

Hoosier Vagabond By Ernie Pyle

HELENA, Mont., Sept. 9.—A very heartening thing has happened during our stay in Helena.

You know how you read occasionally of some fellow who has been a fugitive for 15 or 20 years, and has been leading a normal and respected life under an assumed name. And then suddenly the authorities dig him up, and despite his 15 or 20 years of good living, haul him back and clap him into the pen for the rest of his life.

Well, they've just unearthed one of those cases out here. Back in the fall of 1921 there was some kind of a fracas in West Virginia, and a man was shot. In December, the other man in the fracas left West Virginia and came to Montana. In January the wounded man died.

The man who came to Montana did not change his name or try to disguise himself. In fact, members of his family made trips back to West Virginia, and made no effort to conceal who they were. The man became a farmer in western Montana.

Well, the other day West Virginia, after 18 years, woke up to where this man was. So they indicted him for murder, and sent three officers out here to get him. But—

The people of Montana flocked to this man's defense. They wrote letters to the Governor; they sent delegations.

A Happy Ending

Finally a public hearing was held. Neighbors testified he was as good a citizen as anybody in his county. They told how he had raised a family of six fine children; how he had accumulated some land and cattle, and had a crop ready to harvest. A State Senator pleaded in his behalf. So did the businessman.

The Governor listened. And then he decided. West Virginia could not have its man. He belonged to Montana, and here he could stay, in peace. And to top the whole thing off, and almost put a lump in your throat, the West Virginia prosecutor, instead

of being sore about the Governor's decision, made this statement:

"If I had known as much about this man as I have learned since coming out here, I would never have asked for his extradition."

New Type Speed Record

We have another interesting case, of a different nature. It is about an amateur speed record just set between Montana and Oklahoma.

A man in Great Falls received word that his mother-in-law had died in Lawton, Okla. His wife was already in Lawton, and wanted him to come to the funeral. He looked up the airline schedules and saw he couldn't get there in time by plane.

So he talked it over with his son, and they decided to drive. They left Great Falls at 10 a. m., and at 10 next morning they were in Lawton. The funeral was just starting.

The son drove all the way, while the father watched the road maps. They did not stop to sleep. They made 12 stops, of 15 minutes each, for gas and oil. The son drank two quarts of milk and ate one sandwich. His hands were blistered when they got there.

They made the 1510 miles from Great Falls to Lawton at an average speed of 72 miles an hour. And on one stretch of 200 miles this side of Amarillo, Tex., their speedometer needle hung constantly at 100 miles an hour!

That is certainly a fine record for driving on the congested public highways. There should be some kind of formal recognition for their achievement. It seems to me a very appropriate reward would be about five years each in the penitentiary, for attempted homicide.

Helena used to have a very famous old tree. It stood right here in town, and back in the Vigilante days when citizens were taking bad men into their own hands, some 20 desperadoes swung by their necks from a limb of that tree.

Wouldn't that be a museum piece for tourists to come and look at nowadays? "Hangman's Tree," they called it. I asked a friend where it was.

"Oh, that's been cut down a long time," he said. "They thought it wasn't dignified. Some preacher had it cut down."

It Seems to Me By Heywood Brown

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.—Once upon a time five conspirators gathered together to plot the death of a man whom they all professed to hate. The largest and most volatile of the group was a chef. He suggested that cards should be dealt and that whoever received the ace of spades should undertake the responsibility of making away with the enemy. And he added, "I hope the ace comes to me because I really hate this fellow. I don't quite trust your protestations. With me it's different. He and I can't live in the same world together. Either I get him or he gets me."

The ace of spades fell to the chef, and his fellow-conspirators were delighted to learn that within two days he had managed to secure himself the job as cook in the home of the enemy. But days went by and weeks and months and nothing happened. Accordingly, the four others waited for the cook at the back door and reproached him for having failed to carry out his mission. "But," said the chef, "I'm doing my best. I'm serving him with pork chops and chocolate eclairs, and all sort of goodies. Consistently I'm tempting him to overload his stomach. Sooner or later this system is bound to get him."

At the moment there can be no doubt that the present arrangement is advantageous to Russia. Moreover, it is fair to add that neither England, France nor Poland made any very firm or attractive offer for support. Russia is playing power politics in the

same manner as other European nations. Or, if you prefer, it has just as much right to choose isolation as America has.

As a matter of fact, most of the hifalutin explanations have not come from Moscow, but from American Communists. This, again, seems to me to indicate that the connection between the American Communists and the party in Russia is much more slight than is popularly supposed.

Did Stalin Outsmart Himself?

