

L.T. - SUNOCO. TUESDAY. DECEMBER 2, 1941.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

President Roosevelt has asked Japan a pointed question. It's about those troop movements in Indo-China, close to the border of Thailand, landed air and naval forces far larger than the agreement with Vichy permitted. And the President wants to know:- What is all this about, please?

The question was asked of the Japanese envoys by Under-Secretary of State Sumner Welles. And late this afternoon, just a couple of hours ago, Mr. Roosevelt told the newspapermen at the press conference what he had done. It's a step of the utmost seriousness. And the way the President explained it makes it all the more serious. He revealed that he had asked Japan, what was the idea of sending those large forces of troops, planes and warships to Indo-China? Then he added that it couldn't have been for police work, because Indo-China has been and continues to be a most peaceful spot.

The President then revealed some facts that hadn't been

published before, a review of his negotiations with the Mikado's Government. As long ago as last April, conversations were started, the purpose of our Government being to reach a settlement, a permanent peace throughout the entire Pacific area. This country was astonished, he added, when Japanese troops, right in the middle of those conversations, moved into Indo-China in June, after only the briefest negotiations with the Vichy government. Vichy agreed only because it was powerless to object, but, said Mr. Roosevelt the number of Japanese troops allowed in there was definitely specified.

The President then went on to say that nevertheless the conversations with Japan will be resumed, on the strict understanding laid down by this Government that peace in the Pacific dependend upon no more conquests in that direction. Only the other day we learned that larger bodies of Japanese forces of all kinds weremoving into Indo-China, and now it is ascertained that still more are on their way.

The President said he had addressed his question to

the Japanese Government politely. He added that he hoped to have a prompt reply. Newspapermen asked him whether he had ~~said~~ set any time limit on that reply. That, he retorted, was a silly question.

A reporter asked him what our Government would do if Japan moves into Thailand. That query he avoided.

In the middle of these questions and answers, a veteran Washington newspaperman handed him a cane with a large club head and, said the newspaperman: "Lord knows you need a big stick as no one has needed it since Teddy Roosevelt." The President laughed and said that was right, it was just what he needed.

~~So there we are. Short of war, the situation is, to say the least, as dramatic as it could be.~~

Almost as dramatic is the news from ~~Singapore, almost as dramatic as the news from~~ the Far East itself. A ~~X~~ British fleet steamed into Singapore today, a powerful armada including a brand new thirty-five thousand ton man-o-war, H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES, flying the flag of Admiral Sir Tom Phillips. ~~You may recall that~~ last May the PRINCE OF WALES was one of King George's battle wagons.

that helped sink the Nazi BISMARCK. The PRINCE OF WALES is the first <sup>big</sup> ~~capital~~ ship ~~that~~ the British have had in those waters since the old China station squadron was abolished, In fact, the first capital ship she <sup>has</sup> ever sent to the Far East. But that isn't all. The dispatch from Singapore reports that the PRINCE OF WALES headed a long column of warships. Among them was another capital ship, described as a mystery <sup>craft,</sup> ~~ship~~. At any rate, its name <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ not given. ~~Significant enough is the fact that the censor at Singapore allowed this news to be cabled without let or hindrance.~~ The force under Admiral Phillips is called "the Eastern fleet". It's a new unit in King George's Navy, and it takes the same rank as the home fleet and the Mediterranean squadron.

## SYDNEY

The Australian warship SYDNEY has been sunk! There's a *head-*  
line to call forth a thrilling memory of the last war. ~~You may~~  
~~Remember~~ how the German raider EMDEN, after terrorizing the Indian  
Ocean, the Bay of Bengal, and the China Sea, and sinking seventy Allied  
vessels, finally made the mistake of raiding the British radio  
station in the Cocos Islands. <sup>?</sup> Just before the Germans put the  
apparatus out of commission the operator was able to wireless a call  
for help. The signal was received by His Majesty's Australian  
cruiser SYDNEY, a swift and powerful man-O-war. She wasn't so far  
away, and ~~tore over the seas~~ under forced draft, *she managed*  
~~steaming up just in~~  
~~time~~ to catch the EMDEN. With her superior battery and speed, in  
half an hour the SYDNEY blasted the daylights out of the German raider.  
~~And we can't forget the episode when Captain von Mueller of the EMDEN,~~  
~~was captured and handed his sword to the British Commander, who~~  
~~immediately returned it to him as a gallant enemy.~~

But it wasn't that same SYDNEY that the British Admiralty  
today reports *gone down,* ~~as having been sunk,~~ The good old SYDNEY went to the  
bone-yard long since, and in Nineteen Thirty-Four, the Commonwealth  
of Australia commissioned another SYDNEY, a fast light cruiser,

which in less than two years won a reputation as the scourge of the Italian Navy. <sup>TH</sup> She was paid for by popular subscriptions, *and*

*when sh* ~~The SYDNEY~~ first went into action in June, Nineteen Forty, <sup>1</sup> sank an Italian warship and escaped through a hail of bombs from Italian planes, ~~unscathed~~, to Alexandria. From that time on, one of the main activities of the Italian Navy Department was reporting the sinking of the SYDNEY. No less than eight times they had her <sup>However</sup> destroyed. <sup>1</sup> In July, Nineteen Forty, she sank one of the most modern of Mussolini's cruisers and damaged another. In the next fifteen months, she cruised more than eighty thousand miles, fought at least twenty actions, fired forty thousand shells, and survived sixty bombing attacks without the loss of a man. Among her exploits was bombing the Italian naval base at Rhodes in the Dodecanese Islands.

