

CHURCHILL

L.I. - Sunoco. Friday, June 19, 1942.

Today President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill ^{again} sat in conference. — *their third!*
We are not told where, the exact place of their discussions is being kept a secret. We are merely told somewhere in the United States.

The concealment in this case is nothing like the secrecy that surrounded the recent visit of Soviet Foreign Commissar Molotov ~~to the United States~~ -- when the very presence of Molotov in this country was kept hidden. Churchill's arrival is a headline, but the rest of it is very much under cover -- the place of the ~~Roosevelt-Churchill~~ conference today, and what they were conferring about. ^{TP} Of course, some ~~some~~ of the principal subjects of their conversations are easily surmised -- second front, ^{and} Libya, *

Inevitably, the supposition is that the Churchill arrival is a follow-up to the Molotov visit, and the big Molotov news was -- second front, the likelihood of a British-American invasion of Nazi-controlled Europe in Nineteen Forty-Two.

The need of a second front is emphasized and re-emphasized by the Soviets -- the military situation is Russia being what it is. The Nazis have not yet launched their all-out attempt to defeat the Red Army this summer. Their much announced supreme drive is still being delayed, but it may occur at any moment. And, meanwhile, Sevastopol is being assailed with increasing power and fury. The Soviets today tell of the ^{sternest} ~~sternest~~ kind of resistance, with attacks hurled back violently. But Berlin claims to have captured all fortifications north of the great naval base -- all save one. Today the Germans insist that ^{is} ~~that~~ one remaining strong point north of Sevastopol is about to fall. London thinks that the supreme issue at Sevastopol will come in a few days.

The British, however, are focusing their attention on Libya, where things have been going so badly. The latest is that the Nazis have driven to

47
the Mediterranean coast considerably west of Tobruk, thereby completing the isolation of that besieged fortress. The British have retired to the Egyptian border, their old positions -- where the lay of the land is favorable for a defensive stand. It is admitted that German Field Marshal Rommel has a superiority of armored force, more and better tanks, more and better anti-tank antillery. The Empire ~~force~~ ^{army} has been clearly defeated in the Libyan battle and there's apprehension that Rommel may keep going ambitiously, and strike for a drive at the Suez Canal.

One thing with an ominous sound is this.

~~We hear that, The State Department in Washington has advised~~

~~have been advised~~
Americans in Egypt, to leave as quickly as possible.

~~Today American Consular officials urged Americans in~~
~~the land of the Suez Canal to depart.~~ This would seem

as if ^a ~~the~~ war crisis ^{reaching into} ~~with~~ Egypt were expected --

although advising Americans to get out of war-zones-countries is a customary thing. In fact, United

States citizens were urged to leave Egypt when the Mediterranean conflict began. Most of them did, but three hundred and fifty-eight remained until this date. *Now they are urged to go and*

it is understood that ~~the State Department~~ *this* action was influenced by the events of battle in Libya.

So President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill have ~~plenty~~ plenty to discuss on those two topics -- a second front to aid the Soviets, and the grave military situation in reference to Egypt *and the Suez Canal,* ~~the two~~ The two are linked closely together. London believes that one reason for Churchill's visit is to procure greater American help for the British North African forces -- fleets of American bombers in particular, *and* Obviously if massive American air forces were thrown into North Africa it ^Ewould _{mean} be that much less for the establishment of a second front in Europe. An invasion there would indeed help

49

the Red Army, but if the Germans were to smash the British forces in North Africa and drive to the Suez Canal -- ^{that} ~~it~~ wouldn't help anybody, *but Hitler,*

The whole thing represents a good deal of a dilemma -- and so you can see the perplexing problems to be discussed by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, ~~xxxx~~ as they confer in secret -- somewhere in the United States.

BOMBERS

There is a late report that today again American bombers assailed the Germans in the Black Sea region. One dispatch gives the number as thirteen or fourteen United States warplanes; another states - fifteen. These reports would indicate that the American fleet of bombers flew to the aid of the Russian forces around Sevastopol, and hurled their showers of bombs at the Nazi besiegers.

