

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Hitler made a statement to his people today that will astonish nobody. He told the assembled Nazis, the population of Germany and the world at large, that he looked upon the future with fanatical confidence. Those were his words as translated - "fanatical confidence."

For the most part, his address was the same old speech couched here and there in slightly different words. ^{He spoke today} He spoke in the Munich beer hall where he first spoke twenty-one years ago. He said that the audience he confronted in Nineteen Twenty didn't know him, laughēd at him, scoffed at him. Then he continued, that today the Nazis have that same program that he had outlined twenty-one years ago.

But his latest threats are somewhat different. For one thing, ~~He~~ he said he is ready to mobilize one-half of all Europe against Great Britain. Also he announced that beginning in April,

the long expected all-out attack will take the form of a colossal, deadly U-boat campaign. He told the world that he had been building up a tremendous flotilla of submarines. And he went on to say that just two hours before he began to speak the high command of the Nazi navy had informed him they had sunk two hundred and fifteen thousand tons of shipping in two days. Wherever British vessels appear, he added, Nazi submarines will be ready for them. During the long months when the Germans fought with only few ships, he explained, Italy tied up the warships of the British. But after the beginning of April, the British can expect something different. Submarines and Stukas will sink Britain's ships in the North Sea or the Mediterranean, it doesn't matter, wherever they find them. "Our battles at sea", he added, "can now for the first time begin in reality." He said further that the outside world has been sleeping while Germany has been preparing for this coming campaign.

He also delivered a scornful answer to the prophecies that the Italian defeats have weakened the Axis. Once he has called a man his friend, said Hitler, there's nothing in the world that can come between them. The bonds between Germany and Italy are so

strong that no power on earth can sever them. When the enemies of the Nazis ridicule the latest cooperation between Germany and Italy, they don't know what is in store, shouted Hitler. But, he added, they will know shortly, when the new Nazi types of submarine are brought into the all-out warfare.

JAPAN

From Japan today comes something with a similar sound. They seem to be trying to terrify us with their oratory.

Japan's Foreign Minister, Matsuoka, today told his parliament that all of Oceania ought to belong to Japan and the white races must get out.

Just what does he mean by Oceania? On this, atlases are vague and encyclopedias contradict each other. But Matsuoka described Oceania as being twelve hundred miles from north to south and a thousand miles from east to west, and said its islands contained enough natural resources to support some six hundred to eight hundred million people. And the Japanese Foreign Minister added:- "I believe we - meaning the Japanese - have a natural right to migrate there."

Funk and Wagnall's New Standard Dictionary, also the New Standard Encyclopedia, define Oceania as Melanesia, Polynesia -- and Australasia! Meaning Australia and both islands of New Zealand to say nothing of New Guinea and the entire Dutch East Indies. However, the Encyclopedia Britannica's definition is more modest. It defines Oceania as a geographical area extending from Australia

in the West to the most easterly islands of Polynesia in the East, and from New Zealand in the south, to Micronesia and the Sandwich Islands in the North. And that's quite a sizeable patch of the world. On the atlas it looks to be mostly Pacific Ocean. But actually there are some ten thousand islands in Oceania and most of them are inhabited. If the white races were meekly to submit to this Japanese claim, the United States as well as France, Britain, Australia and New Zealand would have to surrender vast and valuable possessions. "The white race must cede Oceania to the Asiatics," said Japan's truculent Foreign Minister.

The claim for Oceania was not the only bit of saber-rattling heard in the Japanese Parliament. The Vice-Foreign Minister and the Vice-Minister of the Navy both told a committee of the parliament that the Japanese are watching American and British moves in the Pacific very closely and that their navy had already prepared counter measures to any threat.

A prominent Japanese newspaper which usually expressed the government viewpoint said that if necessary Japan would destroy not only Uncle Sam's Guam but also British Singapore by a single blow. All of which sounds like some tall bluffing.

BRITISH AID

In the meantime what do we hear here at home? Well, today the Senate heard young Bob LaFollette in a fiery speech against the British Aid Bill. In one sentence the Senator from Wisconsin put it this way:- "Whatever fine trappings it is decked with -- this bill hides the skull and bones of death on old world battlefields and death on the seven seas." He described it as one step nearer war and one step nearer totalitarianism in the United States. He urged that before we engage in the defense of Britain that we do something about the ten million unemployed in this country. He urged that we stop trying to run the whole world until we have built decent homes here, reconstructed our monetary and credit system, provided a liberal security for the old, and full opportunity for our youth. He urged also that we stop wearing a halo of righteousness until we do something about conditions which have caused some forty per cent of our men to be rejected as physically or mentally unfit for military training.

ARMY

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Still another appropriation for the Army! President Roosevelt today asked Congress for almost four billion dollars in addition to what has been already appropriated. To be precise, three billions, eight hundred and twelve millions, three hundred and eleven thousand, one hundred and ninety-seven dollars. Of that, more than one billion, four hundred millions is to be spent on the Army Air Corps. Eight hundred and eighty-eight millions in cash, five hundred and twenty-four millions in orders. Mr. Roosevelt did not specify how those fourteen thousand odd millions were to be spent, but the grapevine report is that it means fifteen thousand six hundred more planes. That includes training ships, fighters and bombers. This would bring the number of planes for the Army now on order up to thirty-four thousand six hundred, ~~which is quite a sizeable armada in any man's military establishment.~~ And that's only for the Army Air Corps; includes nothing for the Navy.

It is also reported that the total ^(supplementary) amount which the President will ask during this fiscal year will reach a total of around five billion, four hundred millions.

