

P.J. - Sunco. Wed., May 3, 1939.

MOSCOW

Perhaps the most astonishing news of the day is the bulletin that came in a short while ago from Moscow. It's a brief thing, informs us merely that (Maxim Litvinov, who had been Stalin's Foreign Minister for all these years, has been released from his

job. ~~It is in just~~ ^{Released!} ~~that~~ ^{is the} ~~language~~ ^{used by} ~~that~~ the Tass Agency, the official news agency of the Red government, ~~phrases the item.~~ And it adds that he was released upon his own request. But nevertheless,

~~and~~ it sounds like an ominous event for the man who for so long ^h ~~as~~ been the spearhead of Red Dictator ^{Joseph} ~~Stalin's~~ ~~devious~~

~~and tricky~~ foreign policy. ~~It means that not only is~~ Litvinov, separated from his job as Foreign Commissar, ^{ten year} ~~which he held for ten~~ ^{and will his head} ~~years, but the odds are about a hundred to one that his head will~~ ~~now be~~ ~~be shortly~~ separated from his shoulders?

The history of the last few years has shown that it was a bad idea for anybody to become too successful in ^{the U.S.S.R.} ~~the Stalin's country~~. ~~So many~~ ~~one can't think of a single~~ outstanding Red, ^s ~~whether~~ soldier ^s ~~or~~ and civilian, ^{have} ~~who hasn't~~ been liquidated in one of the ^{Stalin} ~~purges~~ of that bloody-minded Asiatic despot.

~~Litvinov's~~

~~His~~ resignation comes as a surprise, not only to the

general public, particularly in Russia, but also ~~throughout~~ all diplomatic circles. ^{And,} ~~of course~~ it gives rise to all sorts of conjecture. The principal interpretation of Litvinov's exit is that it means a sharp turn-around in Stalin's foreign policy. Litvinov has been his instrument for making friends with England and France. With Litvinov out, it might even mean that Stalin is about to achieve his long held ambition, a treaty with Nazi leader Hitler.

(His successor, the new Foreign Minister, is V.M. Molotov, ^{a brand of} which sounds like caviar but isn't. His position had been that of President of the Council of People's Commissars. That, in the Red hierarchy, is equivalent to being Prime Minister. But of course it was more or less of a sinecure, since Dictator Stalin is his own Prime Minister.)

^{Molotov's} ~~His~~ principal accomplishment was the inauguration of the first ~~in~~ ~~the~~ famous Five Year Plan. He also served as one of Stalin's hatchet men in the liquidation of the Kulaks, the landed ^{peasants} ~~proprietors~~. He has also been Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party in the Ukraine. Now, head of ^{Soviet} foreign affairs.

EUROPE

In Europe, the Poles and the Nazi Germans continue to make faces at each other. So far it's entirely a contest of words. German newspapers rave against Poland. And the streets of all the largest Polish cities were filled with excited crowds carrying banners that read:- "We demand nothing from others, but we'll relinquish nothing of our own."

Aside from that, the principal interest ^{today} was in Hitler's attempt to establish a bloc of neutral powers to the north of him, ~~and thus assure him from attack in that direction.~~ The Foreign Minister's of Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland, today decided to meet next Tuesday at Stockholm. There they will agree upon a reply to the Nazi Fuehrer. It has been announced that in case they accept his offer, he will consent to Sweden and Finland fortifying certain islands in the Baltic.

ROME

The report in Rome is that Mussolini is trying to put the brakes on Hitler. He is cautioning him to go slow in that Polish argument. The reason, of course, is that Fascist Italy doesn't want to be lugged into any general European war over any issue so remote and unimportant as Danzig.

ENGLAND

Another olive branch from Chamberlain to Hitler.

The British Prime Minister announced in the House of Commons that he was prepared to exchange guaranties with Germany against aggression. That means that Chamberlain has accepted the offer made by Chancellor Hitler last Friday in his speech to the Reichstag.

CLOTHES

Fashion note from the White House:- Mrs. Roosevelt is having nine new costumes made to honor King George the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth of England. One of them is an evening stole

~~with~~ of white ermine which the First Lady will wear loosely

— the stole falling to the floor, not the First Lady's
over the shoulders, falling to the floor, For evening wear,

and lace
a gown of chiffon in pastel shades of mauve, ~~and natural Alencon~~

lace.

To wear to the World's Fair, the mistress of the White House

array herself in an
will ~~wear an~~ ensemble including a star print dress trimmed with

navy blue patent leather. ~~(Don't blame me if this is wrong,~~

~~it sounds funny to me but that's the way the news comes to my desk),~~

— or will you? —
The coat, you will be glad to learn, has a jacket effect to the

hip-line and from there down is made of pleated print silk.

A navy hat and navy gloves complete the costume.