The story, however, comes from the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ German-controlled radio station at Oslo and from the Vichy radio, which frequently puts out Nazi propaganda. And the apparent attempt of these broadcasts is to indicate that the American sky fleet, in winging to the aid of the Soviets at Sevastopol, flew over Turkish territory - thereby violating the neutrality of Turkey. So there may well be a propaganda line in the whole thing, an attempt to bring pressure to

bear on Turkey.

This sort of thing is true in the case of the American bombers that blasted the Rumanian oil wells last weekend, ^The Nazis claiming that they flew over Turkey, violating Turkish neutrality. This was denied today by the official Turkish news agency, which gives the opinion that the American planes did not fly over Turkish territory on their way to the oil wells, and did not plan to do any such thing on their way back. Five of the bombers were forced down on Turkish ~~territory~~ ^{soil}, but the news agency states that these landings were forced because of lack of fuel.

Today, a Turkish newspaperman tells of an interview he had with our aviators at their place of internment. He ~~says~~ they left the United States only three weeks ago, arrived in Egypt, and went promptly into action. He ^{remarks that} ~~says~~ they are new pilots who learned

to fly only six months before the United States entered the war. *And then this* ~~Another~~ Turkish newspaperman goes on to give his impression of our fliers. "I had the feeling," said he, "that these men have no fear, and that they would, if they could - start the fight all over again with the greatest joy."

With Nazi Germany trying to pressure Turkey by making charges of American violation of neutrality, the Soviets today were angry with the Turks because of the conviction of two Russians in an attempted assassination. This refers to the bomb thrown at German Ambassador von Papen and his wife some while ago - neither was injured. Two Soviet citizens and two Jugoslavs have been tried and convicted in the attempted bombing. And heavy prison sentences have been imposed - the Russians getting twenty years. ~~ago.~~

Today the Soviet newspapers were calling this - "a

provocative frame-up." The Communist Party newspaper PRAVDA calls the decree of the Turkish court "a shocking verdict in the provocative von Papen case." The two Russian defendants are said to have been treated with what PRAVDA calls "unfairness and harshness." Moscow circles are said to take a grave view of the convictions, and claim that the trials and sentences are a fraud engineered by the Nazis for the purpose of injuring Soviet-Turkish diplomatic relations.

ANNAPOLIS

Graduation at Annapolis today brought some timely and interesting words. The graduation address was made by Admiral King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet. He cautioned the new midshipmen against what he called "prejudice and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ narrow-minded jealousy." And that referred to relations between the Navy and the Army. To the new naval officers Admiral King said:- "Take all proper pride in the prestige and power of the Navy, but do not forget that the other great armed service, the United States Army, also wears the uniform of our country."

This is all the more to the point because of stories of friction between the Army and Navy. The Pearl Harbor disaster was largely because of insufficient cooperation between the two branches of the armed forces. And recently, in the last few days,

there has been a flare of controversy about the sharing of credit for the American victories in the Coral Sea and off Midway Island. The Army feels the Navy in its official bulletins did not give sufficient recognition to the work of land-based planes in those battles - army bombers. What were represented as Navy victories, were largely the accomplishment of Army planes - so Army men are saying.

KING

In New York today, King George of Greece repeated his country's pléde. He referred to the promise that the Greek people gave to the Allies when ^{his} ~~that~~ kingdom was overrun by the invaders. "We shall carry on~~the~~ fight until you come back," they said. And today Hellenic King George declared:- "They have kept that pledge," he said. "There are deaths of Nazi soldiers in strange accidents which never get to the high command's communique. There are swastikas torn down, torn to shreds." He pictures Greece as standing unwavering until the final victory of the United Nations.

These things were said at a luncheon given to His Hellenic Majesty by the Overseas Press Club.

The principal address of welcome to the King was made

by Tom Beek, publisher of COLLIERS Magazine, who told of the truly gargantuan strides made by American^{war} industry.

At the luncheon of the Overseas Press Club
at the Waldorf,
a few things were left unsaid. I had the privilege of
being toastmaster of the affair, and might ~~even~~ have
been tempted to make ^{some} ~~a few~~ remarks about the glories
of ancient Greece, about Thermopolae, Marathon,
Salamis, Homer, Euripides and Plato. However, ~~I had~~
His Hellenic Majesty has ^{already} heard plenty on the subject
from the many speakers he has been listening to at the
numerous luncheons and banquets he has been attending.
American orators have been
~~I suppose they~~ reminded him time and again of Pericles,
Diogenes, the Parthenon and the Acropolis. So I laid
off all mention of Aristophanes, Sophocles and
Aristotle. I suppose if I had run off a string of
names like that for the King of Greece, he would have
groaned, "For heaven's sake, mention a few Irishmen!"

