

EUROPE

P.T. - Sunoco. Tuesday, March 21, 1939.

(The European crisis has a ceremonial front tonight - the visit of French President Lebrun to London. The President of France and Madame Lebrun were received with all the ritual and splendor that befit a visit of state.) On the etiquette side, they're repaying ^{the} ~~visit that~~ Their Majesties George and Elizabeth made to Paris some months ago. But in the background of ^{today's} ~~all the~~ London ceremony were negotiations and plans:- what ^{to do} ~~can be done~~ to stop the expanding power of Hitler? For example, the French President is accompanied by his Foreign Minister, and right away upon arrival today Foreign Minister Bonnet paid a call to the British Foreign Office and had a long talk with Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax. It is understood that Bonnet put his okay on the latest British plan for a common front against Hitler.

Common front ideas are in the headlines - the latest is a British program for a four-power arrangement. (His Majesty's government today submitted to France, Soviet Russia and Poland, a plan for a joint declaration. The idea is for the four-powers to make a formal announcement that if there is any further aggression they'll immediately hold a consultation.) Mere

consultation ^{doesn't} ~~doesn't~~ seem to be anything so decisive, but it would at ^{least} ~~least~~ show the four powers are working together.

Here's a late dispatch, right off the wire -- and it looks as if the Four Powers might have something to consult about right away. Lithuania has decided to surrender the port of Memel to Hitler. This is not confirmed. ^{But} The report comes from the Lithuanian capital on what is called -- reliable information. If it be true, what will the democratic powers do about it? Will they consider the German acquisition of Memel ~~as~~ an act of aggression?

That port on the Baltic has long been a Hitler goal. Memel used to belong to East Prussia -- it was given to the Republic of Lithuania by the Versailles ~~xxx~~ Peace Treaty. Today it is still strongly German, and it has been feared that the Nazi city authorities would do something drastic for reunion with Germany. There have been reports of a possible deal between Hitler and Lithuania, a deal to give Germany control over the Lithuanian republic -- maybe another Bohemia-Moravia sort of protectorate.

Today's earlier word related that the Lithuanian

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Parliament was in session, and that it was likely to proclaim
a state of emergency throughout the nation. Now, comes the
latest ~~A~~^{the} report that Lithuania has decided to surrender
Memel to Hitler. In return for this Hitler will grant
extensive trade concessions to the little republic.

~~that the Lithuanian government tonight made the decision - to
surrender the city of Memel to Nazi Germany. This - in exchange
for trade advantages to be granted by Hitler.~~

Here's late alarming word from Roumania, ~~which is also
mentioned as a likely Hitler goal.~~ The government of King Carol
is calling troops to the colors - several military classes ~~to be~~

In fact
summoned. There are rumors that fighting has already broken out

-- and
between the Roumanians and the Hungarians - Hungary is said to

In fact in the German sphere right now.
have German support. Frontier clashes are described, with

Hungarian raiding parties pushing across into Roumania.

And more serious still, there's talk about troops
being summoned in Italy. There's a report that Mussolini's
government has *called* ~~summoned~~ four or five military classes to the colors.

And- This is to be interpreted in the light of important Italian
diplomatic news that we have today.

ITALIAN AMBASSADOR

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The message to Garcia, famous in song and story, ^{was} ~~as~~ an exploit of renown - but it probably wasn't half as important as a message being delivered right now. The Italian Ambassador to Berlin went speeding to Rome today - carrying a written personal communication from Hitler to Mussolini. What's in that written personal communication? A lot of statesmen would give their eye teeth to know. But there's only surmising.

One guess is that in the message Hitler is reassuring Mussolini about the Nazi destruction of Czechoslovakia. There are reports that the Duce is none too well pleased by the sudden stroke his partner launched. It is pointed out that the Italian Ambassador, who is carrying the message tonight, was not in the Berlin welcoming committee that greeted Hitler on his return from his Czechoslovak triumph. That is only now revealed. At the ceremony of the Hitler home-coming, the Nazi radio announcer described how the Nazi chief and the Italian Ambassador were shaking hands, and he ^{played up the meaning of} ~~proclaimed something about~~ that clasping of hands. It turns out now that there wasn't any hand-shaking ^{at} ~~ing~~ at all - ^{for} the Italian Ambassador wasn't there.

