

SPAIN

L.I. - ~~London~~ Tues., March 29, 1938.

In Spain the ~~biggest~~ ^{greatest} battle of the civil war ~~seems to be~~ ^{is on} ~~developing with~~ furious fighting. (The Barcelona government is throwing its last ounce of strength into its resistance around the City of Lerida. We hear of the foreign brigades ~~thrown~~ ^{flung} into the fray today - those foreign brigades including Americans, which seem to be the strongest units the Left Wingers have.) We also hear of the dynamite throwers. They were in the forefront when the war raged along the northern coast of Spain. Apparently, their dynamite throwing didn't help so much, because their country was conquered by Franco. However, some of those miners and their high explosive must have been transferred to the Barcelona-Valencia area, because the news today tells how they're tossing their sticks of bursting dynamite to ~~shake~~ check the on-coming Rebel attack.

Franko's ~~advance seems to have been~~ ^{attack has been} ~~held~~ ^{slowed up near the} City of Lerida, ~~although one account tells of tremendous flames~~ ^{Barcelona tonight claims to have} ~~checked the assault. Successful resistance.~~ ~~In the town, gasoline supply set on fire, a sign the defenders are~~ ~~destroying things, preparing to abandon the place.~~ Along other parts of the line the Franco drive seems to be pushing on and on.

MUSSOLINI

Rome announces that Mussolini is going to make a big speech tomorrow. He is always doing that, but this ~~is~~ one is to be something exceptional. They say it won't be addressed merely to Italy, but to the whole world -- an official pronouncement on international affairs. One surmise in Rome is that the Duce will utter the most solemn and formidable kind of warning against possible French intervention in Left Wing Spain. The Italians claim there's a drive by Red political elements to force the French Popular Front government to help Barcelona, and that the Italian warnings are designed to counteract this.

Word just in - the official Vatican newspaper publishes a blast against Hitler's chief lieutenant in Austria.

RUSSIA

If you had tried to make the wildest guess about those fantastic trials and executions in Russia, here's one weird thing that would never come to your mind. You'd never surmise that the Stalin terror would come ~~in~~ near those historic Soviet exploits in the Arctic. Remember those tremendous flights across the Pole, two successful, one ending in disaster? And -- the establishment of a North Pole base, the camp with the four scientists, ~~which~~ ^{The one that} drifted for eight ^{months} ~~weeks~~ on an ice floe all the way down to the coast of Greenland, ~~where the~~ ^{Then} rescue was made while the world watched and applauded? All of that achievement was the work of the Soviet ^{Polar} ~~North~~ Sea-Route Administration, of which Professor Otto Schmidt is the head. Professor Schmidt himself flew to the North Pole, landed there and supervised the establishment of the camp. No, you would never guess that the trial and execution terror would ever come near those Bolshevik exploits in the Arctic. Anyway, didn't the four North Pole scientists themselves, right after they were rescued, send a ferocious call to Moscow demanding the execution of the twenty-one prisoners in the last spectacle of Red justice?

Well, today's word from Moscow tells of the incredible.

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Accusations against the Northern Sea-Route Administration. The Council of the People's Commissars comes forth with ominous charges against the organization that organized the great Soviet work in the Arctic. They claim there was something about it all -- not satisfactory. This refer^S~~ence~~ to the handling of the Russian ice breakers during the winter -- they were marooned in the ice a large part of the time. The Moscow accusation is that there were ~~ix~~ bad mistakes -- mistakes so bad they could not have been accidental. In other words -- the dread charge -- sabotage.

And that's usually accompanied by Trotskyism, Fascism, treason, espionage. Professor Schmidt is not specifically mentioned -- only the organization of which he is the head. And that's bad enough, looks ominous -- ~~for he is a~~ ^{though he at the moment is a} national hero of Soviet Russia. However, other national heroes have faced the firing squad. All of which makes ^{the} ~~the~~ still more fantastic-incredible suggest itself -- perhaps another Red melodrama of death involving the heroes of the Arctic.

REFUGEES

The State Department announces that nine out of twenty-nine foreign governments have already said O.K. to the plan to help the refugees. Two of those are European governments, France and Belgium, *with England sure to come in.* Seven acceptances are from Latin America, Brazil, Santo Domingo, San Salvador, Haiti, Peru, Uruguay, Mexico.

The French communication ~~was~~^{is} most cordial -- "fully in accord" it says. Ready to cooperate in the setting up of the Inter-governmental Committee. It agrees willingly that the Committee shall meet in a Swiss city as Washington suggested.

And the American refugee plan was applauded today by the Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress, meeting in Geneva. "Profound gratitude to the United States" says the Jewish Executive Committee.

SILVER

There were world-wide repercussions to a move in Washington today, ^{though} that move concerned the mere figure of one cent. ^{For it was} ~~But it~~ ^{another} ~~was~~ a cut in the price of silver, the second one-cent cut in two days. Today the United States Treasury reduced the price it pays for silver to 43 cents an ounce.