RELIEF

Up in New York State tonight, they are opening a nationwide campaign - which certainly is rosy. The campaign is designed to raise two million dollars for Army and Navy relief. And, to make it rosier, tonight's event is the Jackson and Perkins Festival of Roses, held at Newark,ⁱⁿ ~~and~~ Wayne County, New York. This is the first of twenty thousand victory garden harvests that are scheduled to be held all over this country. The gardeners will raise two million for Army and Navy relief and thereby cultivate laurels for victory.

DUCHESS

Today in New York, Her Grace the Duchess of Windsor went to see - Barbara Adams. Now who is Barbara Adams? It appears that in the Bahamas, the Duchess has been placing orders for girdles and stockings in New York, and has been getting fashion advice about *this sort of lingerie.* ~~girdles and stockings~~ All from - Barbara Adams. ^R The Duchess has been appreciative of the feminine understanding and stylish good judgment displayed in the girdle and stocking advice. So, in New York, she decided she would call on Barbara Adams, and thank her - and have a heart to heart, woman to woman talk about those intimate articles of apparel.

So she went to the appropriate address, the Barbara Adams shop, and asked to see Miss Adams. And was she astonished! Mis^S Adams turned out to be two guys named John Johnson and Milton Klein. They run the girdle and stocking department and for business purposes use the charming feminine name of - Barbara Adams.

ERIE

There is big Wall Street news tonight! Flash!

Erie Common stock paid a dividend. Wall Street ~~was~~ gaped in amazement when this was announced - Erie declaring a dividend of fifty cents a share on its common ~~stock.~~ It was the first time anything like this happened within the memory of living man. Erie common ~~stock~~ had not paid a dividend since Eighteen Sixty-Six. *(after the Civil War, I came through)* That year, ~~a predecessor company~~ ~~kicked in~~ with four per cent.

57
Today's announcement was so surprising that the railroad company took particular care to assert that there was no mistake about it. Erie officials issued the following statement:- "Wall Street tradition was shattered today and brokers were groping dazedly." Then the railroad company referred to old axioms of Wall Street. One of these says- "When Erie common pays a dividend there will be icicles in Haydes." And

another old adage in the financial district is this:

"Three things are certain," it says, "death, taxes and no dividends for Erie Common."

But today Erie Common, for the first time since Eighteen Sixty-Six, ^{paid a dividend to} ~~kicked in with some cash~~ for the stockholders ~~and~~, the cynics of Wall Street are ^{no longer saying} ~~used to say~~ that the age of miracles ^{is} ~~was~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ past!

WILL

Today at White Plains, New York, there was testimony in court to prove that Mrs. Anna H. Paton was a strong minded woman. This occurred in the course of a sensational lawsuit to break the will she left.

Mrs. Paton, seventy-eight years old, left an estate of a million and three hundred thousand dollars, and bequeathed most of it to the Reverend Doctor Henry Darlington, Pastor of the fashionable Episcopal Church of the Heavenly Rest in New York City. ^TA sister-in-law of Mrs. Paton and two nieces claimed that the fashionable Pastor carried on sentimental affairs with the seventy-eight year old woman, and exerted undue influence over her - persuading her to leave him her fortune.

This today was opposed by testimony extolling Mrs. Paton's *independent and* ~~powerful will and~~ strong mind.

Her lawyer stated that she made fourteen wills in all. This - in fourteen years. One will per year.

From one to the other she increased her bequests to the Reverend Doctor Darlington -- until the last of the fourteen gave him virtually all. I suppose the idea of the one-will-a-year for fourteen years signified a lot of will power working up to a climax.

TRIPLETS

At Rawlins, Wyoming, something exceedingly appropriate happened today - it happened to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Triplett. The stork arrived, three storks - bringing three baby boys. In other words, Mr. and Mrs. Triplett have triplets.

9
And what have you,
Hugh?