that it came from the ~~Soviet~~^V Press Bureau in London. The Russian Embassy in Washington points out that there's no such thing as a Soviet Press Bureau in London. The only news service entitled to disseminate official Soviet news is ^S the Tass Agency.

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It did ^{today} not take long ^A for the rumor to become political fodder. One can't help recalling that in the campaign of 1928, thousands of votes were turned away from Al Smith by the whispers that the Pope had planned to come to America in the event of Mr. Smith's election. Already charges of Communist sympathies have been leveled against President Roosevelt. Could this fake story of Stalin's visit have a similar effect this year? The incident is decidedly curious. One ~~can't help~~ ^S wondering ~~about~~ the origin

of ~~that story~~^{a yarn} As Mark Twain once remarked, if a lie once
gets headway around the world, it takes a long time for the
truth to catch up ~~if~~ ever.

SPAIN

Tonight the fat is near the flames over the Spanish imbroglio, so near to the flames, that it's difficult to see how a wide conflagration can be avoided. ^e These seem to be the gravest days Europe has witnessed in many years. That's the admission made by officials of the Soviet Government in Moscow. And - they ought to know, since it's Moscow that is precipitating the crisis.

(The Red Ambassador to London has been instructed to announce that Moscow can be counted out so far as keeping its hands off the Spanish counter-revolution.)

Russia professes to have definite proof that Germany and Italy have helped General Franco and his Rebel army. Therefore, the Communist government no longer feels itself bound to abide by the agreement not to intervene.

This news breaks just as a definite denial comes from Berlin. Hitherto, it was conspicuously noticeable that neither Italy nor Germany denied the charges that they had been helping the Spanish Nationalist Rebels. Late this afternoon

the Nazi government specifically and emphatically declared:

"Germany has given no aid to the Rebels." And Hitler's

Foreign Minister added: "Russia on the contrary has given assistance to Madrid."

There seems to be a certain color to that German accusation. (It became evident that Madrid has been receiving supplies from somewhere - arms, tanks, cannon, ammunition, *more today*)

In fact, the government of Premier Largo Caballero made no attempt to deny it.

This eleventh hour help, from whatever source it comes, has considerably changed the picture in Spain and stiffened the resistance of the Government.) As recently as yesterday, the Madrid government seemed to be ~~at its~~ on its last legs. Today, it is noticeably more confident, more energetic, more aggressive. The hard boiled Premier Caballero has affected a complete reorganization of his military forces. Ranking officers are being shifted around. Some of them suspected of incompetence, were demoted. A new supreme war lord, Julio Álvarez, has been placed at the head of the

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military establishment. His job will be to coordinate the activities of the civilian government with the military general staff.

Premier Caballero took another decisive measure. "Spain will pay cash for everything it buys," he announced. The government has piled up gold to the value of seven hundred million dollars in Madrid, to buy war supplies from anybody who will sell them.

Evidently, General Franco has considered the significance of both the news from Moscow and the change of heart in Madrid. Quick action is his answer. The National Generalissimo has ordered a redoubled attack on the capital. "Madrid must be taken at once", ^{and} he wired all his generals. His orders ^{got} ~~were~~ promptly ^{response.} ~~obeyed.~~ The latest word from the Rebel front is that an immediate attack ~~in force~~ was launched on El Escorial, only twenty miles northwest of Madrid. From all other points of the Rebel front, news was flashed back that Franco's armies are advancing, ~~with might and main.~~

But the government forces are fighting back just as

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vigorously. Not, however, with any pronounced success.

The defenders of the capital made a sortie in an armored train.

But the Nationalists report that they ambushed the train and captured it.

The motives of the Nationalist Commander-in-Chief are obvious. Once his troops are in the capital, he figures, Moscow will think twice about intervening. Obviously, it is one thing to take sides while a fight is still going on.

But once the capture of the seat of government is an accomplished fact, intervention by a foreign power will be a totally different matter.

ITALY

(The reception given to Mussolini's son-in-law in Germany contributes another angle to the tangled European situation. Count Ciano is being greeted as though he were royalty.) And so, in a manner of speaking, he is, being the son-in-law of the Duce himself.

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It is significant that his visit to Berlin has been followed so swiftly by the story that Italy and Germany are ready to recognize General Franco as the new ruler of Spain the minute he enters Madrid. That story emanates from Rome. But it follows swiftly upon the conferences between the Italian Foreign Minister and Baron von Neurath, the head of the German foreign office.

It stands to reason that the recognition of Ethiopia should be one of the subjects discussed between Count Ciano and Baron von Neurath. And Europe is prepared to learn at any moment that Hitler's will be the first government officially to recognize Italy's conquest in Africa. After a few days in Berlin, Count Ciano will go to Bavaria, to consult with Hitler himself. The official explanations for the German

travels of Mussolini's son-in-law is that the two Fascist countries are getting together to stem the tide of Communism in Europe. ^{So} ~~But~~ the news from Moscow that Russia will openly and undisguisedly help the popular front government in Spain thus comes at a particularly dramatic moment.

COCKTAIL

You might think that mentioning a cocktail and
talking ^{up} ~~of~~ the ways of mixing it might offend the ^{W.C T.U} ~~W.C.T.U.~~

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You might expect a protest from Mrs. Ella Gould. But not
at all -- in this case. The Women's Temperance Christian
Union has gone in for cocktails. They've invented one them
selves. And here's how you mix it. Take a can of apricot
juice, the juice of a lemon, one small bottle of gingerale
and mix with a handful of cracked ice. Anything else?
No -- that's the point. It's a temperance cocktail. And if
any deplorable rogue should happen to add anything stronger
to that temperance cocktail, ~~itxwilkxbxjustxixoxbax~~ I
shudder to think of it.

And -- ~~SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.~~

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Twenty-pound scissors, zipper pay envelopes, transparent magnetic telephones, non-skid sales forms, transparent filing cases, public address and signalling systems for executives, and Executive-Posture furniture -- those are some of the exhibits at the Thirty-third National Business Show now on at Commerce Hall in New York. ^π I'd like to ~~say~~ see that Executive-Posture furniture. !

I suppose the idea is to enable the great executive to put his feet up in the air so he can think more clearly!

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At any rate, today at the National Business Show the Secretary of Commerce made the optimistic statement that:- "We are entering upon one of the most extensive business up-swings in the history of our country!" ^π If prosperity is here,

Boy! Bring me my Executive-Posture furniture!

And get me those non-skid sales forms while I talk into this transparent magnetic microphone, and --

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SO LONG UNTIL TOMORROW.