This second cut is a second whack at Mexico -- reprisal for the seizure of four hundred million dollars worth of oil properties largely American owned. ^R For a long time Washington was keeping up the price of silver artificially by ~~by~~ buying ~~the~~ above the normal market, paying more for silver than it had to. And that American-created price was of immense help to Mexico, which is a top-ranking silver-producer. In response to Uncle Sam's ^{silver} ~~help~~ ^{repaid by seizing} ~~seized~~ Uncle Sam's oil ~~prop~~ properties. Not so friendly, not so brotherly. So now Uncle Sam ^{is} ~~reducing~~ ^{ing the} ~~the~~ artificial price he pays for silver. ^{And today} ~~and~~ that knocked down the price of the white metal all over the world. ^R They believe there will ~~be~~ ^{are} ~~more~~ American silver price cuts. ^{The} ~~Washington reports~~ ^{are} ~~the reduction~~ ^{will continue until Mexico comes to terms.} Today's ~~the~~ repercussions in Mexico were acute. The peso took ^{another} ~~another~~ drop. It is quoted about twenty cents today, when for years it

had been pegged at nearly twenty-eight cents. ^{FF} The republic~~an~~
south of the Rio Grande is not enjoying Uncle Sam's reprisal.

Things have a way of reacting in complicated style these
days. The price in the drop of silver was one factor that sent
out ^x own Wall Street stock market down again, today. Wall Street
repercussions.

The passing of the re-organization bill was another
discouraging element. ^{FF} General conditions not so favorable either.
All in all, the stock market dipped to a new low level ^S ~~since 1935~~
-- although there was a reaction, and prices went up a bit.

^{felt}
Congress ~~had~~ some represussions also. -- It usually ^{does,} ~~has~~
^{Attacks} ~~has~~ on the government silver cuts; ~~it was~~ denounced as a violation
of the New Deal Good Neighbor policy. ~~It was~~ defended on the ground
that there should be good neighbor^{liness} on both sides -- Mexico
not so neighborly.

CANADA

Canada had a bit of excitement today in Toronto - and I'm sure the shout of the enraged crowd must have been, "Twist his bones, give him an adjustment; give him some therapy." The personality threatened was a former Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario - Dr. Herbert Bruce. The title of "doctor" gives us a key to the disturbance. *There* ~~It~~ was a debate in the legislature of Toronto concerning osteopaths, chiropractors and therapists of various sorts. Should they be allowed to call themselves "doctor?" *"No!" proclaimed* ~~that, said~~ Dr. Bruce, who is *M.D.* He thinks a regular ~~medicine doctor.~~ *practitioner* ~~the~~ venerable title should be restricted to those of the orthodox schools of science.

His opposition aroused the indignation of an assembled multitude of osteopaths, chiropractors and therapists. They yearned to be called "doctor". *Adore being called "Doc". So* They raged at the physician, and threatened him with bodily harm. ~~or still~~ If they shouted: "Twist his bones; give him an adjustment, give him some therapy" *they'd probably* ~~they'd think~~ *call that doing him* ~~that was~~ *M.D. would no doubt* ~~the doctor probably would~~ think it bodily harm. Anyway, *did* somebody yelled, "Hang him!" And that would *some* ~~be an~~ adjustment. — *the chiropractic "works."*

It took three constables to escort the doctor and protect him from the osteopaths, chiropractors and therapists.

PRISON

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A manhunt is always an exciting affair, and the one that's going on in Tennessee has a double twist of excitement - dynamite excitement. The report today is that the authorities have recaptured nearly all of the convicts who escaped on Sunday. A whole big gang of prisoners got loose. Thirty-six escaped, twenty-seven are back in jail tonight, with nine still remaining on the loose. They made their getaway from a convict coal mine at Brushy Mountain, and a ~~mine~~ mine is a place where dynamite is commonly used, stacks of high explosive kept on hand. The prisoners in escaping seized quantities of dynamite, hence the peril to the manhunt. They might give battle with high explosive. Of the twenty-seven recaptured, some had sticks ~~of dynamite~~ ^{of the stuff still} in their possession, but the posse swooped ^{down} on them so suddenly, they had no time to toss amateur hand grenades, ^{a battle} ~~with dynamite.~~

Of the nine still at large, one at least may be concerned in a robbery reported at Big Rock, Tennessee. Not Little Rock, Big Rock. There a bank was robbed early today - an expert job of safe-breaking with an acetylene torch. The authorities suspect Lonnie Taylor, who with two convictions for murder against him, is Tennessee's Public Enemy Number One. He is one of the convicts who escaped from the Brushy Mountain convict coal mine.

RAFT

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There are some mighty determined log~~men~~men at Johnstown, Pennsylvania. They're not to be discouraged. What happened before doesn't mean a thing to them. Today they started ~~in~~ constructing ^{of} another last-raft to ^{float} ~~flow~~ down the Susquehanna River. They're not at all deterred by what happened to the ^{other} ~~last~~ last-raft they built.

