

L.T. - SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14, 1938.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

(World ~~to~~ history was ~~being~~ made today, ~~with a~~  
~~vengeance.~~ For hours the cables and radio ~~implements~~ crackled  
with battle <sup>and violence.</sup> ~~murder and sudden death.~~ On every side symptoms

<sup>— perhaps</sup> pointed to war, imminent, <sup>^</sup> inevitable, ~~and bloody.~~ Every straw  
showed the wind blowing in the direction of <sup>another</sup> Armageddon: <sup>^</sup> The

British War Council summoned King George the Sixth from his

<sup>Scotland.</sup>  
castle at Balmoral, Prime Minister Daladier of France prepared  
to offer his resignation to President Lebrun, in order that a

coalition war cabinet of all parties may immediately be formed. <sup>And</sup>

<sup>climax of climaxes</sup> Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain <sup>^</sup> flying to Germany to make a personal  
appeal to Hitler for peace. <sup>^</sup> From Czechoslovakia came reports of a pitched

battle <sup>s</sup> between Sudetens and Czech soldiers. Twenty-five killed,

was the rumor. <sup>^</sup> Uncle Sam's consuls in Europe advised all

Americans to <sup>come</sup> ~~go~~ home unless their presence in Europe ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup>

absolutely essential. <sup>^</sup> At Liverpool and Winnepeg the price of

wheat started jumping dramatically. In Berlin Propaganda Minister Goebbels notified all newspaper men to stand by in case of sudden announcements. Only one climax seemed possible -- war.

In the midst of all this hubbub came <sup>the</sup> ~~an~~ announcement from Downing Street that ~~really~~ electrified the world; ~~It was~~ an announcement such as never has been heard of since men first

started ~~scribbling~~ <sup>scrawling</sup> ~~on~~ history on palace walls. The <sup>London</sup> Cabinet meeting ~~had~~ lasted two and a half hours. <sup>(And then</sup> Chamberlain ~~announced~~ <sup>proclaimed an</sup> epoch-making decision. <sup>He told how he</sup> ~~He had~~ sent a personal message to <sup>Hitler.</sup> ~~Fuehrer~~

<sup>A message in which</sup> ~~Hitler.~~ <sup>(these</sup> ~~And~~ he used ~~this~~ <sup>he told Hitler,</sup> unprecedented words: "In view of the increasingly critical situation," "I propose to come over at once to see you, with a view to trying to find a peaceful solution."

And he continued: "I propose to come across by air and am ready to start tomorrow. Please indicate the earliest time you can see me and suggest a place of meeting."

~~Now, so far that message implied that <sup>the</sup> British Prime Minister must have put a great deal of <sup>his</sup> pride in his pocket.~~

<sup>P</sup> ~~But~~ In his concluding sentence he wired: ~~2x~~ "I should be grateful for a very early reply." Signed Neville Chamberlain.

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( A brief reply from the Nazi Fuehrer stated that he would be ready to meet His Majesty's Prime Minister tomorrow.) So at eight thirty tomorrow, London time, the head of the British Cabinet, accompanied by only two advisors, will climb into a plane, fly to Munich, and thence go to Hitler's mountain home at Berchtesgaden, in Bavaria.

~~of course~~ <sup>It</sup> This step is utterly without parallel.

To equal it you would have to imagine William Pitt, the younger, going to see Napoleon; George Washington calling upon King George the Third, or Abraham Lincoln riding south to meet Jeff Davis after the firing <sup>on</sup> ~~of~~ Fort Sumter.

Naturally, this conference invites all sorts and manners of interpretations and conjecture. In London the Prime Minister's friends acclaim it as a magnificent gesture. In Washington, the pro-British element in official circles believe that it may <sup>indeed</sup> achieve a peaceful solution to that Sudeten problem. People who don't admire Mr. Chamberlain so intensely, describe this "magnificent gesture" on his part as a diplomatic triumph for Hitler.

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One thing of course is ~~quite~~ obvious and ~~it~~ needs no official corroboration:- Chamberlain must have some plan to offer Hitler when he meets him at Berchtesgaden. <sup>And -</sup> Maybe there's some indication of that plan in the announcement that Paris and London today were united in urging the Czechoslovak government to yield in the matter of allowing the Sudetens a plebiscite.

