

R.I. Sunoco Monday, April 3, 1939.

Answer

STOP HITLER

( There was a growing chorus of voices in Europe today. It was chanting, "Stop Hitler!" Not in so many words, to be sure. But the meaning underneath statesmanly words is unmistakable. )

The leader of the choir of course was England's Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain. In the House of Lords, his Foreign Secretary, Viscount Halifax, was contradicting Hitler's charge of last Saturday, the charge that Great Britain was again playing the game of King Edward the Seventh, trying to encircle Germany. "His Majesty's government have no such intention," said the Foreign Secretary.

But in the House of Commons, his chief, the Prime Minister, was saying: "There's a new epoch in England's foreign policy". When Chamberlain promises military help to Poland <sup>and Roumania</sup> he means just what he says - *He phrased the significance of it in these words:* military help. ~~And he explained,~~ "To have departed from our traditional ideas in this respect constitutes a portent in British policy so momentous that it will have a chapter to itself when history is written." Then he added that he wasn't going to be bothered by little frontier incidents, only with big things that might lie behind frontier incidents. ~~Then he said: "I made the declaration that if Poland should be in threatened, France and~~

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~~ourselves immediately would come to her assistance.~~

Talking about Hitler's charge of encirclement, the Prime Minister said: "It is fantastic." Then he added: "The discussions contain no threat to Germany so long as Germany is a good neighbor." And he said further: "If this policy were the policy of the German government, it is quite clear that Poland would not be the only country that would be endangered and the policy which led us to give assurance to Poland could not be satisfied or carried out if we were to confine ourselves to a single case."

The immediate consequence of Chamberlain's sensational change of policy was <sup>a chorus</sup> ~~applause~~ of approval from all his opponents. Conservative Winston Churchill approved emphatically; Lloyd George congratulated the Prime Minister; the liberal and labor leaders also added their voices to the chorus.

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In such a dramatic moment, an important visitor arrived at London. The long, lean, aristocratic looking figure of Colonel Josef Beck, Foreign Minister of Poland, stepped out of a railway carriage at Victoria Station. The first man to greet him was Lord Halifax, who had rushed over from the House of Lords to meet the Polish leader.

BERLIN

Nazi Berlin <sup>today</sup> retorted to Chamberlain with snorts and jeers. ~~And~~ Nazi spokesmen ~~reminded the southeastern powers of~~ Hitler's words on Saturday, his warning <sup>that</sup> ~~to~~ small powers that pull chestnuts out of the fire for the big democracies <sup>may</sup> ~~and~~ get burned. Nazi officials today sent out a broad hint to Roumania, Jugoslavia and Poland to remember Czechoslovakia.

Here's a later dispatch from Berlin that came in a short while ago, a semi-official retort to Chamberlain from Hitler's Foreign Office. It sounds like <sup>a threat,</sup> ~~an unmistakable warning,~~ for it reads: "Germany will not remain passive to aggressive tendencies."

~~Then it denounces the policy of other countries to interfere in affairs which do not concern them and to disturb relations of confidence as hostile to the German people.~~

It then gets sarcastic about English policy, saying that England keeps a safe distance from the line of fire while setting two groups of powers against each other.

RUSSIA

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The answer everybody would like to know is whether Soviet Russia is in on the Chamberlain-Bon<sup>n</sup>et play. Ex-Premier Lloyd George, when he congratulated Chamberlain, said in effect: "That's all very well, but you can't win without the Soviets." To this the British spokesman made no reply. It's freely rumored that Moscow is ready to help against Hitler. But the Poles, for their part, say they want none of it. There was a rumor that plans had been made for Poland to receive ~~unlimited~~ an unlimited supply of arms and ammunition from Russia. Warsaw said to that, "Nothing of the sort. It would be contrary to Poland's policy of strict neutrality to become a party to such an agreement."

ROUMANIA

~~Another thing~~ <sup>It is</sup> not actually known yet ~~is~~ whether Roumania will accept Chamberlain's offer. It seems to have been widely taken for granted that King Carol would jump at it. And there's a rumor in Paris that he has done just that. But it's unofficial, there's no frank statement on the subject from Bucharest.

*Just an unofficial report that King Carol will not join in any encirclement of Germany.*

HULL

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Secretary Hull contributed his bit to the general feeling about Hitler. He issued <sup>a</sup>~~his~~ statement about the trading methods of the Nazis, described them as destructive to world commerce. It was a reply to a speech last week by Walter Funk, Hitler's Minister of Economics, a speech in which Funk delivered a virulent attack on our policies, censoring<sup>u</sup> the huge accumulation of gold in the U.S.A. And here are some of the things Hull said in reply.

"Any obstacles which German trade faces in the United States as compared with any other country are entirely the result of German policy and practices."