Another outfit that will adorn the First Lady is an

afternoon ensemble of rose-silk-print fashioned in a tailored suit,

also a Scotch plaid chiffon dinner gown and two tailored casual

dinner gowns.

Question:- What
~~What on earth~~ is a "casual dinner gown?" ~~I'll have to find~~
out.

MRS. DIONNE

Now for a fashion note from Canada. Mrs. Dionne, the mother of the quints, will wear an ensemble in the new Japonica shade, a rust tan. What for? To be presented to her King and Queen in Toronto, May Twenty-Second. With this the mother of the quints will wear a Japonica shade coat, cartwheel straw hat, shoes, purse and beige crepe dress, trimmed with green.

The quints will wear white dresses, shoes and stockings.

Somebody asked Oliva, the papa of the five little ladies, what he will wear. He replied:- "I'm just a farmer and don't know. I guess it will be a business suit."

BASES

~~Some astonishing bit of~~ News from Washington ^{tells of possible} - airports

and naval bases in Mexico and the Galapagos Islands. It hasn't been decided yet, but the word is that the admirals and generals are studying the plans. The object, of course, is to protect the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal. The Mexican government, we learn, is quite willing to allow us to use the harbor of Acapulco on the Pacific ~~shore~~ within convenient striking distance to Panama.

REORGANIZATION

This was quite a day in the history of the Roosevelt administration, in fact in the history of the country. The House of Representatives by an enormous ^{has just} majority, approved Mr. Roosevelt's first reorganization plan. Thus, ^{Congress ratified} ~~it took~~ the first step in pushing through what seven presidents have been trying to do for the last twenty-five years. The vote was strictly on party lines.

The opposition was led by ~~Republican~~ Representative Taber of New York. He offered a resolution to reject the President's plan. The vote which followed was decisive. Taber's resolution was defeated, two hundred and sixty-four to a hundred and twenty-eight. This vote means that the plan goes through. Though the Senate will also have the privilege of scrutinizing and voting on it, Mr. Roosevelt's Reorganization program has ~~been turned down~~ to be turned down by both Houses in order to fail.

WAGNER ACT

The American Federation of Labor isn't the only body demanding changes in the Wagner Act, also an improvement in the methods of the National Labor Relations Board. The Chamber of Commerce of the United States today opened a forum of business men, big and little. Several manufacturers appeared at this forum ^{and spoke} ~~today, speaking~~ bitter words about the N.L.R.B. A maker of tractors said the Board has not reduced labor quarrels but increased them. He charged also that it is destroying democracy. Another speaker declared that the Labor Board is undermining the rights of working men, lowering productivity, increasing unemployment.

SOFT COAL

A silver lining appeared today in the cloud that hangs over the coal strike argument. John Lewis, President of the miners and three of his lawyers, are considering a contract that has been offered by the mine owners. ^P The breaking of that deadlock ^{can't} ~~won't~~ come any too soon. The effects of ^e that coal ^{they} ~~strike~~ are being felt even now. Some of the railroads in the east have used up their entire reserve supply of soft coal. Consequently, they are obliged to use anthracite, which makes the firemen's job exceedingly difficult. ~~It's~~ ^{er} hard to get up a good head of steam with hard coal. So railroad passengers in the east have been astonished when some of the trains carrying them stopped between stations for no apparent reason. ^{Coming} ~~They have to come~~ to a halt to enable the hard working firemen to stoke up a fresh head of steam.

METHODIST

Here's more news about the Methodists. That unity meeting in Kansas City is evidently making rapid progress. An effective compromise has been reached on the much debated question of the ^{Church} Board of Education. The new united Methodist Church will have a single Board, ~~of Education,~~ but it will be divided into two sections.

Also, it was decided that the general conference will be held in NineteenForty. Methodist laymen and clergymen will be equally represented. The conference will have complete authority ~~over~~ ^{over} all national affairs such as publishing, missionary work, Evangelical education, and the control of boards to administer those matters.

There's going to be one thing, however, that the general conference cannot do. It cannot alter the articles of the religion laid down a hundred and eighty-two years ago by the Founder of ^{Methodism,} ~~that faith~~ the great John Wesley.

DOGWOOD

One of the sights in the east that many people travel miles to see is the dogwood at Valley Forge, and this is usually the approximate time when it's at its best. So here is an unusual piece of information from Pennsylvania:- Because this has been such a ^{belated} ~~dreary~~ spring, the dogwood blossoms have not kept their appointment with the customers:- the trees won't bloom until ~~next~~ next week.