More lately, the SYDNEY was detailed to the South Pacific, where a large, heavily armed German raider, the STEIERMARCK, <sup>was trying to</sup> ~~was~~ emulating the record of the EMDEN. She was a <sup>converted merchant liner, and</sup> larger, faster, ~~more modern and more heavily armed vessel than the~~ SYDNEY. ~~She~~ <sup>1</sup> was known to have destroyed numerous British and Greek

merchant vessels. Finally, some time in November, the SYDNEY caught up with the STEIERMARCK. There was a battle, one of those epic fights at sea, almost equal to the historic one of the SERAPIS and the BON HOMME RICHARD. ~~It was a~~ blazing duel, ~~that~~

~~one~~ somewhere out there in the South Pacific, and again ~~the~~ <sup>an</sup> Australian cruiser <sup>(named)</sup> SYDNEY sank <sup>a</sup> the formidable <sup>German</sup> raider ~~STEIERMARCK~~.

<sup>this time</sup> But ~~it was a deadly job,~~ the SYDNEY sustained fatal injuries,

The Australian Government organized elaborate searches both on the sea and by air, but after more than a week there has been no word from the SYDNEY. So it is believed that she too went to the bottom without trace, <sup>that gallant Australian cruiser</sup> ~~the SYDNEY~~ with her entire complement of six hundred and forty-five officers and men.

~~And~~ Here's a line from Australia to add to that story.

The minute the news became known, subscriptions began to pour in <sup>to</sup> <sup>be</sup> named the from all over the Commonwealth, for a new Australian cruiser, SYDNEY.

## WAR

The war news will ~~have to~~ be brief tonight, ~~and you can't~~

*The Russians*  
~~hate me for that.~~ *gowning* The Reds claim they have ~~won~~ all along the line,  
*at*  
not only ~~in~~ Rostov but in front of Moscow and Leningrad. That's the  
*^*  
official announcement. In the Ukraine Hitler's panzer divisions on  
the run from Rostov have been split up, cut off and are threatened  
~~And the Soviet troops boast they have retaken Taganrog.~~  
with complete disaster. *^* At Leningrad the Reds declare they have  
recaptured six key positions from the Nazis. And on the Moscow front  
the Soviet armies have overwhelmed the Germans and put them to flight  
in the Tula sector where they left behind them large quantities of  
equipment.

The news from Libya *isn't so hot.* The British admit the  
*run*  
Nazis have ~~run~~ up an important victory but, the British add, it's  
*^*  
only temporary. Reinforcements are being rushed to the spot from  
Egypt.

*so far*  
The Nazi High Command declares that the Axis columns *^* in the  
desert have taken more than nine thousand prisoners and have captured  
or destroyed eight hundred and fourteen tanks and armored cars, *and*  
*^* shot  
down a hundred and twenty-seven British planes.

The Nazis also have a different story to tell about the

fighting in Russia. <sup>They</sup> ~~The Nazis~~ admit they evacuated Rostov <sup>to vastly superior forces,</sup> but they deny that the Reds have recaptured positions to the west of Rostov. And the German High Command declares briefly that they thrust new holes into the defenses around Moscow. London, which has kept a pretty cold and impartial eye on the operation in Russia, seems to believe the accounts of Soviet successes.

## CHURCHILL

The British people were officially warned today that Hitler will react to a defeat in Russia by a ferocious attempt to invade Britain. The warning came direct from Prime Minister Churchill himself. Adolf Hitler, he said, may soon recognize that he has been beaten by the Red armies. Then Churchill added:- "to recover from his disaster he may visit us with all his fury."

Thereupon the Prime Minister waxed encouraging. He used these words:- "We are ready for him; we shall receive him by day or night with far greater forces and with every modern improvement."

The Prime Minister then announced that he'd have to ask the people for more sacrifices, more self-denial. "We have to make a definitely harder turn of the screw," he said. Then he explained with a motion in the House of Commons to raise the age for compulsory military service of men from forty-one to fifty, and he warned that later on he might have to ask Parliament to add another ten years, conscript men up to sixty. He also asked for the conscription of some one million, six hundred and twenty thousand unmarried women between the ages of twenty and thirty for the uniformed auxiliary forces.