Hull then said that the principle of our trade policy is equal treatment to all countries. Germany has been invited to join in. But, added ~~that~~ the Secretary, "the German authorities seem able to trade only on their own terms as they dictate them and by their own methods. ~~as they shape them.~~" ~~And he said further: "Germany has~~

~~diverted trade from the United States only to serve German purposes.~~

*And the*  
~~And the~~ result has been broad and decisive discrimination against American exports."

SPAIN

20  
In Spain it's reported that the executions which everybody expected have not taken place yet. But, here's a portentous note from Madrid. All the soldiers in the Madrid area who fought for the Republican government are ordered to report to concentration camps. That means a hundred and fifty thousand former Republican ~~gov~~ fighters. Already twenty thousand of them have been rounded up. In addition to these, fifteen hundred are under arrest, described by the Franco government as "Red criminals." (Those who can prove that they fought under compulsion, were conscripted by the Republican government, will be assigned to <sup>jobs in</sup> labor battalions. Also those who had Republican sympathy <sup>ies</sup> but committed no acts that are called crimes according to the Nationalist dictionary. The others will all be court-martialled.

Aside from this, the chief effort of the Nationalist officials is to get food to a population that hasn't had a square meal in months. ~~At least most of the people in Madrid haven't.~~ Physicians say the malnutrition among children is pathetic, ~~and there are thousands of cases of tuberculosis.~~

CHINA

We haven't been hearing much about the war in China lately. But there was a dispatch from Shanghai tonight that Soviet Russia is determined to keep it alive, help the Chinese struggle indefinitely against the Japanese invaders. Negotiations are on foot for a huge loan by Moscow to the Chinese Nationalist government. It won't be in the shape of cash, but credit -- airplanes, tanks, artillery, munitions. They'll be used to ~~control~~ the area in the northwest held by Chiang Kai-shek's troops, the area contiguous to Russia.

## FISHERIES

One argument between Soviet Russia and Japan is about to be settled. At any rate, that's the word from Tokyo. It's that ~~age~~-old controversy about fishing rights. Without fish, the Japanese would literally starve, <sup>Fish and rice are</sup> ~~as their~~ their main ~~staple~~ food. <sup>s H</sup> The last we heard about this quarrel was that the Mikado's government was on the verge of sending its fishing fleets out with warships to protect them if necessary. But now the Soviet has consented to an agreement which allows the Japanese to fish off the Siberian coast during Nineteen~~ty~~Thirty-Nine.

In our ~~own~~ northwest, people are hoping that our own diplomats can do something to stop the Japanese fishermen from their present activities which are rapidly destroying the Alaskan fisheries, ~~entirely~~. <sup>Father Hubbard believes</sup> this new arrangement between Japan and Russia will take most of the Japanese fishermen from our coast.

FROM SUN OIL

The National Munitions Board has appointed a committee to ~~ascertain~~ <sup>find out our</sup> the petroleum industry's ability to furnish <sup>all</sup> the oil needed in case of war. In view of petroleum's importance in mechanized war the inquiry is significant. <sup>TP</sup> Some idea of what the committee will learn may be found in recent statistics from Washington on gasoline prices in various world capitals.

Gasoline was priced in Berlin at the equivalent of fifty-nine <sup>and 1/2</sup> ~~point six~~ <sup>cents American money,</sup> cents per gallon, and in Rome at eighty-one cents;

whereas in Paris it was twenty-seven-point five and in London thirty-one-point-four. Those quotations suggest ~~ex~~ the advantage the democratic countries enjoy in this regard at least. <sup>TP</sup> Also

if you've had your tank filled <sup>with Sunoco</sup> lately you'll appreciate the advantage of the United States over even the other democracies.

In the ~~ix~~ list of twenty-five countries the American price was far the lowest. For that you can thank the fact that in this country competition and free enterprise play a bigger part in fixing ~~these~~ prices than almost ~~any country~~ anywhere else.

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RELIEF

The revolt in Congress over relief money is as tough as ever. Partisans of the White House have been hoping that the Senators would raise the ante, give the President the hundred and fifty million he asked for instead of the hundred million okayed by the House.

But today a sub-committee of the Senate agreed with the House and threw out <sup>the</sup> ~~proposal by the Roosevelt partisans~~ for a hundred and fifty millions. (That wasn't all. The Senators who are heading the economy bloc warned the New Deal leaders that if they don't take that hundred million and like it, there'll be a fight to reduce it <sup>still more - to</sup> ~~even lower~~ seventy-five millions or less. Among the members of the economy bloc is the veteran Senator Carter Glass of Virginia. He and one other Senator proposed to ~~cut out even that~~ <sup>eliminate even the</sup> hundred million, and, as they put it, "to vote not one single cent."

T.V.A.