MURDER SYNDICATE

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The police of Philadelphia are still looking for the crook who was the real head of that ~~atrocious~~ murder syndicate they ^{are} ~~ve been~~ investigating. They thought they had him early this week when a gentleman named Louis-the-Rabbi walked into the police station and gave himself up. But now the Philadelphia detectives think differently. They're convinced that he is still at large. They are also convinced of something else, that the murder syndicate was not confined to Philadelphia nor to Pennsylvania nor even to the eastern part of the United States. It was, they say, a nationwide racket, with tentacles reaching as far as the Pacific coast. One of the best detectives in the City of Brotherly Love is now on his way to California to investigate the western end of that ~~strong~~ ^{strange} conspiracy.

EXECUTION

A curious thing came to light at the State Prison in Boston. One result of it was to prolong the lives of two murderers who had been sentenced to die.

It seems ~~that~~ the last time there was an execution in Massachusetts, the public executioner complained that the electric chair was obsolete and dangerous. In fact the chair, ~~in addition~~

~~to killing the condemned man~~ came mighty close to killing the

executioner, ~~as well as~~ *And today that grim functionary* ~~And he~~ informed Governor Saltonstall *that if*

the chair is ~~it is~~ used again, ~~either he~~ *and* ~~or~~ even some of the witnesses, ~~might~~ *may*

be electrocuted. Consequently, on the recommendation of Governor

Saltonstall, the Executive Council of the State postponed the

execution, ~~of the two murderers who had killed a storekeeper in~~

~~Summerville for three dollars and a half.~~

PONS

The business of dropping in uninvited on Lily Pons's country home seems to be contagious. The latest place where one such admirer was found was in the lady's geranium bed. Miss Pons's gardener found the man, and when he asked him what he was doing he replied that he was a detective and that he had been sent to Norwalk by the Philadelphia court authorities.

When the police asked him for his credentials, he produced a detective's diploma from a mail order firm, a suitcase, an umbrella, a typewriter, some detective magazines, the plots of two plays, and a batch of sheet music! The cops then asked him: "What do you mean you were sent by the Philadelphia court authorities?" So he produced a letter from Judge Curtiss Bach of Philadelphia, Detective X-3, as he called himself, had written to Judge Bach, outlining a plan to protect Miss Pons from annoyers. The judge replied, advising X-3 to mind his own business. "But one of the words in the letter was blurred," said X-3, "and I thought he meant, go ahead."

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Today
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When he was arraigned in the Norwalk police court, the prosecutor told him he would be charged with "constigation."

Then he said: "Do you know what that means?"

"Sure", said Detective X-3, "certainly I know."

"Well," said the prosecutor, "you're a better man than I am, because I don't."

The upshot of it was that Detective X-3 was sentenced to three months in jail. But the judge suspended ~~xxxx~~ sentence upon the prisoner's promise to go home with his detective badge, his typewriter, his umbrella, his suitcase, his detective magazines, his plays, his sheet music, and everything. The Norwalk authorities thereupon turned him over to a rabbi, who undertook to determine whether X-3 was harmless or not.

BARRYMORE

The course of the true love of actor John Barrymore
for his ~~lover~~^{lover} has run into the law courts. After one of
the most spectacular courtships in modern times Caliban
~~xxx~~ as Jack has called himself is suing his ~~lover~~^{lover} for an
accounting of three hundred thousand dollars. ~~lover~~^{lover}, otherwise
Miss Elaine Barry, otherwise Mrs. John Barrymore and her mother
have been looking after Jack's money for him. ~~Says Jack,~~^{Says Jack,} And now he wants
it. The quarrel as some of you may have heard, started because
Barrymore acted too realistically during a scene in a play in
which he was required to spank Mrs. ~~Barrymore.~~^{B.} He applied the
hand with such zeal and gusto that Mrs. Barrymore walked out of
the cast, ~~xxx~~^{in fact} walked out of Jack's life. Now Jack says three
hundred thousand dollars walked out with her. ~~Poor Jack!~~^{Poor Jack!}
Maybe financially poor now.

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BEQUEST

A well-to-do widow in Boston became captivated by the voice of ^{a Boston radio announcer,} ~~Announcer Bill O'Connell of Boston,~~ and you may remember

that when the lady died it was found that in her will she had ^{left} ~~the announcer~~ left ~~Bill~~ five hundred bucks. On the strength of that, a cousin

of that ^{rich} ~~rich~~ widow, who had been ignored, contested the will, ^{saying that the bequest} ~~said that leaving five hundred bucks to Bill O'Connell~~ indicated ^{the} ~~widow~~

^{Today} ~~that she~~ was of unsound mind. The probate court of Boston

rendered a decision ^{rather flattering} ~~complimentary to Bill.~~ In fact, ~~complimentary~~

to ~~all~~ radio announcers. The judge declared, ^{that if you leave a} ~~leaving legacies~~

to ^a ~~radio~~ ^{it} ~~announcers~~ is no indication that you're weak in the head.

What do you think of that, Hugh James? ^{And a-l-u-t-m.}

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