The idea is to recall the old days of Pennsylvania lumbering, when the great logging rafts were a mighty event along the rivers. A couple of weeks ago they built one - to be a final episode of Pennsylvania logging. They floated it down the river in great style - the old lumbering days come back again. But disaster was waiting. The raft hit a bridge at Muncie, Pennsylvania, and the shock broke it apart. A crowd on it were tossed into the icy water. Seven were drowned.

But that hasn't discouraged the lumbering enthusiasts. Today they floated ten huge hemlock logs down Clearfield Creek. This ~~XXXXX~~ as a beginning for another last raft which they'll build and ride down the river.

This bit of news reminded me to make a telephone call

about one of the victims of the disaster. One of those drowned was a cameraman, Thomas Proffitt, who was filming the affair. I saw later a news item telling how they had fished out his camera from the

bottom of the river. And I wondered - what about the film?

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Today I telephoned Joe O'Brien, one of the editors of Universal Newsreel, and I asked him about it. He told me when they got the camera out it was water-soaked through and through. So they put it in a bucket of water to keep the film inside from sticking as it dried. In that fashion they took the film to be developed, and then they ran it on the screen. It turned out first rate. Vivid motion pictures. The film shows ^(the) a raft approaching the bridge, and then it shakes suddenly - from the shock as the raft hit. Then it stops, as the camera was hurled into the water. It shows vividly that the cameraman stuck to his camera, getting his pictures to the last. Film evidence of a film tragedy!

MARRIAGE

In Arkansas, the arrest of a fifty year old woman reveals a cockeyed marriage situation - multi-marriage, wholesale polygamy. The central theme is what they call - "Solitary Hearts Advertisements." Ads saying - husband wanted or wife wanted, ~~lonely hearts~~ ^{solitary souls.} Mrs. Cora Hebner tells that both she and her husband were devotees of the lonely heart style of advertising. They answered the "Solitary Soul" ads and got married frequently, and never bothered about the formality of divorce. She admits half a dozen marriages - six ~~times~~ ^{fold} polyandry. She says her husband was wedded nineteen times - ~~which is~~ a lot of polygamy.

"My husband," she relates, "got married whenever the idea struck him. "When we were living in East St. Louis two years ago, he brought his last wife to our home - she was Number Nineteen. He told me they had just been married, and installed her in our household." No, she didn't mind it, but apparently Wife Number Nineteen didn't like the arrangement so well, ~~she~~ ^{and} soon left.

~~It is~~ ^{an} exceedingly matrimonial story. **B**ut alas there's something else connected with it - murder. They've arrested the six-times-married wife, on the charge of murdering the nineteen-time-married husband. The police have unearthed a skeleton on her farm,

and claim it's hubby. She denies that, and explains that her multi-married spouse is in Africa. Maybe among the tribes along the Zambezi **of** the Congo looking for more and better polygamy. Either that or murdered by his wife.

INDIANS

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Forty years ago, in Eighteen Ninety-Eight, one of the last of the Indian battles was fought in this nation. There was an uprising of the Chippewas in the Bear Island section of Minnesota. The Braves, in full war paint, fell upon a force of United States soldiers. A major and six privates were killed, a score wounded ~~///~~ as the war whoops rang out.

Tonight, in that same area, another Indian uprising has broken out, the Chippewas on the warpath! But this time the Redskins have gone modern - it's a case of picketing; ~~with~~ a lively *and a sit down strike.* disturbance. ⁱⁿ The cause of the trouble is a government order moving the Consolidated Chippewa Agency from Cass Lake to Duluth. The thirteen thousand Indians affected are dead against this. "Ugh - Indian no like," said they. They claim that in Duluth they'll get less consideration. ^R Today was moving day so the Indians formed a picket line. "Ugh - big chief he make picket," said they. And they prevented the agency records from being taken away. All day long the picket line of Braves, in full regalia of feathers and war paint, tramped back and forth, something like a modernistic war dance.

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But it wasn't the Braves that made the disturbance. It wasn't the

Chippewa warriors who went into battle - it was the squaws. *More modernism.*

The ~~agency~~ Superintendent, Lewis Balson, took his stand before the agency and started to read the government proclamation ordering the move to Duluth. The picket line of Braves listened stoically. "Ugh - Indian no like," said they. It was a gang of squaws nearby who rushed the Superintendent, and mobbed him. They set upon him and beat him, and he had a hard time fighting them off and getting away. All the while the Chippewa warriors, feathers, war paint and all, watched the fracas with ~~the Indian~~ *all the* dignity of the ~~primeval~~ *primeval* ~~primordial~~ aborigine, and just kept on picketing. "Ugh - how you like squaw?" *said they.*

Later on, the Indians went on to another bit of pale face *modernism.* ~~strategy~~ They invaded the agency office, and plumped themselves in the chairs and stayed there - a sit down strike. The latest word from Washington is, stand pat. The agency will be removed, no matter what. But the latest word from Cass Lake is that the Redskins are still sitting down. ~~so it is~~ "Stand pat" against "sit down."

Shades of Sitting Bull.

Late flash! - sit down strike off. They're standing up. Government delays moving the agency. And what were you about to say Ugh.

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