

L.J. Lunoco Tuesday, March 15, 1938.

SPAIN

loses
Vienna ~~passes out from~~ Number One headline position tonight -
and Barcelona takes its place. ~~of all the~~ feverish rumors from the
Catalonian capital, ~~that have come~~ in frantic succession today,
let's take the one ~~report that seems to have~~ *that has* the most authoritative
substance. It tells us that ~~France~~ *France* has turned down a desperate
appeal for help made by the Left Wing government of Spain. Paris
answers, no, ~~it~~ can give no aid. France will not intervene in
behalf of Barcelona.

*This in spite of shouting
communist parades in Paris demanding that
France rush to the aid of Barcelona.*
~~Such is the negative answer to a plea in which the~~

Negreen
TP Left Wing Premier ~~told~~ the French Government that the radical cause
in Spain was in an almost hopeless position, its armies unable to
resist ~~effectively~~ as the Franco battalions ~~storm~~ *are storming in the*

*The latest from the war front is that
Franco has cut the highway between Barcelona*
coast, threatening to cut Left Wing Spain in two. What's the matter

with the Barcelona regiments, That too is answered in the Left
Wing appeal to France - the Premier saying that the soldiers of
his side had to march afoot, columns slowly crawling along the
ground, while Franco's battalions were motorized, on wheels,

tanks; *no*
armoured cars and ~~trucks~~ *trucks* they attack at twenty-five miles an

and Madrid.

hour, supported by the speed and bombing power of ^{an} overwhelming
air force. ~~They came on~~ ^{coming} so fast ~~that~~ the Left Wingers had no chance
to build defense positions, couldn't dig in. ~~The swift~~ ^{Swift} flanking
movements of the motorized columns supported by planes, ~~were~~ ^{Wheeling} round
and behind the slow moving troops on foot before they had a chance
to dig and entrench.

~~And out~~ ^{all} of this ~~a startling~~ ^{is a vivid} bit of confirmation ~~from~~ ^{of}
an article in the SATURDAY EVENING POST, a ~~bit of~~ ^{article} military ~~writing~~ ^{writing}
that newspapers are discussing today. It's a technical analysis
by Major Thomas R. Phillips of the United States Army, ~~His article~~
~~was~~ written weeks ago, long before Franco's big drive began.

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Yet the United States Major ~~makes~~ ^{made} an uncanny prediction of what
seems to be happening today. He analyzes at length the dominance
of technical equipment in warfare, ~~today,~~ mechanism, ^{motorization}.
He points out the mechanized superiority of Franco's army ~~over~~ the
Left Wingers, equipment provided by Italy and Germany. And he ends
his dissertation with this paragraph - written weeks ago, remember. ^{Here}
~~it is:~~ - "It is probably ^{is} that the Spanish Civil War will end this
spring when the weather permits Franco to take the offensive."

rains might bog up the Italian motorized columns, stop them in a sea of mud. Or - Franco may ^{halt} stop a while to consolidate after so rapid an advance, and that may give the Left Wingers time to establish a defnese. Otherwise, it seems as if the Rebel ~~for~~ thrust would strike home.

So no wonder there were frantic rumors about Barcelona today. One says the Left Wing government is trying to surrender. Another declares that the reddest of the reds are storming in Barcelona, demanding control, and seizing suspected Franco sympathizers as hostages, holding them for Red execution squads, denouncing the Barcelona government for losing the war, threatening to execute the Left Wing cabinet ministers. One account tells that those cabinet ministers are fleeing to France. Another declares that the French border is swarming with fugitives, civilians and desserting soldiers. Barcelona is described as in a panic, ~~Wh~~ while the sounds of battle and cannonade can be heard to the east.

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These ominous rumors are ~~summarily~~ denied by the Spanish embassies in London and New York. ~~They declare the Barcelona government has no intention of surrendering. There's no flight, the sound of battle cannot be heard in Barcelona, that the Franco drive will soon be checked.~~

MOSCOW

(Brief word from the land of the Soviets. The eighteen men
convicted in the latest mass trial ^{of the 21} have been shot. This was
announced by the S^talin government today. Eighteen ^{doomed!} ~~sentenced~~
eighteen executed.)

AUSTRIA

Huh, There seems to be some doubt in Washington today about whether or not Hitler has taken Austria. The German Ambassador served formal notice of that event. ~~by~~ ^{He} handing ^{ed} a declaration to the State Department, ^{stating} that Austria is now a part of Hitler's Reich. Secretary Hull passed this along to the newspapers without comment. That was word from Berlin, but later on President Roosevelt said that Washington had received no such information from Vienna!

At the same time, there was a ^{White House} ~~presidential~~ proclamation which contains the inference that the Austrian Government still exists. It's the trade treaty with Czechoslovakia, which ~~has been~~ as drawn up contains certain provisions that apply to Austria and not to Germany. In the version given out by the President today, specific mention of Austria as separate from Germany is still retained.