There's a crying need for nurses. The Army has to have more of them, the Navy has to have more, also the Red Cross. And the need is urgent. All three bodies made a public appeal today through Mrs. Roosevelt, who held her usual weekly press conference.

Some time ago the Army sent out a call asking for four thousand nurses to volunteer for active service by July First. At this date, less than half that number have actually volunteered. There are six new army general hospitals, and by March Fifteenth they will need nine hundred and twenty more nurses; by April Fifteenth, seven hundred and sixty more.

As for the Navy, the figures are not so definite, but the superintendent of the Navy Nursing Corps announced that she would need about fifteen hundred more. There is already a shortage of nurses in the civilian hospitals.

A nurse volunteering for either the Army or the Navy starts in at Seventy dollars a month. In addition she has all her expenses paid, provisions for pay on retirement, and she works only an eight-hour day. At the end of nine years she can get up to a hundred and thirty dollars a month.

The First Lady also gave out an explanation today of one thing she had said a week ago about people preparing to do without some of the things which they had become accustomed, such as aluminum pots and pans and new motor cars. She said that some retail merchants had acquired a wrong impression of her suggestion, and that she did not intend to urge people to refrain from buying anything that is available in the open market. She merely meant to suggest that they prepare their minds for a condition they may face eventually.

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PRIORITIES FOLLOW NURSES

Mrs. Roosevelt's prophecy the other day seems to have been timely. E. R. Stettinius, Director of Priorities, today notified all aluminum manufacturers to give a preference rate to all orders. That means, that they must fill defense orders before any others. Stettinius took the same action with regard to machine tools. And that wasn't any mere suggestion: it was an order, authorized by Act of Congress.

CIVIL SERVICE

If President Roosevelt has his way, a tremendous number of government jobs will be cut out of the party patronage system and become civil service positions. If Congress accepts his recommendations, it will mean virtually the end of the age-old spoils idea in federal employment.

Two years ago Mr. Roosevelt appointed a committee to investigate the matter and make a report, a Committee including three justices of the Supreme Court. That Committee submitted two different reports, two different plans. If either becomes law, even the higher salaried federal job holders will come under civil service; all, in fact, except those who determine public policy or who hold jobs that have to be confirmed by the Senate.

LABOR

The Judiciary Committee of the House today heard a lot of testimony about labor unions and their leaders ~~and~~, from Westbrook Pegler, ^{who writes} the columnist with a sting. The Committee has been considering whether or not Congress should pass ~~new~~ labor laws to restrict the powers of union leaders, to forbid their doing anything to hamper or slow up the defense program.

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It was a field day for Peg. He told the Committee, among other ~~things~~, that under existing laws the government drives men into labor unions and then gives them no protection from the bosses of those unions. Those bosses, he added, are in some cases actual racketeers, criminals.

~~Then~~ Congressman Hobbs of Alabama asked Peg whether he considered his investigations and the exposures he has been making as ~~being~~ hostile to labor. Peg replied, ~~and~~ "Definitely, No!"

Hobbs then asked whether he believed in organized labor. ~~Yes,~~
^{To which} ~~declared~~ Pegler, ^{replied that he does and he also believes} ~~he does, also~~ in the right to strike; What he

has objected to all along has been the compulsion of workers to join unions whether they want to or not, and the bossing of the unions by undesirable characters.

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Congressman Hobbs also brought out the fact that men who do not belong to the union have to pay money to the unions in order to get work on certain government jobs. For their money they don't get either a union card or the privilege of attending the union meetings, ^{and} they have nothing to say about what should be done with the money. Hobbs then asked Pegler whether there ^{Columnist} weren't any jobs on the national defense program on which the contractors maintained an open shop. Peg replied that there may be but he didn't know of any. ~~Unions, he added, are supposed to be voluntary organizations, actually they are compulsory.~~
~~And once~~ ^{He said} men are forced into unions ^{and then} they are helpless, ^{because} ~~no laws~~ ^{there are no laws to} ~~can~~ protect them.

Pegler also told the Committee that the head of ~~the~~ one union had cashed checks on the pension fund of the workers at a Florida dog track and a Chicago gambling house. One of the Congressmen suggested that such behavior was nothing but embezzlement and should be prosecuted by the local law officers. Peg replied that local officials are reluctant to prosecute, because if they do they'll be called enemies of labor. ~~And he said~~

RUSSIAN

Another Russian found murdered, an enemy of Stalin.

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This time ^{he's} ~~it's~~ a Czarist. His body was found outside a convent on the outskirts of New York. The circumstances lead the authorities to believe that the men who murdered him stood him up against the convent wall and executed him.

The victim was Colonel Michael Borislafsky, ~~He was~~ a military scientist ^{who} ~~and~~ invented an aerial bomb which was accepted by Uncle Sam's War Department. In fact, he only heard that it had been accepted a few hours before he was assassinated. So far the murder is a complete mystery.

BANTING

Yesterday the world heard that a distinguished scientist, Sir Frederick Banting, flying in a big military plane, was missing somewhere in Canada. Sir Frederick, famous as a Nobel prize winner because of the part he played in the discovery of insulin, had in fact been missing since Friday.

Tonight the news about him is definite. Banting and two of the men who accompanied him were killed when the plane crashed near Trinity Bay, Newfoundland. This announcement has been made at Ottawa by Colonel Ralston, Canadian Minister of National Defense. The fourth member of the party, Captain Joseph Mackey, of Kansas City, is alive and is being rescued. A plane equipped with skis and also ground parties are on the way.

And now Hugh.