Apparently Russia has been so much concerned with its internal problems that it has had only an extremely academic interest in the development of American Communism. The very fact that the Daily Worker was surprised and left on a limb by the news of the Reich-Soviet pact seems to prove that the pipeline straight from 14th St. to the Kremlin is myth. There is no faucet here for Russian gold, and not very much Russian advice comes through.

In regard to local explanations of the pact it seems pretty obvious that the left-wing leaders were compelled to roll their own. Nobody has ever denied shrewdness to Stalin, but it is just possible that he has outsmarted himself and the national interest of Russia.

There is no reason on earth why Russia, from its own point of view, should be particularly friendly to France, England or Poland. A long and bitter war ending in stalemate would be helpful to the Soviets since it would weaken all potential foes. But a quick victory for Hitler would not help at all. A Germanized Poland would be a far more dangerous neighbor than the present state which is being torn by the invading army of the Reich.

And possibly the greatest irony of all is that, while Communist Russia is in a position to sell war supplies to Nazi Germany, democratic America has declared an embargo which prevents us shipping the same sort of material to France and England. At the moment Russian ideology is not the only one which seems to have wandered into a strange bed.

A Case of Power Politics

Nevertheless, Soviet Russia could make a much better excuse for its pact with the Reich than any which has been furnished up to date. But it would have to be on a lower and more realistic level. All the stuff about weakening Hitler would have to be left out as arrant nonsense.

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Washington By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Senator McNary of Oregon, Republican leader of the Senate, gathered from a telephone conversation with President Roosevelt that Congress might be called into session Sept. 18. The most direct word here, however, is that Mr. Roosevelt is in a hurry, and if the call is to be for nine days hence, it will come rather reluctantly.

Officially, the reason given for delay is that Mr. Roosevelt is having the statutes scrutinized for years back, to ascertain what powers he may already possess to deal with neutrality conditions.

Unofficially, however, other reasons suggest themselves. First, it is quite true that the President should wish to delay as long as possible in providing his critics with a world-wide sounding board. Senator Borah may speak his mind from his summer retreat at Poland Springs, Me., but he can attract only mild attention there. However, let Congress be called back and let Senator Borah rise in the Senate and speak his piece, and not only does the utterance stamp itself upon this country but it is broadcast abroad, hailed in Germany as evidence of important division in the United States.

Seeks United Front

Some in the Administration feel that such speeches would have effects, encouraging upon German morale, discouraging upon British and French morale. There is some desire not thus to affect morale across the Atlantic any earlier than is necessary. Mr. Roosevelt wants, no doubt, to avoid even the appearance of American dissimilarity as long as possible.

Deal May Destroy Hitler And Stalin, Simms Says

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS
Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Josef Stalin and Adolf Hitler may have signed their own political death warrants with the deal which made it possible for the Nazis to plunge Europe into war.

Advices from Paris reveal that the French Communist Party has been virtually destroyed by the blow dealt by Stalin and Hitler. Its leaders are now considering formation of a "National Communist" Party, but there is doubt that even this is possible.

The French masses, from which recruits normally come, have been thoroughly disillusioned by the hookup between communism and nazism.

More than 50 per cent of the party membership resigned during the first five days following the formation of the Berlin-Moscow Axis, including approximately half of the Communist members of the Chamber of Deputies.

Even the Socialist party of former Premier Leon Blum, adherent of the Second International, is feeling the effect. He is now supporting the Government without the usual flow of criticism.

Thus what no amount of opposition within France was ever able to accomplish has been brought about at one stroke by Stalin and Hitler. Ever since Tiger Clemenceau, one French Government after another has had to contend against the rising tide of communism, seldom with success.

Reached Zenith in 1936

By 1936, the Communists and Socialists had become by far the largest bloc in the French Chamber, with 219 members as against the Radical Socialist and Radical Republican bloc's 110.

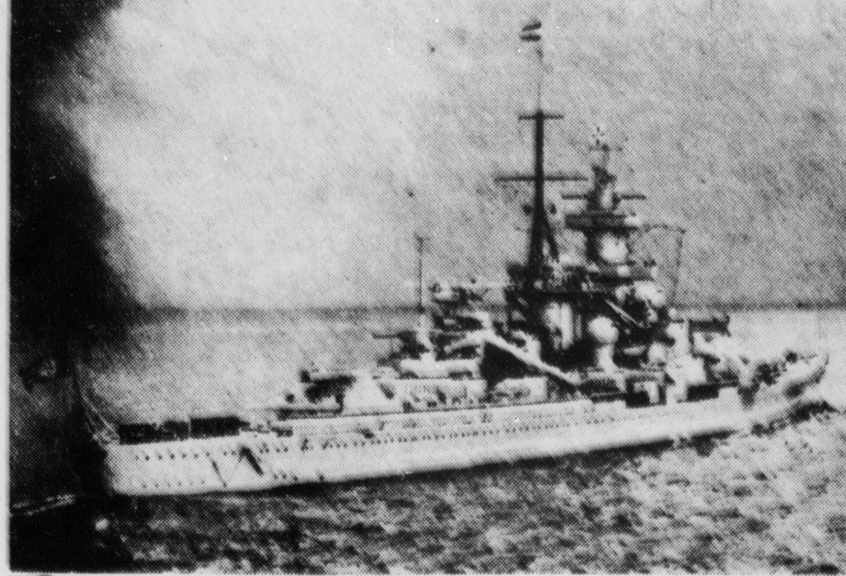
So powerful were they that they forced formation of the Popular Front, in line with what was going on in Spain. And while they refused to share in the responsibility of government, they were the power behind the throne.