And there was still another thing absent. Among the many congratulations Hitler received for his Czechoslovak coup, there was no felicitation from Mussolini. These omissions raised the surmise that Rome was not so delighted with the Nazi exploit at the other end of that famous Rome-Berlin Axis. ^{Hence} ~~So now~~ Hitler ^{now} is reassuring Mussolini. [^]

There's another guess about the contents of today's modernized version of the message to Garcia. This surmise is that Hitler is giving the Duce a guarantee that Germany will support the Italian demands on France. These demands are soon to be made - probably in the speech that Mussolini is scheduled to deliver next Sunday. In that address he's expected to make a declaration of intended policy. It is noted that today's message to Mussolini goes speeding just in advance of the Sunday speech in Rome. ^{So} ~~Perhaps~~ ^{probably} it's designed to influence the Mussolini address. Also - the Italian Ambassador will remain in Rome long enough to bring back a written personal message from Mussolini to Hitler. ^{So} ~~He's~~ [^] quite a messenger boy - that Ambassador from the River Tiber to the capital on the banks of the Spree. And tonight in Rome, at

ten P.M. Roman time, the Fascist Grand Council gathered in session - to hear about the message from Hitler.

CZECH

A big headline today reads this way - (the United States formally refuses to recognize the German seizure of Czechoslovakia. Specifically, the United States rejects the German diplomatic note in which Berlin officially informs Washington of the destruction of the Czechoslovak republic. ~~X~~ Let's see what's in the German note that the United States rejects. Its contents are interesting - being a formal statement of the present status of what used to be Czechoslovakia. It hasn't been any too clear in the American ~~note~~ mind just what kind of an arrangement Hitler has made for the republic he took over - whether the Czechs ^{would} become German subjects, their country incorporated into Germany, or what. Here's the answer.

(The German note describes the land of the Czechs as - ^{the} protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. ~~These, it states, belong~~ ^{ing} to the domain of the Greater German Reich.) The Germans in the protectorate, become German nationals. The Czechs remain Czech nationals, citizens of the protectorate. They're autonomous and administer their own internal affairs, but over their government is a Hitler official called - the Reich Protector. Members of the

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Czech government must be confirmed by him, and they must consult with this Reich Protector on all laws. ~~and~~ Foreign affairs ~~to the~~ ^{handled by} ~~protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia are in charge of~~ the Hitler government. ^{Likewise} ~~So are its~~ transportation and communication systems; - also ~~its~~ tariffs and customs. And the German army maintains garrisons in the protectorate.

Such is the new status of what was Czechoslovakia, ~~and it~~ ^{Seems} a good deal like a protectorate^s that nations maintain over foreign colonies. It's something new, however, within Europe itself, a new kind of domination by one state over another. ~~state~~ ^{And it's an} ~~its~~ arrangement which the United States summarily rejects - as illegal.

The State Department ~~replied~~ reply is brief and to the point. Acknowledging the receipt of the German note, it says:

"The Government of the United States has observed that the provinces referred to are now under the de facto administration of the German authorities." Note the term "de facto" - meaning in point of fact, and not in point of law. (The American reply ~~does~~ ^{on, referring to the} de facto status of Czechoslovakia, and says:

"The government of the United States does not recognize that any legal basis exists for the status so indicated."

The exceedingly brief American note was accompanied by a copy of the declaration the State Department made several days ago, the declaration which accused Hitler's Germany of - wanton lawlessness. In that statement the Nazi acquisition of Czechoslovakia was referred to as - temporary, not regarded as permanent. Another key word symbolizing the American attitude - temporary then, de facto now.

Conservative Democrats joined with Republicans on the reorganization question in Washington today. It was a fight over the Wheeler Amendment. This amendment would make all ~~the~~^{re-} organizations dependant on the consent of Congress. If the President decided to change or abolish the set-up of Government bureaus, Congress ~~it~~^{would} have to be consulted before it could be done. The White House doesn't like the amendment at all, and the Administration leaders fought it hard today. But twenty-three Democrats joined a solid line-up of Republicans, and the Amendment was carried. The vote was as close as could be, ~~was~~^a Majority ~~of one~~^{of one!} — ~~was~~ forty-five to forty-four.

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RELIEF

Democratic Congressmen of the House Appropriations

Committee today held a two-hour meeting and considered a figure - a hundred and twenty-five million. Should they agree to appropriate that many dollars for immediate relief? The President asked for a hundred and fifty million. The economy bloc countered with the proposal to shell out - a hundred million. The word is that the administration leaders are convinced they cannot put through the larger figure so they ~~are~~ offer^{ed} a compromise - split the difference between a hundred and fifty and a hundred. They're willing to take a hundred and twenty-five million.

That's what the Democrats of the Appropriations Committee were debating today, and the latest is - they weren't able to reach a decision, deadlocked.

