

L.T. SUNOCO. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1940

GOOD EVENING #VERYBODY:

It has been a long time since we had any news worth repeating from the Westestn front. But here at last is something that sounds really startling. It comes from Belgium. The inhabitants of Verviers, a factory city, twelve miles from the German border, are beginning to leave. The population has been warned by the government that when once danger has materialized it would be too late to evacuate for the people of Verviers. So they're moving of their own accord.

Thus comes to life once more the old rumor, the prophecy that Hitler is going to repeat the history of 1914, strike at France through the Low countries.

WAR

46

From Finland itself no news of any importance. But here's some information about that war that comes by way of London. A British officer, formerly with the Intelligence Department in Russia, just returned from the Finnish front. He said that on the Mannerheim Line alone no fewer than a hundred thousand of Stalin's Bolsheviks ^{have} ~~had~~ been killed by the Finns, and that altogether the Reds have lost something like half a million men in the first three months of their invasion of Finland. Besides that, the Finns have destroyed anywhere between twelve hundred and fifteen hundred Soviet ~~xxxx~~ tanks and more than five hundred of Stalin's airplanes. However, he added that, if necessary, Russia could put ten million, or at a pinch even fifteen million men in the field. *all of which we know.*

LOAN BILL

Finland will get her ^{loan} ~~money~~ from the United States -
~~XXXX~~ any sum up to twenty millions. But she mustn't use it
to buy the things she needs most - weapons, ammunition, planes,
cannon. The bill to that effect was passed by the House,
passed to the accompaniment of raucous jeers.

Representative Dingell of Michigan raised a loud
uproar at the absurdity of restricting the Finns in the use of
the money they borrow. "When we know what the Finns needs most
is shrapnel, buckshot and barbed wire, and all the fiercest
~~instruments of hell,~~ ^{said the Congressman,} "we restrict them to buying powder puffs,
silk and scanty pants ^{tee,} and cream puffs.

And ^{Congressman} Eaton of New Jersey said that quibbling over the
nature of the things the Finns were allowed to buy was the
worst example of political flim-flamming and skulduggery he
had seen since he came to Washington.

^{Congressman} Celler of New York ^{declared:} - "Finland asks for bullets
~~and we give her beans. She asks for guns and we send her~~
~~guns and we send her broomsticks.~~ broomsticks."

Nevertheless, the restriction stands. The money to be
loaned to Finland is not to be spent for any war material.

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Incidentally, the bill also empowers the Import-Export Bank to
loan twenty millions more to China. ^{or any other country.} The bill has already
passed the Senate and now it will go to the Conference
Committee to iron out the differences between the Senate and
the House version.

ES

WELLES

Under-Secretary Sumner Welles continues his progress

in ceremonious fashion through Europe. He stopped off in

Switzerland today and is spending the night at Zurich, ^{all} ~~and that,~~

of which adds more mystery. Why
~~if anything, adds to the pall of mystery that surrounds his~~
~~stop at Zurich? / all places?~~

~~whole mission.~~ He'll start for Germany tomorrow afternoon, to

see Hitler.

Sumner Wells

~~His~~ journeyings are accompanied by courtesies and

and on the other hand by
ceremonies on the one hand, ~~also~~ a barrage of raspberries from

Paris. Almost every day a statement is issued, semi-officially,

pointing out the extreme improbability of any negotiated peace

between the Allies and Germany. One such was issued today,

ostensibly as a rebuke to the Scandinavian nations. Nevertheless,

some of which were:—
there will be no doubting the purpose of the words, "there is no

room for compromise between the Allies and Germany!" The

~~statement then went on to quote from President Roosevelt's letter,~~

~~to the Pope. It was used in an attempt to prove that Mr. Roosevelt,~~

~~has the same ideas about peace as the British and French~~

~~governments.~~

BERLIN FOLLOW WELLES

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As for the Nazis, they don't sound as though they were bubbling over with encouragement either. Elaborate preparations have been made for receiving the Under-Secretary with courtesies and even luxuries. A large suite has been reserved for him at the fashionable Hotel Adlon. But the official attitude is that the British started the war and the Germans won't make peace until the British Empire has been destroyed.

Nevertheless, Welles will go through with his mission. He is to see Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop on Friday, Hitler on Saturday, and probably he'll be on his way out from Berlin Sunday or Monday.

