

L.T. SUNOCO. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1940

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

War possibilities in the Far East were made more ominous today by word from London. Four Japanese banks announced that they're closing their London offices -- four of the largest Japanese financial institutions. A fifth, however, will remain open. The report in London is that Japanese living in Britain are soon to leave. There are about a hundred and fifty of them going home; a sign of the growing possibility of war between Great Britain and Japan.

There were excited demonstrations in a remote asiatic land today. Siam. Crowds in Bangkok stormed around, shouting. Yelling demands, and screaming "Indo- China". As if there were not enough trouble in this poor old world already, <sup>Siam</sup> is now claiming certain territories of French Indo-China. The French colonial authorities, already pushed about by Japanese aggression, are resisting the Siamese demands. Hence the crowds in Bangkok, today, yelling for action against Indo-China.

RUMANIA

It was s tated in London today that the British Minister to Bucharest had been instructed to use his own judgment in breaking off relations between Great Britain and Rumania. The London Foreign Office appears to be uncertain about the exact state of affairs in the Balkan Kingdom, and has had difficulty in communicating with its emissary there. So the Foreign Office will not exercise the initiative in breaking off relations, leaving that to the discretion of the Minister -- if and when.

London still keeps uppretense that the large German forces in Rumania are there as experts for training purposes. But today an active **flight** of Nazi war planes roared over Bucharest in a significant demonstration. And we hear that powerful German air forces are being established at various air fields in the country, also in Balgaria where the Nazis are already well established.

Big developments in the Balkans are indicated!

The Budapest government got half of the province of Transylvania from Rumanis some weeks ago -- this at the instigation of Germany and Italy. The two nations can't get along with each other, and so there's another flare-up. The latest, just off the

wire, is that Budapest and Bucharest have appealed to Germany and Italy to intervene, patch up the quarrel, and see that peace is preserved.

## Bombing

Last night's bombing story told of damage to a famous cathedral -- St. Paul's in London. Tonight, a still more famous ecclesiastical edifice is in the air raid news -- Canterbury. That's the mother church of all the English churches. The site where St. Augustine, who converted the Saxons, founded the ecclesiastical system of England. Compared with Canterbury, St. Paul's is relatively new. The older masterpiece of church architecture was built from the ten hundreds into the fourteen hundreds. They built across the centuries in those medieval days. It was the third successive cathedral at the halloed site, the shrine to which the Canterbury pilgrims used to troop.

The cathedral was not directly struck, but high explosive fell nearby. Buildings were demolished a hundred yards away, houses in the town of Canterbury. The stained glass windows of the lofty cathedral shrine were shattered, but they were not the priceless works of stained glass art that have come down from the Middle Ages. The medieval windows of the colored beauty were removed when the war started, and stored away in a place safe from air raids.

By way of coincidence, the London residence of the Archbishop

of Canterbury was damaged last night. The Archbishop was there, but was not injured, nor was the building badly harmed.

And high explosvie burst within a short distance of the country residence of American Ambassador Joseph B. Kennedy. Three cottages on the estate were wrecked. Ambassador Kennedy was in bed when the bombs crashed. Lampshades feell on the bed, but the Ambassador himself was not injured.

Thus the bombing goes on -- London under the customary attack through the day and tonight. Liverpool was heavily blasted today.

The British on their part got in a particularly heavy blow against the Nazis - a combined stroke by the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy. German concentrations at Boulogne were smashed in a prolonged attack -- the Royal Navy shelling, the R.A.F. bombing.

INTBO TO COUNT DE CHAMBRUN

Sitting beside me tonight is a young Frenchman, or should I say American? At any rate, he is an American citizen for a most unusual reason, which I will explain in a moment. The point is that he knows more about the smashing victory of Hitler's armies, the defeat of the French and Belgians and British, from first hand experience, than anyone who has so far come to this country. For, he is the only soldier I know of who was with the army in the Maginot Line, and also continuously at the Front with the Armies in Belgium, escaping to England during the evacuation at Dunkirk.

His name is Count Rene de Chambrun. And as he rather quaintly puts it, he was an American citizen before he was born, -- because of a law passed in the state of Maryland, a law stipulating that all direct descendants of Lafayette should automatically become Americans.

But, his tie to this country is even closer than that, for his mother was an American from Cincinnati, a sister of Speaker of the House Nicholas Longworth. On top of that, he is an American lawyer, having for years practiced before the bar in this country and in France.

Count Rene De Chambrun who sits beside me has written his

first book to appear in this country from the pen of a soldier who took part in the tragic war in Europe, against Hitler's mechanized armies. It will be out in a day or two and the title of it is "I SAW FRANCE FALL".

During the opening weeks of the war de Chambrun was in command of troops in one of the fortresses of the Maginot Line. Because of his command of English he naturally was called upon to do liason work. When Lord Gort, Commander-in-chief of the British forces, visited the Maginot Line, de Chambrun went with him. In his book he tells of the fantastic cost of the Maginot Line, the line that turned out to be so useless. What was it that you said to the British Commander-inChief, Count?