There may be doubt in Washington, but there's none in Vienna. More Nazi ceremonies ^{of taking power} ~~are taking place~~ German officials moving ^{into} ~~in and taking over~~ the government bureaus; and, the final touch was added when a new map was put out for sale. It shows Austria a part of Germany. ^{JP} All Jewish professors have been removed.

Jewish lawyers forbidden to practice. Nazi chiefs conferred ^{ing} with high ecclesiastics; Hitler promising the Vienna Cardinal not to bear down on the Church.

And, there's no doubt in Germany either, where Hitler upon his return from Vienna is receiving ^v one of the wildest ovations ever given to a human being.

(The central European spotlight focuses more and more on Czechoslovakia. Today the French Ambassador to London made a demand on the British government - or rather renewed a demand: ~~that~~ France has been making ^{that} ~~will~~ London make an outright declaration ^{or} ~~that~~ ^{ish} ~~Britain will~~ ^{for} support France in guaranteeing Czechoslovakia against any German attack? They say that His Majesty's ministers are wavering on the point, undecided what to do.) They want Britain to stand beside France, but they're shy at committing themselves to a pledge in central Europe that may lead them into war.

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Meanwhile, France gets support from another quarter - Moscow. (Stalin's government repeats that it will back France in defending Czechoslovakia.)

In that threatened nation itself rumblings were heard

today, rumblings from the three and a half million Germans who constitute a third of the population of Czechoslovakia. The Suden^ten Germans, they're called, the element that Hitler wants to include eventually in the German Reich.) Today in the Czechoslovakian Parliament a German deputy declared that the Suden^ten Germans ~~were not satisfied with the way they're being treated. They're~~ insisting that their demands be met - their claims to cultural rights, self-government, some sort of autonomy.

Matters Czechoslovakian were brought to the forefront in a resolution adopted today, a resolution calling for President Roosevelt to remove Secretary of State Cordell Hull from office. Where does that demand come from? Why, Boston. It's all a part of the New England protest against trade treaties the State Department has been making. New England's textile people are bitter about the trade arrangement with textile ^{producing} ~~people of~~ England. And, then there's the agreement with Czechoslovakia, which produces shoes - as does New England.

T.V.A.

The T.V.A. business is rapidly getting into the category
— *just as we all expected.*
of - big time politics. The word in Washington is, that the rumpus
between the three directors of the great federal project is likely
to turn into a campaign football, a factional issue for the ~~now~~ mid-
term elections next fall. ~~It all~~ ^{What} started as a rowdy scrap between
three highly placed gentlemen, ~~and~~ ^{is} now it's on its way into the
electioneering extravaganza of the summer political battle.

The lawmakers are pretty well agreed that a congressional
investigation is needed to look into ~~the~~ ^{those} obstreperous charges that
the three T.V.A. directors have been flinging at each other. But
who will direct the investigating? Who'll run the show? The
administration leaders are saying that nothing should be done until
the President has held his next conference with the three directors
on this coming Friday. Then, they ~~will~~ ^{the New Dealers will} make moves for an investigation -
a quiz that they'll control.

But today a counter-move was made. A coalition of
Republicans and anti-administration Democrats introduced resolutions
in the Senate and the House. These call for a complete ~~washing of the~~
washing of the T.V.A. linen by a ~~gx~~ joint committee of ten; - five from

the Senate, five from the lower House. The coalition to direct the quiz.

The point at issue is the question - what ground shall the investigation cover? What sort of T.V.A. affairs shall it look into? This ticklish point is illustrated by a proposal that Senator Norris of Nebraska has sponsored, Uncle George who is called the father of the T.V.A., ~~He~~ wants the ~~probe~~ probe to take up the contention - that private power interests have been trying to obstruct the giant federal power project. Today the gentleman from Nebraska tried to get the Senate to back up his plan, ~~and when there was a Republican objection he made the charge - mud-slinging.~~

He intimated that the anti-administration forces want to use the T.V.A. trouble as a big handful of mud to sling at the White House.

all
~~This is~~ in line with the notion that the battle of the three directors is to be injected into the forthcoming campaign, with everybody trying to make political capital out of it.

RAILROADS

They had a diagnosis at the White House today. The Number One doctor was the President, while the consulting physicians were officials of the Interstate Commerce Commission, executives of the Railroads and representatives of the railroad unions. You can surmise who the patient was:- that far flung system of wheels *and* rails. The session at the White House debated the problem of the American ~~railroads~~^{IF} railroads. What was the decision? We are told that no definite conclusions were arrived at - it's one of those no-decision bouts. One of the conferees, upon emerging from the White House, declared that the discussion was - diagnostic, which figure of speech arouses the vision of diagnosis, doctors and patient. There are to be some more White House sessions of railroad debate, some more diagnosis.