CONTRABAND

The British are now proposing to go after our shipping on the Pacific Ocean. The plan is to establish contraband control bases on the west coast of Canada. The purpose, ~~of that is~~ to keep tabs on all our ships carrying freight from the United States, particularly ^{shipping bound for} ~~to~~ Vladivostok. The British claim that rubber, tin and copper sold to Russia from the United States, eventually lands in Germany — rubber and tin that came from the British Empire. Naturally they don't like that idea. ^{at any rate} This information did not seem to arouse any indignation in Washington. On the contrary, it brought out the fact that the Administration has already been trying to cut down exports of certain things to Russia, especially tin and rubber. Dealers in those materials have been warned by ^{our} ~~the~~ government that exports have been increasing ever since the war broke out, in spite of those warnings.

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CONTRABAND

RETAKE

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WHISKEY

A new hardship looms for the British. Already much of their food has been rationed, -- especially butter and bacon. Now they are going to be asked to cut down on hearing the elbow! In addition, an item on the list soon will be another article of diet -- whiskey. The Minister of Food told the House of Commons that the amount of whiskey distilled in Great Britain this year is to be cut down to one-third of what it was last year.

But, there'll be no rationing ~~of~~ of beer. The Lloyd George government tried it in the last war with disastrous results when it gave rise to a slogan among the dock workers in the seaports:-
"No beer, no work."

CANAL DEFENSE

~~A good many people are of the opinion that Uncle Sam has about as much land as he needs. According to the chiefs of the Army, that's a mistake.~~ Uncle needs another military base, for the defense of the Panama Canal, preferably a base in the northern part of South America.

~~This is no idle dream.~~ A resolution to that effect was offered in Congress today. ^Q~~The~~ resolution ~~is~~ to inform the President and the Secretary of State that Congress is in favor of the peaceful acquisition of land bases which, in the opinion of the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, will facilitate the defense of the Western Hemisphere in general and the Panama Canal in particular against possible military activity by any non-American powers."

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The resolution continues that "the Secretary of State is requested to consult with the Secretary of War and ~~with~~ the Secretary of the Navy and investigate and report at the earliest practicable date, on the possibility of such acquisition, to be paid in part ~~by the payment of~~ ^{with} gold and in part by credits on debts from nations in default."

TRADE TREATY

Congressmen who opposed the Reciprocal Trade Treaty program had their innings today. So far it looks like a losing fight, since the House has already approved a bill to extend those reciprocal agreements for three years. And now the Finance Committee of the Senate is looking into it. Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming was the principal opponent today. He said ~~that program~~

program
of the Administration ~~is~~ clearly unconstitutional. ~~If they're~~ *That if there*
~~are any~~ *are any* treaties they should be ratified by the Senate. If ~~they're~~ *there are*

any
revenue laws, they should originate in the House of Representatives.

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According to the Constitution, any treaty with a foreign power has to be ratified by the Senate. ~~Congress will then~~ *does* have the power to delegate its authority, but only if it places explicit restrictions on the use of that authority.

Senator Vandenberg of ~~Maric~~ Michigan, pointed out one ironic fact. When Cordell Hull, now Secretary of State, was a member of the House of Representatives, he took precisely the same attitude Senator O'Mahoney does today.

LABRADOR

Seventy-five years ago today a boy was born in England who was destined to be one of the great missionaries of our time -- Grenfell of the Labrador. Sir Wilfred Grenfell founder of the medical and social service work among the fishermen of Labrador and New foundland is in Miami.

He has been in poor health, But, still carries on his work ~~at~~ which has brought him world fame. With income from England cut off Sir Wilfred Grenfell and his colleagues are obliged to depend on North America for their support.

A sit-down strike in Canada!

It has been a long time since we've heard of one. This perhaps is the most remarkable of all, for it's a sitdown strike at the bottom of a gold mine; half a mile below the surface of the earth in British Columbia. There fifty-five miners are sitting. The mine is one of the richest in the world. So there those men sit -- on chunks of ore of tremendous value.

The Government of the Province of British Columbia sent police to remove them, but the miners have so far defied the police. The Prime Minister of British Columbia now announces that the strikers are going to be removed at all costs and the company that operates the mine will be fully ~~re~~ protects so that it can go right on mining for gold.