Worming their way into the ranks of labor, they came largely to control even the economic life of the country. They inspired the first sit-down strikes and came so near paralyzing industry, including the national defense, that when Hitler moved against Czechoslovakia the French Army found itself virtually helpless.

Suspicion Is Born

That was the beginning of France's awakening. French workers are as patriotic as any other group in the country. They had begun to suspect that some of their leaders at least

The War



1. The German "pocket" battleship Goeben, reported sunk by British raiding planes in an attack on Wilhelmshaven at the entrance to the Kiel Canal.
2. This cablephoto shows a steel-helmeted policeman clearing the way for an ambulance carrying injured survivors of the Athenia to a hospital "somewhere in Scotland." This is the first photo of the Athenia survivors to be passed by the British censor.
3. Section of Aix La Chapelle in the industrial area of the German Rhineland. An unconfirmed report from Paris said that the area around Aix La Chapelle had been heavily bombed by Allied planes.
4. Poland's government has evacuated Warsaw and is reported to have established a temporary capital at Lublin, 100 miles southeast of Warsaw. Above is the Lublin city hall, left, and Cracow Gate in the old wall, right.
5. Just before the surrender of Westerplatte! Smoke arises from the tiny munitions dump held for six days by the tiny Polish garrison under artillery barrage, aerial and troop attack and the fire of the German cruiser, Schleswig-Holstein, shown at the left.
6. Radiced from Berlin, this photo shows Adolf Hitler riding over a Polish battlefield in a special six-wheeled war wagon (position withheld by German censorship). In the background can be seen the smoke of exploding shells.



SULLIVAN WILL JOIN NEUTRALITY PARLEY

Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan today accepted the invitation of Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York City to discuss neutrality at a conference of mayors in Washington Sept. 10.

Bicycle Derby Ends Tuesday

SHELBYVILLE, Ind., Sept. 9 (U. P.).—After 1004 hours of bicycle pedaling that carried them 10,340 miles, four Shelbyville boys today were ready to end their marathon contest at 8 p. m. Tuesday.

WAR HOPELESS JOB REP. LANDIS WARNS

SHELBYVILLE, Ind., Sept. 9.—Rep. Gerald W. Landis (R. Ind.) declared here today that he is "opposed to sending American boys overseas to die in the hopeless attempt to settle Europe's quarrels."

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- 1.—Which famous writer of detective stories used as a character an Andaman Islander in one of his stories?
- 2.—What is an oligarchy?
- 3.—Which boxing bout drew the largest gate receipts?
- 4.—Was the name of the vessel in which Henry Hudson discovered the Hudson River the "Fullmoon," "Halfmoon" or "Moonbeam"?
- 5.—What is the name for the largest of the anthropoid apes?

Answers

- 1.—Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.
- 2.—A form of government in which the supreme power is vested in a small class of persons.
- 3.—The second fight between Tunney and Dempsey at Chicago in 1927.
- 4.—"Halfmoon."
- 5.—Gorilla.

Everyday Movies—By Wortman



"I'm putting in a couple extra sandwiches. Maybe you'll meet a nice fella at the beach."

My Day By Eleanor Roosevelt

NEW YORK CITY, Friday.—We had the most beautiful drive over to Westbrook, Conn., yesterday. Here and there young trees are turning red, which gives a lovely color but makes my heart sink. I really love the early autumn and the winter too, but I'd like to feel that I was going to spend most of it in the country.

The prospect of the next few months, with their busy days and nights, would not be as alluring at any time as my country cottage with an open fire and the beauty of autumn to contemplate.

Just now, however, with the feeling that all of us have that something must be done in this crisis which will continue our own recovery, which must not be retarded, and still be of use to the people of the world, we feel it may be a long time before any of us will again feel free to spend three solid months in an environment of more or less leisure, as I did this year.

Yesterday we cooked our lunch and ate it in the woods overlooking the marshes which run in front of the Sound along the Connecticut shore. A solitary figure could be seen peering a flat-bottomed boat along the channels which run through the salt meadows.