One of the physicians had something definite to say after the consultation. That particular M.D. did not have any prescription of his own ~~butxxxxxxx~~ to scribble down on a pad, all he did was to express an opinion on one of the railroad remedies that has been suggested - the notion that the ~~his~~ medicine the railroads need is a wage cut, trim down the pay of the employees.

RAILROADS

Dr. George Harrison, President of the Railway Labor Executives Association, said ^{that the} ~~nothing doing.~~ The doc declared that the railroad unions ^{are} ~~were~~ dead against ^{that proposed} ~~a cut, the~~ wage reduction ~~the~~ ^{which} ~~companies propose~~ would affect a million employees, and they're against it. So they'll have to try some other prescription, said the union physician.

Late word from Washington: -
a report that the President in the
railroad conference was of the
opinion that railroad holding
companies should be abolished -
and that railroads should consolidate.

WHITNEY

There's talk in Albany of investigating the New York Stock Exchange. More than talk - a resolution proposed in the Legislature today. The resolution ^{calls for} ~~proposes~~ the formation of a committee to inquire into the ways of Wall Street. What's the reason for this move? ^{He} ~~That is~~ stated in these words: "Startling acts of fraud and corruption resulting in great loss to certain members of the investing public."

Just what that applies to is indicated by this next bit of news, which tells us of ^{just} another indictment returned against Richard Whitney who for five terms was President of the New York Stock Exchange. Already this head of an eminent brokerage firm has pleaded guilty to the theft of a hundred thousand dollars from funds entrusted to him. He is awaiting a prison sentence for that.) The newest charge accuses him of appropriating a hundred and nine thousand ~~dollars~~ in securities ~~that were~~ placed in his care by the New York Yacht Club, that swanky Social Register society of which he was a notable member.

BASKETBALL

(For a couple of years now I've been hearing a lot of hullabaloo about a game that was said to be sweeping the land, a game I hadn't seen since I played it myself, oh, well, maybe I'd better not say how many years ago, -- a game called basketball.)
I'd been hearing of the enormous crowds that follow basketball from coast to coast, more spectators enthusiastic about it than any other game. So last night, curiosity got the better of me and I went to Madison Square Garden. I was lured there primarily because the University of Colorado team, led by Byron "Whizzer" White, this year's highest-scoring football player, was scheduled to play against the crack team from New York University. I had heard that it all had something to do with a national championship.

Well, all I have to say is that basketball nowadays is somewhat different than when I played it. Faster, more spectacular, and I now understand its tremendous popularity.

Along with Merlin Aylesworth, former President of the National Broadcasting Company, and a lot more of us who hail from Colorado, I yelled myself hoarse, while "Whizzer" White, Swisher Swartz and their pals won their battle in what the sports writers

call a photo-finish. The New York Times says that in the last forty seconds the lead changed three times, and refers to it as the most spectacular encounter of its type that Madison Square Garden has ever seen.

This brings the University of Colorado into the final round of the National Invitation College Tournament. Tomorrow night, they'll fight it out for the championship with a team of giants ~~xxxxx~~ from Temple University.

Incidentally, while the game was going on last night, out in Denver a ceremony was being held. Five thousand people paid tribute to two great Colorado athletes, Earl "Dutch" Clark, one of the greatest football players of all time, and Byron "Whizzer" White, the half-back who broke all records last Autumn, and who is sitting here in this New York studio with me tonight, along with some of his pals, listening to this broadcast.

SHOOTING

We all make mistakes, to err is human, etcetra, but sometimes a mistake can be fatal - swiftly, instantly fatal. Take this story from St. Joseph, Missouri.

Things were popping in a shooting gallery, marksmen blazing away at the targets, when suddenly there was another kind of noise - the clanging of bells and the shrieking of sirens. Fire! - ~~there was a~~ ^{blaze} down the street. Everybody in the shooting gallery ^{went} ~~hurried off~~ to the fire - everybody expect Hobb Bennett, ^{the} proprietor, and one customer.

That lonesome customer remarked - "Guess I'll try my luck." He picked up a rifle, but instead of aiming it at a bull's eye, he pointed it at the shooting gallery man. "Sorry," he barked, "but this is a hold-up." He was an ex-convict, and this was just another ^{chance for} robbery for him.

Hobb Bennett put up his hands. The robber scooped the money out of the cash register, and started for the door - taking ~~the~~ rifle.

In a flash, the shooting gallery man grabbed a target pistol and yelled: "Drop that gun!" ^{But} The robber opened fire ~~swiftly~~ with the rifle - and drilled Bennett through the shoulder - shooting it out with

the shooting gallery man.

Well, you wouldn't be much of a proprietor of one of those target gallery places if you didn't take a hand at marksmanship once in a while and show your customers how. Hobb Bennett often gave his patrons expert exhibitions of how to hit the bull's eye. He's a dead shot. He fired two quick ones with the pistol, and both bullets hit the robber. *Both did.* Either would have killed him. [^] So that was the fatal mistake - shooting it out with the shooting gallery man.

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