

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

That news about the atomic bomb overshadows everything ~~xx~~ else today; and the story of dropping the first one on Japan.

The development of this incredible form of destruction has been challenging scientists for years. And now it's here.

Thirty-seven years ago, H. G. Wells, the novelist with the fabulous imagination, in his "New Worlds For Old", pictured the perfection of an atomic bomb no larger than a coconut, with a ^{(destructive} ~~force~~ force so tremendous that it was sufficient to destroy an entire city, and all living things over a wide area.

President Truman's startling announcement from mid-ocean telling us about the atomic bomb

uses

~~about the atomic bomb uses~~

~~in~~ these words: "We are now prepared to obliterate more rapidly and completely every productive enterprise the Japanese have, above ground, in any city. We shall destroy their docks, their factories and their communications. Let there be no mistake: we shall completely destroy Japan's power to make war".

In "New Worlds For Old", H.G. Wells represents^{ed} both sides as having possession of atomic bombs. ^{As a result} ~~The consequence is that~~ every city in the world ~~was~~ destroyed and rendered uninhabitable. ^{in his highly imaginative novel.}

~~All in all, this is one of the most dramatic events of the war. It has many spectacular aspects, but first let us deal with its effect upon the~~

~~outcome in the Pacific.~~ ^{HP} President Truman pointed^S out that it was to spare the Japanese people from utter destruction that he and Winston Churchill and Chiang Kai-Shek issued ^{at} ~~their~~ ultimatum of July twenty-ninth ~~the~~ ^{one} from Potsdam.

Mr. Truman goes on to say that if the Japanese do not now accept our terms, they may expect

a rain of ruin from the air the like of which has never been seen on this earth. The first of these bombs to be used against the enemy was dropped some twenty-four hours ago on ^{an important} ~~the~~ Japanese Army Air base at Hiroshima. That bomb, said the President, had more power than twenty-thousand tons of T.N.T., more than two-thousand times the blast ^{ing} power of the British blockbuster which hitherto was the largest bomb ^{that had ever been} ~~ever yet~~ used in the history of warfare.

The Twentieth Air Force makes no comment on the results. But ^{the} way the Japanese describe last night's raid on Hiroshima indicates that this one bomb was so destructive that the Japs thought ^{they had been blasted by} ~~it was a large~~ squadrons of B-29's all loaded with bombs ~~number of bombs. This~~ ^{all} happened at ^{ten} ~~eight~~-twenty, P. M. yesterday, eastern war time. ^{TP} Who ^{is} the atomic bomb? Well, all I know is what the men of science tell ^{us} ~~that~~ ^{it is} ~~the atomic bomb is~~ the harnessing of the basic power of the universe, the force from which the sun draws its powers. Scientists have believed for a long while in the theory of the release of atomic energy, but none of them knew any practical ~~and~~ method

of doing it. That's what hundreds of scientists have been working on.

To go back to the spring of Nineteen forty - American physicists announced then that they had extracted a minute quantity of a substance closely related to the element, uranium. They christened it U-235. All they had was a minute quantity. But, from their scientific analyses they figured that if they had one pound of the stuff - that U-235, just the one pound would be equal in power to five million pounds of coal, or three million pounds of gasoline. Also that it would contain as much energy as three hundred carloads of T.N.T., with fifty tons of T.N.T. in each car load.

President Truman, aboard the Cruiser Augusta, went on to relate how all this was turned over to our government, by our scientists, in Nineteen forty-two. And that right then the Germans also were working feverishly to find a way to harness atomic energy. It developed into a race, the most incredible race in history. Said the President: "We may be grateful

to providence that the Germans got the V-1s and V-2s late and in limited quantities; and even more grateful that they did not get the atomic bomb at all. But they were working on it, as our people well knew. Today we learn that our research people had one great advantage; a powerful machine ~~wh~~ with which to smash the atom, the machine known as the cyclotron.

On our side American scientists were not alone in the race. As Secretary Stimson ^{reveals} ~~reveals~~ in a supplementary report, our people had the collaboration of many British scientists, some of whom came over here to work on it. Secretary of War Stimson says that the atomic problem was first brought to the attention of President Roosevelt in Nineteen thirty-nine, and the President appointed a committee to consider it. They urged more research; and from then on government funds were applied. Then - at the end of Nineteen forty-one, Secretary Stimson says the decision was made to go all out on research work - under the direction of the U.S. office of Scientific Research and Development.