COUNT DE CHAMBRUN: Part of what I said was this:- That if France had spent the same amount on the building of battleships, what it cost to build the Maginot Line, then France would have had a fleet twice the size of all the combined navies of the world!

LT.: In his book "I SAW FRANCE FALL" Count de Chambrun tells an exciting, at times hair-raising story of his adventures in the Maginot Line, then of his experiences with the British forces in Belgium.

Divisions at the front were constantly replaced but he was always transferred from one division to another, as they came into the line. So, he was there all the time -- until finally he found himself with the armies that were trapped, some escaping by way of the Channel ports, mainly Dunkirk. And the account of how this young Frenchman -- American -- this descendant of Lafayette, how he escaped from one sector to another, how he finally got to England, and then back to France, is a story that makes your hair stand on end.

Recently he made the trip to this country and back to France again aboard a big American clipper plane. Travelling with him were one of the editors of Time Magazine and a photographer. The cameraman, had never been to France, and when they were passing through the City of Nimes the photographer was startled when they came upon an old Roman amphitheatre that looked as big as the Yankee Stadium. And this gave Count De Chambrun a chance to bring out a point that seems to him exceedingly important. Will you tell us about that Captain?

COUNT DE CHAMBRUN: Oh, I explained to my companions that the Romans

had built that amphitheatre when they occupied France. And then, speaking of the two million German soldiers now occupying French soil, I said they were simply the successors of the Romans, the Arabs, the Vikings, the Spaniards, the Flemish, the British, and many other German invasions. And, I added that after every invasion France always becomes France again, remains herself. And, I reminded them that during the past nineteen centuries France has been in enemy hands either entirely, or in part, for seventeen out of the nineteen centuries, -- during nine tenths of her history. But, this has not stopped the development of our French civilization.

L.T.: By that you mean?

COUNT DE CHAMBRUN: Just this: My country will rise again!

L.T.: We all hope so, Count de Chambrun, and I for one am sure of it!

TAFT

The prospects of the United States getting into the war were discussed by Senator Taft today. And he thinks "yes", there's plenty of danger. "I do not want to predict that we are moving irrevocably toward war," said the Republican from Ohio, "but certainly we're a good deal closer to it than we were three or six months ago." He described the situation as being one of what he called - "increasing seriousness."

The Senator was pressed with the question of whether or not he believed President Roosevelt wanted to get the United States into the war. He replied that he did not believe the President would declare war, but that he might do things that would get the United States more and more deeply involved. And Senator Taft raised the question of how far President Roosevelt has made commitments to Great Britain. He said: "I would like to know what he told the British the United States would do if they were to open the Burma Road. The British say he urged it." The President, he declared, "is not taking the Senate into his confidence on the international situation."

## POLITICS

Today President Roosevelt was doing a thing, and Presidential Candidate Willkie was attacking him for it. The President was on a defense inspection swing through the Pittsburgh area, the eighth defense inspection trip he has made. He got an ovation in the City of Steel, and drove through huge mill sheds where armor plate is made. He looked at the huge slabs of steel that will protect the turrets of the new battleship U.S.S. Indiana. In another plant he saw deck plates and propellor shafts for other new warships. Altogether, it was steel and more steel.

While he was doing this, Wendell Willkie was calling it "daying politics with the defense of the United States." He said - it's not inspection, it's campaigning.

At Cambridge, Massachusetts, in the shadow of Harvard, the Republican candidate blazed with these words: "The candidate for a third term left, I believe, last night on an ostensible military inspection trip. I notice by the papers today," said Willkie, "that the train, paid for at public expense, is stopping at Johnstown to pick up the Democratic candidate for Senator and other Democratic leader."

And then Willkie summarized: "that is not military inspection trip," he declared, "it's a campaign trip". He argues that the President can accomplish nothing for national defense by ~~him~~ making those tours.

CONSCRIPTION

Today the President of the University of Wisconsin, Clarence Addison Dykstra, stated that he would feel free to accept the appointment as Director of Conscription, if the University of Wisconsin would give him leave of absence. He didn't say quite definitely that he would accept. He used that expression - "Feel free to accept." He said: "I won't under any circumstance sever my connection with the University. But," he added, "if the regents will let me, I will feel I have the 'go ahead' signal."

So, the overwhelming likelihood is -- Clarence Addison Dykstra, Director of Conscription.

## CONGRESS

Events in Congress were conspicuous today by their absence. Once again the story is -- no quorum. Yesterday the House of Representatives had to suspend its session, because not enough Congressmen were there -- no quorum. Today, the Senate didn't suspend, it didn't even try to do business. The Upper House convened at noon, listened to the daily opening prayer and adjourned at six minutes past twelve. Twenty Senators were in their seats, which made it thirty short of a quorum.

The Congressional situation is part of the paradox that Congress refused to adjourn in the present crisis, but at the same time the political campaign is hurrying toward the deadline - and numerous legislators feel the necessity of doing some electioneering at home. So formally Congress is in session, but there isn't much actuality to it -- not much quorum.

And now to complete the quorum here let's here from Hugh.