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After nine months, Congress is about to make up its mind on the Tennessee Valley Authority. Nine months and seventy-five thousand dollars <sup>the inquiry</sup> ~~it~~ cost. <sup>So now what does think</sup> ~~And what is the mind of~~ Congress, about the T.V.A.? It all depends on which side of the fence the Congressmen sit. "Splendid", say the Democrats. "Terrible", say the Republicans. The joint committee is split along strict party lines. The six Democratic members, after spending nine months and seventy-five thousand dollars, say the charges made by Dr. Arthur Morgan are without foundation, that the administration of the Tennessee Valley Authority has been economical, <sup>and</sup> efficient. Also, that the Board members opposed to Dr. Arthur Morgan exhibited great forbearance and dignity. And, the Democrats add, "this cannot be said of Dr. Arthur E. Morgan."

The three Republican members of that joint committee say the report of the majority is nothing but a whitewash, that no complete investigation has been made, and that the T.V.A. needs to be curbed because it is more powerful financially and politically than all the southern states within which it operates.

And there you are, ~~take your pick.~~

INCOME TAX

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Uncle Sam's Treasury had a pleasant surprise. Receipts from income taxes last month were larger than expected. Wage earners paid in five hundred and five million odd dollars <sup>on</sup> March Fifteenth. That's twenty-five per cent less than in March, Nineteen Thirty-Eight, but it is twenty-five per cent more than officials of the Treasury had expected. According to these figures, <sup>Uncle Sam</sup> ~~Mr. Whiskers~~ will take in over two billion dollars before the end of the year.

SMALL BUSINESS

Harry Hopkins, Secretary of Commerce, comes to bat for small business men. ~~He wants Congress to help them with research.~~ There's a bill ~~already~~ before Congress to establish research stations in several regions of the U.S.A. Hopkins wants it amended so as to <sup>give</sup> ~~xxx~~ specific help to small business men, enable them to increase their efficiency, widen their markets, improve their competitive position. Says the Secretary of Commerce: "The limited resources of small businesses have prevented them from undertaking studies that big corporations have made. The tragic result is that their mortality has been exceedingly high, their finance and credit problems ~~xxx~~ acute, their operating techniques not as efficient as they might be."

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MONTGOMERY

There was almost a riot on Capitol Hill in Washington today. Through all committee rooms there ran the whisper:

"Robert Montgomery is here!" Immediately pencils were thrown

down, typewriters shoved aside, <sup>there was</sup> and a stampede of ladies young and

old to ~~one of the~~ <sup>a</sup> committee rooms. There sat ~~the~~ <sup>my</sup> handsome ~~young~~ <sup>Dutchess</sup>

<sup>County neighbor,</sup> ~~man~~ dressed for California weather in a gray single-breasted suit without any vest. He was testifying before a Committee.

The nonchalance for which he is famous in movies was not so apparent on the witness stand. Observers report that he was chewing constantly on the rims of his spectacles while he was giving evidence.

The handsome young man appeared as director of the ~~the~~ Screen Actors Guild. There's a bill pending by which Congress proposes to prohibit the "block booking" and "blind selling" of

movies. Montgomery is agin <sup>the bill.</sup> ~~it~~ Says he: "If you pass that bill, you'll cut Hollywood's output in half; you'll affect the employment of some two hundred and eighty-two <sup>thousand</sup> persons." Then

he added: "Methods of production and distribution are not perfect. But they're the result of thirty years' experience and <sup>effort.</sup>

LABOR

For three days not a hand has been lifted in the soft coal mines of eight states. Three hundred and eighty-eight thousand miners are idle, earning no money. They're all waiting the outcome of negotiations between John L. Lewis and the coal mine operators in New York. While the workers are waiting in anxiety and idleness, the negotiators today did nothing, they postponed their talks until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.

Meanwhile, the strike of truck drivers in southern New England produces a condition ~~actually~~ described as paralyzing. It has been going on for three weeks now, in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Today the Arbitration Board of Massachusetts got into the game and is trying its hand on that deadlock.

PLANE CRASH

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An airplane crash in Arkansas three years ago has been somewhat of a mystery ever since. The Bureau of Air Commerce investigated and was able to discover no signs of explosion or fire, no structural defect. Apparently both motors of that airliner <sup>were running</sup> ~~ran~~ smoothly and sweetly when it came to grief at Goodwin, Arkansas, and killed seventeen people. The weather was perfect.

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During the investigation, a theory came to light that one of the passengers had interfered with the pilot, walked into the control room, pistol in hand. Last week a negro farm-hand found a rusty revolver, three miles from the scene of the crash. He found it, moreover, on the spot over which the plane had flown just before it made its fatal dive.

This curious news comes to light today. A Memphis newspaper learned about the finding of that gun and got possession of it. The serial numbers on the pistol are now being traced and maybe ~~that~~ tragic mystery will be solved.

HITLER

To call a policeman "Hitler" in New York will cost you five dollars.

There was a strike of employees of a company that makes soft drinks. The place was picketed and a patrolman told one of the strikers to move on. The striker shouted back: "Who do you think you are, Hitler?"

The cop didn't like it, so he took the man in, charged him with disorderly conduct. Said the magistrate: "You have the wrong attitude. You must not denounce a police officer and call him by a foreign name when he is only doing his duty. Five dollars fine!"

S-l-u-t-m,

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