So the guess arises that maybe Chamberlain will offer Hitler to bring about that plebiscite under French and British

auspices. <sup>And</sup> ~~of course~~ that leaves an interesting possibility

open. If President Benes continues to refuse a plebiscite,

Hitler then can invade Czechoslovakia as an agent of France and

*That's all wild guessing.*  
Britain. <sup>But</sup> ~~As~~ a matter of fact, nobody outside the British

and French Cabinets knows really what offer Chamberlain is

taking to <sup>Bavaria.</sup> ~~Berchtesgaden~~ Whatever the nature of the offer,

in that visit, <sup>it</sup> itself indicates that John Bull is going to offer

<sup>almost</sup> the Nazis anything to avoid war, that is, anything which will

enable the western European democracies to save face. <sup>Or this</sup> ~~has~~  
*Chamberlain going to give Germany to tell Hitler that England will fight - if pressed too far.*  
The first alarming reports of fighting in Czechoslovakia

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were later contradicted. According to the Sudetens, it was a gang

of Communists in a place called Habersparirk that started all the trouble. That town is quite close to the German border. The <sup>supposedly</sup> Communists <sup>1</sup>insulted the Sudetens. That started a ~~young~~ riot..

~~The~~ Gendarmes arrested several people, and tried to restore order.

Then suddenly two thousand Sudetens, armed with machine guns, rifles and pistols appeared on the scene, put the Czech gendarmes to flight, ~~xx~~ captured the police station, and seized the arms and ammunition they found there. Thereupon, reinforcements for the Czech soldiery arrived in armored cars, the Sudetens in turn were ~~xxxx~~ surrounded, and surrendered. ~~TP~~ Sudeten headquarters, which had been established at Eger, on the extreme ~~western~~ border of Germany, issued a communication that twenty-five people had been killed. Later this was contradicted in an announcement from Prague. Only four gendarmes were killed and two Sudetens. ~~The government~~

~~xxxxxx~~

At the same time there had been another outbreak at another village on the border. But the Czech authorities squelched that uprising and later extended martial law to a large number of areas inhabited by Sudetens. <sup>TP However all</sup> ~~But all actual~~ hostilities were <sup>far</sup> overshadowed by the sensational decision of Premier Neville Chamberlain, <sup>His Majesty's prime minister,</sup> to visit Hitler.

FOLLOW LEAD

Here's a late news from Paris, which tells us that Chamberlain is going with a definite plan. <sup>And</sup> That makes ~~the~~ <sup>our</sup> conjecture definite. The British Prime Minister will present to Hitler a proposal agreed upon jointly by the British and French governments. This was just announced <sup>in Paris</sup> by Premier Daladier himself.

The Premier did not say what the plan was, did not indicate the nature of the proposal. But the understanding is that France has agreed not to intervene in the Czechoslovakian dilemma -- if Germany will be satisfied with a plebiscite. They say that France will even agree to a union of the Sudetens with Germany, -- rather than go to war. <sup>So-</sup> France will not fight to keep the German minority in Czechoslovakia from getting its plebiscite. France will fight only if ~~the~~ Germans attack the Czechs and invade their country.

Such is the report from Paris, as indicating what's in the Anglo-French plan which Chamberlain takes to Hitler.

<sup>52</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>  
*So, they are saying: Hitler wins again.*

PALESTINE

With Europe in the throes of this Czechoslovak excitement, terrorism and death are still stalking the Holy Land. An omnibus was proceeding peacefully along the highway on the northern frontier of Palestine when suddenly it ran over a part of the road that had been mined. There was an explosion, a scene of horror. As the smoke from the mine subsided there were seen on the ground the dead bodies of ten Arabs, ten others grievously wounded.

This comes as an aftermath to a fight that took place yesterday on the road between Jerusalem and Hebron, a fight between Arabs and British troops <sup>in</sup> twelve Arabs lost there lives.

CHINA

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Here's a bit of news from China that on any other ordinary day would <sup>be an important headline. But -</sup> ~~have been almost sensational.~~ Today it seems of little importance that half a dozen Japanese columns are moving on Hankow and that one of them captured an important position. The Mikado's soldiers took possession of the forts at Matouchen, which command the bottle neck of the Yangste River above Kiukiang. The other invading volumns advanced to favorable positions and are about to strike killing blows at the Chinese defenders. So say the Japanese press agents.



STOCK

~~Extra~~

Stock exchange news -- from San Francisco. The city on the Golden Gate takes the spotlight rightnow because of the difference in time -- the San Francisco stock exchange remaining open for hours after the close of the Securities market in New York.

War news made <sup>1</sup> Stock prices decline during the day in New York, but there was a rally just before the exchange closed -- a rally that was halted by the closing hour. In San Francisco however the upward swing of prices continued, and most stocks climbed above their closing prices in New York. Maybe because of the word about Chamberlain's mission to Germany.

ROOSEVELT

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President Roosevelt is on his way back to the White House as fast as his special train can carry him. The rapidity of events in Europe made it impossible for the President to linger any longer at the bedside of his son James. The official bulletin from the Mayo Clinic was, in these words: "Mr. James Roosevelt enjoyed a comfortable night. Although the critical period is not past, he is making satisfactory progress."