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The manufacturers of America have accomplished in one year what it took Hitler's Nazis all of six years to do. That fact came up today in connection with the convention of the National Association of Manufacturers now being held at <sup>the Waldorf,</sup> ~~New York,~~ A sub-committee on defense production has been investigating all over the country and that's the gist of its report: six years' work in one year. But the chairman of the sub-committee adds that this doesn't mean everything is perfect in national defense. There are flaws and bottlenecks, particularly, he finds, a bottleneck in brains. Many business top-notchers are sitting on the sidelines, he explains, while junior salesmen are in key positions in Washington, laying down rules for the men who used to be their bosses.

## RAILROADS

The railroad men of the United States get their raise in pay as of yesterday. President Roosevelt made a formal announcement of the terms of settlement today. It means a raise of seventy-six cents a day for the fellows who run the trains, ten cents an hour more for the office workers. All in all it means three hundred millions a year added to the payrolls of the companies. And the strike is off.

## DIES

While the Congressmen in the house were nervously debating anti-strike laws today, Chairman Dies of the Un-American Activities Committee threw a young bombshell into the midst of the proceedings. It was a photostat document which, said Dies, set forth the criminal records of twenty C.I.O. union officials. The records, he explained, had been gathered by investigators for his Committee, and added Dies, "Time and time again we discovered that C.I.O. leaders had both Communist and criminal records. Such ugly facts," he added, "concerning the backgrounds of the C.I.O. officials, piled up in our files until they began to make a pattern," said he.

The documents concerning those twenty C.I.O. leaders, he added, were taken more or less at random from the Committee's files. Before the end of the year, they will contain similar records of almost a thousand C.I.O. officials.

"There is an inexorable logic," Dies continued, "in his coalition between Communism and crime. That logic," he explained, "is this, :- "a lot of crooks discovered they had been in the wrong racket. Then they figured that there was atleast one racket beyond the law. They had only to masquerade as labor leaders in order to ply their old trades of robbery, burglary and larceny. The result has been

that hundreds of men have stepped literally out of prisons into union jobs," So says Congressman Martin Dies.

## RAID

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An organized mob of thieves has been robbing the Ford Motor Company of automobile parts <sup>to the value of</sup> ~~in at the rate of something~~ ~~like~~ one million to five million dollars a year. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has made a series of raids in Detroit, New York and Chicago, and the results are announced today. Director J. Edgar Hoover of the F.B.I. says that ~~xxxxxxx~~ two receivers of stolen property, fences, just two of them, admitted that they alone had ~~broughtxxx~~ bought stolen parts <sup>worth</sup> ~~with~~ more than five hundred thousand dollars this year. One fence in New York City, said Hoover, was doing such a business that his company published and distributed a catalogue advertising genuine Ford motor parts for sale, under-selling authorized distributors.

The way the racket worked was this:- Ford employees and others ~~xxxxxxx~~ having legitimate business inside the Ford plants abstracted the parts. One man would ~~xxxxxx~~ do the swiping, and hand the stuff to another, who in turn handed it to a third, and so on, until it reached the gate. A sort of bucket brigade for stolen parts, roller bearings, piston rings, shock absorbers, cylinder heads, windshield wipers, and what-not, <sup>everything</sup> ~~but~~ <sup>but</sup> Henry himself.

## INVESTORS

A firm of investment bankers is today accused of having swindled the public of something like six hundred million dollars. There is quite a bit of drama connected with that announcement. Three years ago, the Securities and Exchange Commission started to press charges against the Fidelity Investment Association of Wheeling, West Virginia. It took the Department of Justice quite a while to run down evidence and matters came to a climax yesterday. If an indictment had been delayed until today, the Statute of Limitations would have gone into operation, and nobody could have been prosecuted.

BASEBALL

*Here's some hot baseball*  
~~Here's a real kick for baseball fans, particularly New~~

*news:-*

Yerkers. Mel Ott, of the strong-throwing arm and the lusty wallop, becomes Manager of the New York Giants. And what about Bill Terry? He goes up ~~into~~ the front office as General Manager of the Club.

That means he'll have charge of the Giant's farm system, <sup>those</sup> ~~the~~ smaller <sup>where they</sup> clubs the Giants own <sup>to</sup> develop Big League players.

*8th*  
The betting is that there'll be cheers among all the Giant fans. Their favorite team, ~~once~~ the crack outfit of the League, has been jogging along in the second division for three years, and the wails have been loud and constant. But now they have a manager everybody likes. Mel Ott is as agreeable as he is versatile - ~~and~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~he surely is~~ one of the ~~most~~ all-round players <sup>in</sup> the game. He came up to the big league as a catcher sixteen years ago, and fighting John McGraw turned him into a right fielder. Then Manager Bill Terry brought him in from the outfield and put him on third, ~~base~~, where he soon became as good as he was in the outfield. And now he's the manager, and he says he'll be a playing manager, no bench warmer.

*And here's Hugh who's  
no bench warmer!*