When war in Europe broke out scientists in several countries were at work on the problem. But luckily they hadn't made much progress. From 1942 on Messrs. Roosevelt and Churchill decided all research should be done over here. And ever since then rumors have been going around about mysterious plants in various parts of the country.

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President Truman describes what happened as "the greatest scientific gamble in history, a gamble in which we ventured two billion dollars". At one time no fewer than one hundred and twenty-five thousand people were engaged in working on this atomic bomb problem, and at present there are sixty-five thousand people so employed at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, at Richland, in the state of Washington; and, a spot near Santa Fe, New Mexico. And then, last night, the first atomic bomb hit Japan. Whether this was in the nature of a test we don't know. But the President adds that a more powerful type of atomic bomb is now being developed.

One amazing fact in this fabulous tale is the way the whole thing has been kept secret. Imagine a secret invention with a hundred and twenty-five thousand people working on it! I remember, out in California last year, I encountered an old friend and colleague ~~xxx~~ whom I found working with the ~~xxxxxxx~~ scientific staff ~~xx~~ of the University of California. He was with the legendary Professor Orlando Lawrence, one of our foremost men in atomic research. Putting ~~xxx~~ two and two together I then guessed that Lawrence and his colleagues, as well as many scientists in various universities and all the technological institutions of America were engaged in ~~xxx~~ working on this problem of atomic power. but ~~xx~~ not a word - nothing real ~~o~~ about it ever leaked out, although ~~xxxx~~ it was ~~thought~~ known that Professor Lawrence, Professor Compton, ~~xx~~ and others were hot on the trail of an incredible weapon.

Well, the release of atomic energy can be of tremendous importance not only in war but in peace - if we are not all wiped out by it.

LEAD - 8

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The President speaks of how it ~~could~~ be used in the future, to create, as well as to destroy. ~~He used these words:~~ "Atomic energy may in the future supplement the power that now comes from coal, oil and falling water". ~~He added,~~ *says Mr. Tuman. He adds* that at present it cannot be produced on a basis to compete commercially.

The President announced that he is going

~~to lay the matter before Congress and recommend the~~ *to* ~~to~~

Congress the immediate ~~prompt~~ establishment of a commission to control the

production and use of atomic power. ~~within the United~~ *And he goes*

on to say:- ~~States. He added,~~ "I shall make ~~further~~ *further* recommendations

to the Congress as to ~~in~~ how atomic power can become

a powerful and forceful influence towards the maintenance

of world peace".



ADD LEAD

TP While the ~~the~~ story was being released from Washington, President Truman aboard the ~~Cruiser~~ Augusta, ^{was} ~~lunched~~ ^{ing} with the crew ^(of the Cruiser, telling) and ~~told~~ them about it. ^{He} ~~They~~ all agreed with him that it would ~~be~~ shorten the war. He told the enlisted men first, and then went to the ^{where he told them,} Officers mess. As the officers rose the President said: "Keep your seats, gentlemen, I have an important announcement to make". ^{And} ~~Then he sprung the news on~~ ^{gave them this} news which may have a vast ~~effect on the history of the world.~~ ^{effect on the history of the world.}

JAPAN

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So far The Japanese have a little to say about that atomic bomb that fell on Hiroshima, ^{dropped by the} ~~as our own~~, Twentieth Air Force. The guess is that it was a delayed action bomb to give our planes plenty of time to fly out of range of the blast. From what President Truman said, the thing ~~exploded~~ exploded about ten o'clock this morning Tokyo time. Reconnaissance planes flew over Hiroshima, ~~and evidently were unable to take any satisfactory photographs.~~ All they ~~have to~~ report is a cloud of dust and smoke so ^{dense} ~~thick that~~ they could not see through it.

PACIFIC

In the Pacific war, of course the most important event of the last twenty-four hours was the dropping of that atomic bomb, ^{and we wonder} ~~on Hiroshima, and everybody~~ ^{what it did.} ~~is impatient to learn the details of its results.~~ Evidently ^{Any other news? Well,} ~~it was a super-bomber which dropped that bomb.~~

~~Aside from that,~~ the Japanese report that waves of Mustang fighters from Iwo Jima bombed and strafed Tokyo ^{again,} ~~once more.~~ This ~~was~~ an aftermath ~~of~~ to yesterday's B-29 raid which carried out the promise of destruction for four more cities of Japan. There were a hundred and thirty Mustang fighters altogether. One fleet struck north of Tokyo and another attacked north, northeast and southeast.