It is significant that the President ordered his special train immediately after several telephone conversations with the Secretary of State. The original plan had been to go to his Summer White House at Hyde Park on the Hudson River. Instead of that, he ordered the train headed for Washington and, just before it pulled out, spoke to a crowd from the rear platform of his observation car. Mr. Roosevelt said: "I am going back, not to my Hudson River home, but to Washington for, as you know, conditions of affairs abroad are extremely serious." ~~And he~~ added: "~~That is why as President I go back to the national~~ <sup>return</sup> capital."

GEORGIA

The primary election in Georgia seems to be turning out pretty much as in Maryland. As all observers expected, the victory of Senator Tydings influenced the Georgian voters.

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(From the first ballots that were counted, Senator George has been in the lead. Later reports have been more or less in the same vein. The people of Georgia are ignoring the President's

*that* wishes, Senator George ~~will not~~ be purged.) ~~In short order,~~

~~the purge score against the New Deal in the primaries will be~~

~~eight to nothing.~~ That is, unless there is a startling ~~and~~

~~overwhelming~~ reversal in the later returns *from* of Georgia.

CONNECTICUT follow Georgia

In the old Nutmeg State the New Deal got a different sort of a licking. Connecticut still clings to state conventions. Senators and Representatives are not nominated by popular vote but by delegates. In the Democratic Convention at Eastern Point, Connecticut ~~the~~ right on the first roll call Augustine Lonergan, the present Senator was re-nominated overwhelmingly for a second term; ~~He~~ swamped his New Deal opponent, Representative Kopplemann <sup>by</sup> ~~with~~ something like nine and a half to one.

SMALL BUSINESS MEN

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The Small Business Men of America have been holding their First National Convention at Pittsburgh and, unfortunately, it carries some of the earmarks of a flop. Only two hundred delegates attended. Even the leaders of the National Small Business Men's Association admit that this is disappointing.

However, the ~~Association~~ heard an interesting statement today, made by a southern newspaper editor. His name is John Temple Graves, the Second, editor of the Birmingham, Alabama, News. The interesting fact he reported to the Small Business Men is that there is no longer a solid south. For one thing, the south can no longer agree about the New Deal. And there are other matters on which southerners, once a compact mass so far as political and economic things are concerned, are no longer united.

STRIKE

It has been quite a while since any sit-down strike has ~~called for~~ <sup>provoked</sup> national attention. But today there was one ~~that~~ ~~started~~ in Detroit that caused ~~a good deal of~~ <sup>some</sup> head shaking.

It began in a small way. Just a hundred and fifty of the workers in the Frame Department at the Briggs Body plant quit work and just sat still at their machines. Only a hundred and fifty of them, but they threw almost nine thousand others out of work.

Subsequently, six thousand out of the nine thousand took the part of those hundred and fifty down-sitters. Those six thousand likewise remained at the plant. And if ~~that business~~ <sup>it goes on</sup> ~~continues long,~~ it will stop work for many thousands of others in the automobile world. <sup>R</sup> The officials of the Briggs Company declare that the union is trying to control production of the plant and that the company won't stand for it. The Union people say they are <sup>against</sup> striking the speed-up system.

## RAILROADS

A new attempt is being made to tackle the problem of American railroads. It seems too ironic, even tragic, that the best transportation systems in the world should be in such a plight, with one-third of them already in bankruptcy. The latest attempt is fathered by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States which <sup>has</sup> ~~is~~ called <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ Transportation Conference. In this conference are seventy of the most argute business men of the country, not only railroad men, but officials of the airlines, bus lines, steamships, banks and insurance companies. That's quite logical, since both banks and insurance companies are heavily involved <sup>in</sup> ~~with~~ the <sup>fate</sup> ~~plight~~ of the railroads. The first ~~these~~ thing these seventy business men did was to receive a report that the railroads of America in the first seven months of this year piled up a deficit of a hundred and eighty-three million, four hundred and seventy thousand dollars.

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BOXING

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For more than a century, the eminence of prize-fighters has depended largely upon who's your favorite sporting editor . Of course there was no doubt about the champions in every division. But ~~there's~~ <sup>there was</sup> always room for crackerbarrel arguments about who was next best. Today, however, ratings are being established for prize-fighters, just as they long have been established for tennis players by the United States Lawn Tennis Association. Today we have a United States National Boxing Association, <sup>and</sup> <sup>^</sup> It has been holding a convention in Montreal, <sup>There</sup> <sup>today</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>^</sup> it announced the list of heavyweight prize-fighters qualified to challenge Joe Louis for the championship. First and foremost, the ~~orchidaceous~~, jocose Tony Galento of Newark, the tavern keeper who trains on ravioli, finochhi and gallon containers of beer. He's far away next best to Joe Louis in the estimation of the U.S. National Boxing Association.

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The rest of the list I don't find awfully interesting, but here it is for those who are curious:-

Number Two, Gunnar Baarlund of Finland; Number Three, Max Baer of Livermore, California, the raspberry champ; <sup>and s-l-u-t-m.</sup> ~~Number four,~~

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