~~In the battle on emergency relief, a move was made today to stop lobbying by organizations of relief employees - the workers Alliance in particular. A hundred delegates of the Workers Alliance are in Washington, lobbying for the hundred and fifty million dollar appropriation. They've been informed that employees on government projects will lose the time they spend in Washington - won't be allowed to make up for their lobbying days by putting in extra hours on the W.P.A.~~

SMUGGLING

In New York today the judge imposed a prison sentence on a man described as -- the worst enemy of the century. The describing ~~is~~ is done by the American Border Patrol -- *these* government agents who have the job of stopping the smuggling of aliens. They declare that Satirios Syrkos, a Greek, has been the champion alien smuggler of them all. He has been operating for ten ~~xx~~ years along the Canadian border, *has* and brought into this country ~~hundreds~~ *an army* of illegal aliens -- mostly Greeks and Chinese. *was he got - piling* ~~He got~~ Two hundred and fifty dollars each ~~and piled~~ money on top of money. He worked in cahoots with an American who owns a big estate near the Canadian border.

The Border Patrol kept after their worst enemy of the century, and finally *got* ~~located~~ him. Today he was sentenced to seven years in prison.

ROBBER

A candid camera fiend likes to get his picture, and in Milwaukee Taxi-driver Donald Elliott is an addict of the peeping film. He was anxious to get a picture ~~when~~ ^{of the} man who jumped into his cab today and shouted - "I'm a G-man - step on it!"

The candid camera fiend: was just as eager to get a picture when the supposed G-man poked a gun in his ribs, ~~to~~ emphasized the command, "Step on it!" Just an escaping robber. Taxi-driver Donald Elliott had to forget his film and lenses momentarily, as he drove at top speed, in a wild ride, whipping around corners and bouncing the robber in the back seat.

Finally, the driver took a crazy turn and headed for ^a ~~the~~ garage. The lurch knocked the robber to the floor. ~~and in~~ [^] the garage ^a ~~were~~ ^{for} ~~stationed~~ [^] ~~some~~ [^] police cars. ^{And} [^] It was full of cops. In the astonishment and scramble, the robber bounded out of the taxi, pistol in hand, ~~and~~ blazing away. There was a gun-battle chase down an alley and across a vacant lot. And that gave the candid camera fiend his chance. He sped along snapping pictures. Finally the robber ~~^~~ tripped and fell on his face. And the taxi-driver was right there snapping pictures of the capture.

SPRING

Our next story ~~here is~~ ^{concerns} the weather. And that impels

me to quote Hugh James and his Blue Sunoco commercial. "Spring,"

quoth Hugh in his most dulcet tones, "spring is here - with the

stirrings of new life out in the fields." And this beautiful

sentiment was accompanied by the melodious strains of the spring

song. *Let's have a little spring song.*

music *→ But while the music reminds us of*
Spring Let's look at the cold facts - and cold they are! Spring

was ushered in today with freezing temperatures throughout the

eastern states. It was chilly and frosty. Last year on the first

day of spring New York registered a torrid temperature of

seventy-four.

So as for ~~the~~ ^{today's} spring song, it's more appropriate tonight

to talk about ~~the~~ ^{it} music than about the weather. ~~That~~ ^{the} tune ~~is being~~

played on the latest, ~~and~~ most ultra-modern of musical instruments -

the Hammond Novachord, which is a sort of orchestral organ that

employs the electrical science of vacuum tubes for the production

of tone. Highly scientific - though the majesty of organ music

wasn't always that way. ~~Let's~~ Let's look back to one of the earliest

of organs - a thundering music-maker of the dim Middle Ages.

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The historian Wulstan, writing in the year Nine hundred and fifty-one, describes the giant organ in the medieval Cathedral of Winchester. It certainly must have been a joy for the pipe organ pumpers of those days. Thirteen pairs of bellows were required to produce the tone, and these were operated by seventy ~~headed by the~~ *headed by the 10th Century Monk* pipe organ pumpers. The keys were so huge and clumsy, each had to be pressed down by a fist - or maybe by an elbow - for better leverage. The giant organ played only ten tones, but these had the roar of thunder. Very different from ~~the~~ *this* spring song, which celebrates this frosty beginning of spring!

In Philadelphia, home of Blue Sunoco, the vernal equinox was hailed today amid appropriate surroundings - indoors. There the flowers that bloom in the spring tra la were beheld in profusion - at the Philadelphia Flower Show. Saluting the ~~spring~~

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equinox

were newly created types of roses, a new red and gold marigold,

novelties of carnations and sweet peas. And - the Joseph E. Widener collection of acacias, ~~which is displayed only at the Philadelphia~~ *And now marigolds*

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~~shows~~ and acacias to all of you, and
a-l-u-t-m.

named Clat. Shaffer, no doubt.