Three hundred and eighty fighters and bombers from Okinawa attacked airfields and military installations on Kyushu yesterday afternoon.

Again we have no news from Admiral Halsey's Third Fleet. The security blackout still ~~is~~ prevails, which makes the Japanese plunge into a fever of conjecture

We are told that the first contingents of fighting men from Canada have now arrived in the Pacific

theatre of war. They are veterans of European battles. They will use American equipment and have received extra special training in Kentucky.

MACARTHUR FOLLOW PACIFIC

And General MacArthur reports that more than four hundred bombers and fighters under his command pulled off a heavy attack on southern Kyushu. These planes took off from bases in the Ryuyyu islands and it is described as the heaviest raid that has so far been ~~executed~~ executed from these bases. They raised havoc with the great Jap storage center for munitions at Tarumizu, leaving behind them fires from which the smoke billowed up twenty ^{thousand feet} ~~thousand feet~~ in the air. They also destroyed enemy shipping.

CHINA

The Japs will soon be out of the great Chinese port of Yeungkong. Evidently they are getting ready to evacuate. Chungking claims that its troops are now inside the city after a siege of two weeks, fighting the remnants of the garrison in the streets. Reading between the lines, one gathers that the Japanese got ready to withdraw and left a few suicide units inside to fight a delaying action.

Yeungkong ~~is~~ is the largest Chinese port between the Leuchow peninsula and Macao, the Protuguese City.

A Chinese news agency reports also that the Japanese have withdrawn from the strategic city of Kian on the Kan River. That is in the Province of Kiangsi, north of Kanhsien. This is the first we heard that the Japanese had ever ~~been~~ been inside of Kanhsien. The Chinese never admitted it before.

ADD CHINA

The latest report out of Chungking about Kweilin describes it as having been ~~litt~~ literally sacked by the Japanese. Once it was a beautiful place, containing half a million people. Today it is a mass of ruins. Before evacuating, the Japanese systematically set fire to it, section by section. They behaved here as the Germans behaved in Poland.

The War Department made an announcement which is of considerable interest to my sponsor, the Sun Oil Company. It is a ~~substantiated~~ belated report from the European war. Between D-day and V-E day, the transportation corps delivered to our forces in Europe one billion, six hundred and forty-five million - a hundred and forty-five thousand, eight hundred and forty gallons of petrol oil and lubricants. That meant an average of approximately five million gallons a day, taken to depots and air bases on the continent of Europe. As of Nineteen forty-one, this would have been enough gasoline to operate every motorized vehicle in the world from New York City to Chicago.

More than eighty percent of the total taken to Europe was eighty octane fuel, the type commonly used by American ~~in~~ automobiles. The other twenty percent was high octane aviation gas, lubricants and oil. My sponsors feel that these facts should help everyone to realize why civilian supplies are still limited and why rationing of gasoline and other petroleum products will be necessary so long as the war in the Pacific lasts

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In Washington, Democrats and Republicans alike were singing the praises of the late Senator Hiram Johnson, dean of the Republicans in the United States Senate. One observer pointed out that there was a time when he might have been President of the United States if ~~he~~ he had been willing to take second place on the Republican ticket. That was ~~in~~ in Nineteen twenty. Republican leaders offered him the nomination for Vice President, Hiram Johnson refused. He would be candidate for President ~~or~~ or nothing. So the place went to Calvin Coolidge, who eventually did become President when Harding died.

Another famous anecdote in connection with Hiram Johnson attributes him with the responsibility for election of President Wilson for a ~~second~~ second term, in Nineteen Sixteen. The story goes that, when Charles Evans Hughes went to California, he affronted Johnson by not paying him the attention that Johnson thought he should have. Probably nobody will ever know ~~the~~ the inside of that episode, but many people will

remember how Mr. Hughes went to bed on the night of the election, believing that he was President-elect of the United States. The California vote was not counted until midnight. When Hughes woke up, he learned that Wilson had been elected for a second term, the California vote having turned the tide. Political observers appear to agree that if Johnson had gone to bat for Hughes in the golden states, he would have been elected.

With the passing of Johnson there vanishes from the American scene one of the last of the few remaining elder statesmen who would have nothing to do with a world organization for peace. When the Senate ratified the charter, Hiram Johnson was too ill to take the floor and speak against it, too ill even to vote. However, he had his vote recorded, and he was pared with one of the Senators in favor of the charter.