The United States is to be honored with another visit from royalty, that is, royalty out of a job. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say "imperialty," since the individual in question wants to be an emperor as well as a king. The Archduke Otto, head of the once-powerful reigning Hapsburg family, is coming to stay with us. In fact, he's in Lisbon today, where he went for the purpose of climbing aboard a Pan American Clipper. Some people say that he has hopes of stirring up public opinion in favor of a restoration of the Hapsburgs to the Austrian and Huggarian crowns. But officially it is denied that his visit will have any political significance. The handsome Arch-Duke Otto! I can just see thousands of feminine hearts fluttering at that news!

OHIO

There was ~~a good deal of~~ ^{some} excitement in Washington over those election returns from Ohio. It was ~~quite~~ natural ^{for} the Republicans ~~should~~ ^{to} be jubilant, having elected two Congressmen in the Buckeye State, one of them ⁱⁿ a previously ¹ Democratic district. But, ~~even~~ the Democrats are said to be worrying. So reports Arthur DeGreve, United Press correspondent in the capital. Wiseacres in Washington are even discussing the possibility of winning control of the House. They say if the ^{the Republicans} tide continues as it did in Nineteen Thirty-Eight, the G.O.P. will certainly have a majority of representatives, in which case Congressman Joe Martin of Massachusetts will become the Speaker.

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CENSUS

Some of the Congressmen are still upset by the questions that the census takers are going to ask ^{us.} ~~you.~~ One witness told a sub-committee of the Senate that the census takers ought to be prevented from behaving like Paul Prys and Sally Snoops.

Senator Tobey of New Hampshire has a resolution to do away with the questions about the private income of the citizenry.

Senator Bailey of North Carolina, on the other hand, said that those questions are not for the purpose of snooping but that they have a decided human importance. "There are millions of people in the country making nothing a year, millions making less than a thousand a year. Such facts," said the North Carolina Senator, "present a great social and political problem," ^{said he, and} We ought to know the exact truth." But his colleague from New Hampshire was tremendously excited about it. He banged the table and called upon the heavens, crying:- "Shame on our country!" ~~It seems that some of the Congressmen received letters from the citizenry protesting against some of the questions, particularly the question about the bathroom.~~

LAMPOON

Towards the end of every theatrical season, critics break out in an epidemic of lists of the best ten this, that, and the other. The Harvard LAMPOON has what it, in its top-lofty Harvard way, thinks is a better idea. It publishes what it considers is a list of the ten worst pictures of Nineteen Thirty-Nine. And here it is:- "The Rains Came", "Hollywood Cavalcade", "Winter Carnival", "St. Louis Blues", "Five Little Peppers", "Bad Little Angel", "Idiot's Delight", "Twenty Thousand Men a Year", "The Man in the Iron Mask", and "The Fighting Sixty-Ninth". So say the Harvard lads in their paper, the Lampoon. But who are they, say you?

The worst performances of the year, according to the bright boys of the Harvard LAMPOON, were those of Tyrone Power in "When The Rains Came" and Norma Shearer in "Idiot's Delight". The medals for the most consistently bad performances were allotted to Dorothy Lamour and Don Ameche! Maybe the editors of the LAMPOON had their tongues in their cheeks. We hope so. Or maybe those college kids up at Harvard think they are really serious critics. I wonder how many ~~ya~~ of you would agree with those Harvard Lampooners?

CLOTHES

8/2
We American men are notoriously a docile, patient and long suffering lot. That's ~~the~~ one point on which our critics agree. So you may be interested to know that there's a new test awaiting our docility. To put it in a word, canary colored evening dress. ~~clothes~~ Yes, as ~~I live and breathe~~, dinner jackets in yellow, blue, green and wine color. ~~Of course there's something to be said in favor of a wine colored dinner jacket.~~ ^{Perhaps so} You can spill anything on it except cream of asparagus soup, and it won't show.

~~the spots~~ I wouldn't know.

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All this comes to light in a new show in New York City, the show of the Custom Cutters Club. Among the other ordeals that the Custom Cutters have for us are cummerbunds, in what they call ^{in store} rich, pleasing satins and silks. I'm wondering what would happen to me if I ventured into the Explorers Club some evening dressed in a cummerbund of rich, pleasing satin and silk.?

29 1/4
~~One reporter who went to cover that show, was rather~~
~~impressed by the reasons offered by the doorman for compelling him~~
~~to check his hat and coat. In the first place, the reporter was~~
~~told he had to check his things because it was a high class show.~~
something for you - and for television wouldn't it?